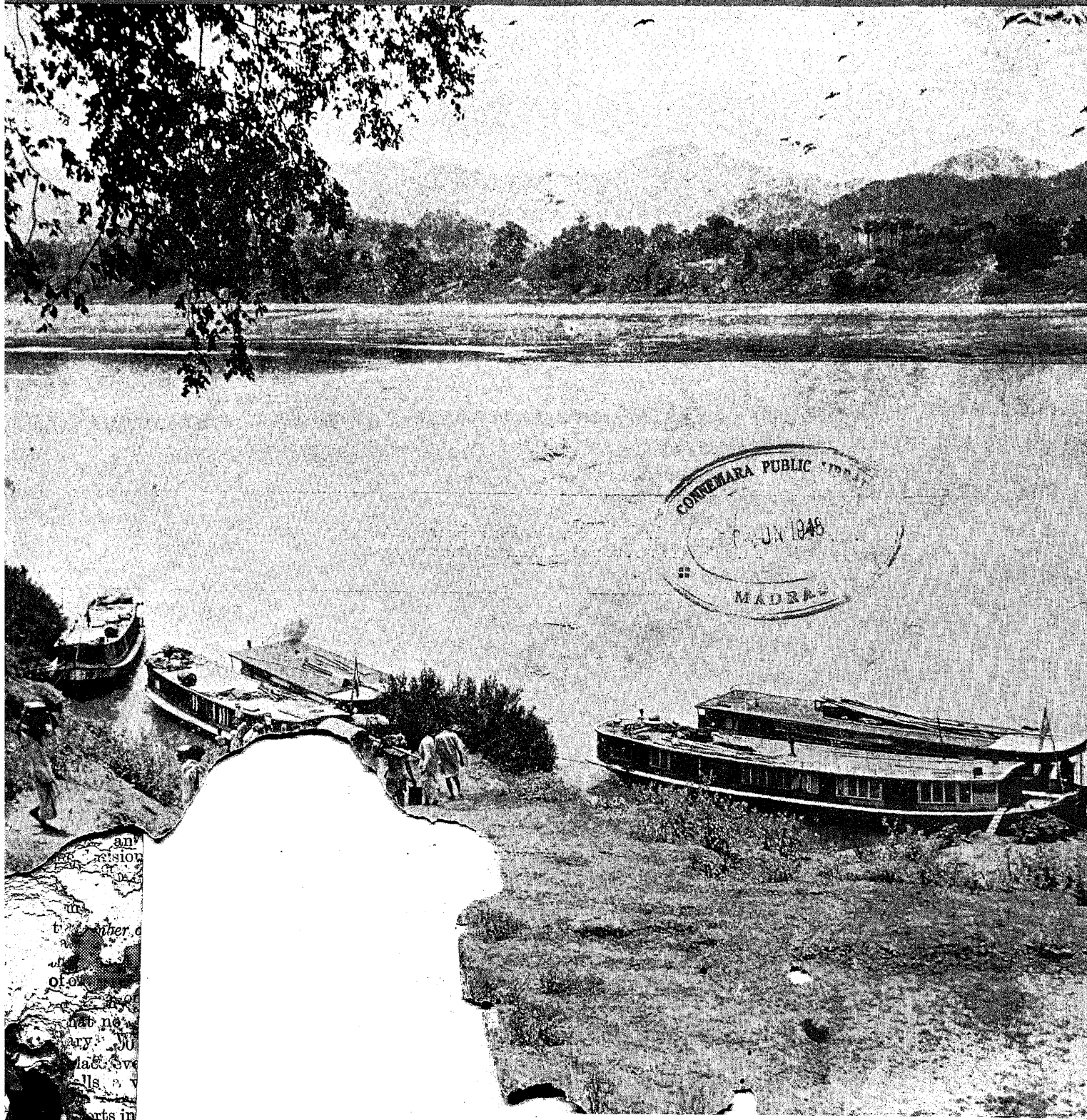


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VOL. II

MADRAS, 15th MAY 1948

NO. 9

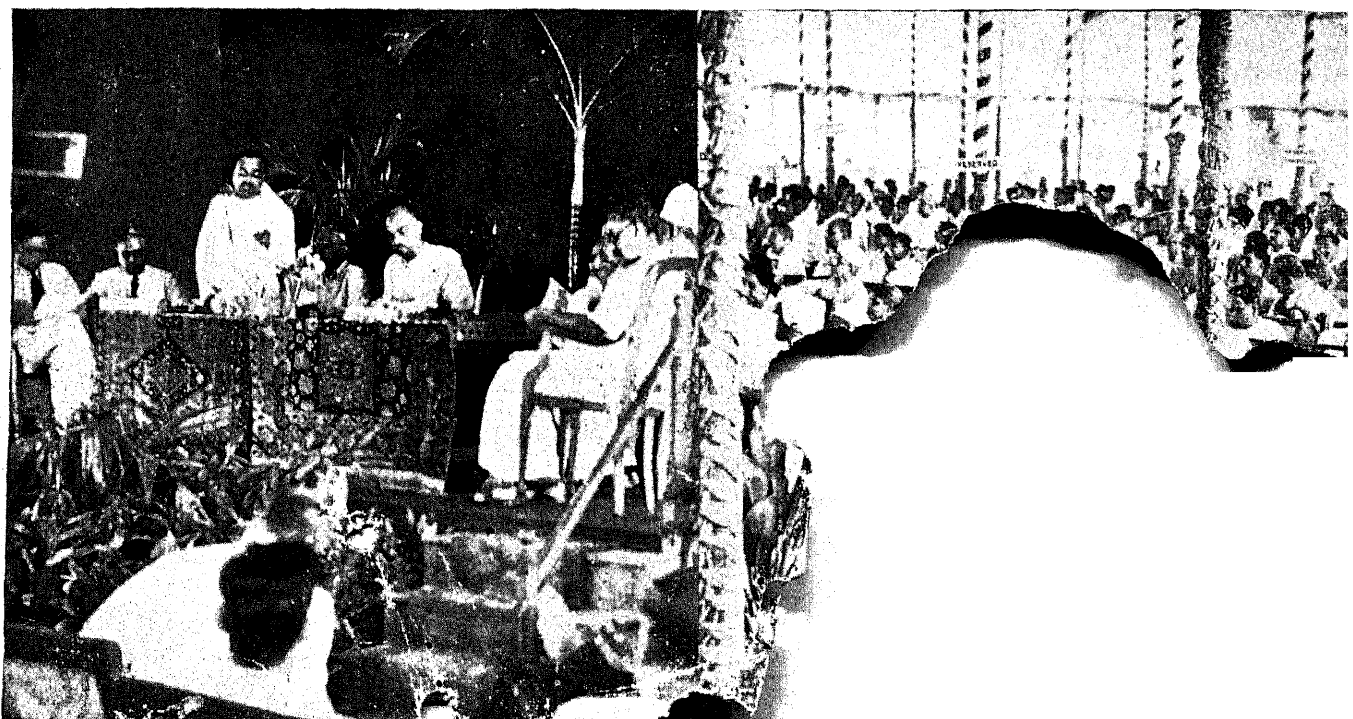


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Central Leather Research Institute, Guindy



Honourable Sri S. P. Mookerjee, Minister for Industries, Dominion Government, laying the foundation stone of the Central Leather Research Institute at Guindy, Madras



Madras Information

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Vol. II, No. 9

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

May 15, 1948

Topical Notes

Improvement of Agriculture

The appalling poverty of this country is a grim fact. It has been said that more than one-third of the population live on the border line of starvation. The average income of an Indian is two annas per day as against Rs. 3 and more in England and America and other countries. The standard of living is consequently low. The basic cause for this state of affairs is easily traceable to the fact that agriculture which is the mainstay of more than 90 per cent of the population has not proved a remunerative occupation. An authority on agriculture has said that five per cent improvement in agriculture would add to general prosperity more than what 50 per cent improvement in industries can do. So improvement of agriculture is the first vital preliminary in any process of national re-building. This is not an easy process and cannot be done overnight. All the same the Government of Madras have started tackling the problem in all its aspects. In a recent broadcast, P. V. Venkata Rao, Minister for Agriculture, explained the various agricultural rehabilitation schemes of the Government.

agriculture must result in increased food production, both qualitative and quantitative. To achieve this end we will have to do a number of things; land reforms, improvement of agriculture and the cultivation of crops that will not only raise the standard of the life of the farmer but also give a variety of nutritional food to the people at large. The first question is whether we have enough land which can be brought under fresh cultivation. In the Province of Madras there is a cultivable waste of 21,347,625 acres including forests, current fallows and uncultivated land. This is a fairly large area, but as has been pointed out, all this is not a potential asset from the agricultural point of view. If it had been readily possible to bring many of these areas under cultivation to yield

an economic output, the pressure of population and land hunger would have led to its cultivation long ago. It will be very detrimental to the progress of the Nation to reduce the forest area. The Madras Government have decided to allot the available cultivable waste to the Harijans, the backward classes and other poor people. All this being undeveloped sub-marginal land, effort and capital are needed to put it into crop-yielding farm. By adopting co-operative methods, the poor man can be given the capacity and the efficiency to bring these sub-marginal lands under cultivation and to receive the benefit from out of them. This will be possible only in areas where large blocks of lands are available. The Government are already planning to have a few experimental co-operative farms started this season. That we cannot achieve the targets of maximum food production by simply extending the area of cultivation is apparent. Therefore the other alternative of getting the maximum out of the existing cultivated land has to be thought of. Even to achieve this we have to do many things. One of the first things to be done is soil conservation by the construction of contour bunds around steep areas thus helping the rain water to soak into the soil and lead the surplus water into safe channels. Secondly, we have to attend to drainage of good land in order to prevent the cultivated land from being submerged and to bring into cultivation land too wet for tillage now.

Methods for Better Production

Dr. Everest has estimated that the Ganges alone annually carries off enough soil which could only be removed by one thousand ships having one hundred thousand tons capacity working daily throughout the year. Based on this estimate we can imagine the loss of fertile soil through soil erosion by all the rivers, streams and rivulets in this country. Experiments to prevent this are being carried on under Government auspices. At the ... Irrigation Department ...

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A river scene in the East Coast—*Frontispiece.*

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even the taming of rivers is being studied.

Other important things are, (i) the use of selected good seeds of new strains, (ii) application of organic and artificial manures to soil depleted lands and (iii) the encouragement of growth of leguminous crops. One other important matter is the encouragement of agro-industries. This will solve two problems. Agro-industries will give better and more employment to the villagers and further agro-industries will bring higher prices for the raw material produced by the cultivator. The agricultural products may be marketed only after processing them into some manufactured form. The ryot may be encouraged to sell jaggery instead of raw sugarcane, oil and cake may be exported instead of oil-seeds. All agro-industries should be developed on an organized scale and far better marketing facilities than exist now must be provided for raw as well as processed products of the villager. All this can be done by the widespread organization of multi-purpose co-operative societies in the rural areas on the basis of a single village as a unit or in the alternative a unit of a group of villages.

Reform of Inheritance Laws

One grave defect in our social organization is the laws of inheritance which lays down that the property landed and otherwise should be divided according to the number of sons of a father. This has resulted in the fragmentation of the holdings. The holdings are so fragmented that it will be quite impossible to do any intensive cultivation on these fragmented holdings. We hear constant talk about the need of consolidating the holdings in each village. We have some co-operative consolidation of holding societies. But their success was very limited. If we want to achieve this object, we should do two things, namely, changing the Hindu law of succession so as to prevent subdivision of the family property below a certain limit. The present law of inheritance also has to be changed to suit this purpose. Otherwise, voluntary efforts at consolidation of holdings will not have much effect.

Tiller of the Soil

The success of agriculture is very much dependent upon the position which the tiller of the soil occupied in the society and also on the economic benefits which he derives from his cultivation. The various surveys have disclosed that the tiller of the soil is not getting his fair share of the produce of the soil.

pattadars cultivate their own lands and another 15 per cent of the small holders among them cultivate others lands on a tenancy system, so as to improve their income. There is a great demand from the public that the tiller of the soil should be made the owner of the soil. There is also the prevalent feeling that absentee landlordism is on the increase.

The recent enquiry made by the Special Officer on Land Tenancy Problems in the Presidency has disclosed that the estimated percentage of agricultural population who cultivate their own lands is 57 per cent, 14 per cent of the agricultural population leased out their lands, and 14 per cent of the tenants have no lands of their own, but cultivate the lands of others. Another 15 per cent of small holders also cultivate the lands of others. This survey is based on the results of enquiry into the conditions of about 20 villages in each taluk. Of course, to arrive at correct figures a more detailed enquiry is needed. The Government have recently appointed an Economic Adviser and he is organizing a Statistical Branch on modern lines. I am certain that at an early date we will have a more detailed and correct estimate of these matters. To solve the problem of giving strength to and creating efficiency in the small holders of land, co-operation must step in and help them. But more than this, the kisan must be provided with a living interest in the land which he cultivates. This can be assured to him by transferring proprietorship of land to the kisan if he cultivates the said land now. Alternately the tenant cultivator can be given statutory protection against eviction, fixation of the rate of rent according to quality of soils and the periods of leases can also be fixed. All these things are under the consideration of the Madras Government. These will take the shape of law as early as possible and soon after the Congress Committee on Agrarian Problems reports.

In the recent Conference of the Chief Premiers and Food Ministers, the Hon. Premier of Madras made an appeal for assistance from the Government. After narrating the problems connected with the food situation, the Hon. Premier said:

We are continuing to go on indefinitely without any help for the tiller of the soil. The only food.

This brings me to the problem of land tenures in the Presidency. Listeners are aware of the efforts of this Government to bring all the various kinds of land tenures prevailing in the Presidency to a uniform basis and that we have started with the abolition of the zamindaris. I need not go into those details over again. The present land revenue law is covered by the Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue and they have to be codified. Progressive taxation has to replace the present regressive land tax. All these varied problems are receiving the active consideration of the Government. Before another year will roll by we will be able to put a good many of these proposals on our Statute Book. Within the short space of time at my disposal now I am unable to present you with a full picture of all the ideas of our Government and the proposals for their implementation. I can assure one and all of you that the Government is earnest in bringing about a peaceful non-violent revolution in the rural areas, so as to re-adjust and re-vitalize the relations of those who are concerned with land and its cultivation in our Province.

This task is a big one when we know that the lot of our kisans is really poor.

Fifty-one per cent of the kisans hold less than 2 acres, 31 per cent 2 to 5 acres, 7 per cent have 5 to 10 acres and 11 per cent more than ten acres. If a detailed investigation reveals that the 11 per cent at the top who own more than 10 acres have in their possession a good portion of the total extent of the cultivated land, it would then be time for us to consider whether a top limit should be placed on the holding of agricultural land by a single individual.

He said it is said that in literate countries it takes decades to persuade the tiller of the soil to adopt improved methods of cultivation. In our country it will take a long time.

are also being investigated and their execution would involve about 10 to 15 crores. Most of the anicuts are sand-filled and so don't hold water even if freshes come. So these should be reconstructed as regulators. The tanks have to be deepened and their full tank level raised so that their capacity to assure a water-supply to their ayacuts might be increased. They don't assure a water-supply now as they are all rainfed and are in areas where the rains come within a limited period. Nearly 40 to 45 lakhs acres out of total irrigated area of 80 lakhs depend on these sources and if rain fails as in this year, it is calculated that the ryots suffer a loss of Rs. 15 crores in cultivation expenses only. Even if the rains are good as they come in a limited period the tanks are not able to store them. So they must be improved. The renovation of the tanks, the reconstruction of the anicuts, a concerted scheme of subsidized well digging,—these involve about 20 to 30 crores. All these will eventually make this Province self-sufficient in the matter of food supplies. Nay, we might even be in a position to export by that time, even conceding the normal increase of population. The application of science to agriculture such as improved seeds, better manuring, etc., will also contribute substantially towards this end, as also changes in the habits of people towards a balanced diet.

Effects of Decontrol

All these, however, is in the nature of long-term plans which might at least take a decade to fructify. Meanwhile, the problems of the living present are real and pressing and will have to be solved here and now without a moment's delay. The policy of decontrol which became necessary to put an end to the demoralization that came in the wake of control, has brought the benefits of it. Prices have risen in the districts and

districts are held up for lack of transport facilities. I would but make a passing reference here to the aggravation of difficulties brought about by the failure of the north-east monsoons or the unfriendly acts of Communist agitators who are always on the look-out to fish in troubled waters. While we have done all that we could and are trying to do much more by way of intensive procurement, compulsory levy and collection of grains, opening of grain relief shops, etc., the purchasing power of the non-agricultural and partial agricultural producers of the population has steadily deteriorated. The prices of jaggery and sugar produced by cottage workers have recorded a phenomenal fall. The handloom weavers too, are in a sad plight. It looks as though the long shadows of a depression have begun to envelop the handicrafts. Our revered Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the other day stated that in the development and support of cottage industries lies our hope of increased production. This policy should be translated into immediate practice and protection should be given to the products of the cottage industry so that the purchasing power of the large sections of the population would be increased and the pressure of higher prices of grain would be cushioned off. In addition to protection, the cottage workers should also be allowed freely to export their wares to other Provinces and countries.

Our Demands

In conclusion the Premier summarized the demands of the Provincial Government in this regard.

To sum up, he said "I would urge on the Government of India to take the following steps" immediately, if a large scale deterioration in the conditions of the Province is to be avoided :—

(1) An allotment of six lakhs tons of grain should be made and supplies completed between now and October 1948 in addition to the four lakhs tons promised.

Partial improvement in facilities must be arranged. In the northern parts of the Province the roads are likely to be closed soon and this would cut off one mode of

(3) Additional quotas of petrol should be allotted for lorry traffic. The recent cut in petrol supplies to Madras will substantially hamper free flow of grains.

(4) Protection should be granted to the products of cottage industry, like jaggery, home-made sugar and handloom fabrics, so that the deterioration that has set in, in the non-food producing and partially food producing sectors of population might be arrested.

(5) Towards the same end, encouragement should be given to a free and generous export of the products of cottage industries to other provinces and countries.

(6) Finally, an investigation should be made into banking operations with a view to unhoarding the grain stocks held by banks and easing the grain and money market conditions.

(7) I want also to bring to your notice about the supply of iron and steel to our Province. Last year, the Government of India says it has allotted 27,000 tons. Out of this nearly 10,000 tons was not received. Probably Government of India issues permits directly to individuals out of the provincial quota. We know the need of the Province and no inroads should be made into the meagre provincial quota. We got only 5,800 tons for agricultural purposes. Our annual requirements is about 60,000 tons. But all the same in 1947 we got only 27,000 tons allotted and even out of this 27,000 tons only 17,000 tons was received. Last year, on the basis that 31,000 tons would be allotted, we increased the allotment for agricultural purposes from 12,000 to 16,000 tons which was an internal arrangement within the Province, but actually we were able to give only 5,800 tons to agriculture which normally consumes about 20,000 to 30,000 tons. This is a drop in the ocean. The agriculturist does not get his agricultural implements like plough-shares, shovels, cart-tires, etc. With what face then can we approach him to produce more food! From about the 15th of May our food situation will become serious. So, I appeal to the Government of India and all the provinces to come to the rescue of the unfortunate people of Madras who would otherwise have to die of starvation.

When an abuse is met, it would never do for me to return an evil returned by another evil only succeeds in making it instead of leading to its reduction. It is a violence cannot be quenched by su-
—MAHATMA GAN-
—MAHATMA GAN-

Communist Menace

Some recent happenings in different parts of the Province, which affect prejudicially the law and order situation in the Province, give cause for serious thought. Communists and Communist sympathisers have been fomenting incidents and resorting to acts of violence which seem to be parts of a systematic and predetermined plan to exploit given situations to provoke trouble and forcing the police to open fire. In a recent Press Note issued by the Madras Government, details of a number of incidents illustrative of the tactics and the technique of Communists in certain parts of Malabar, South India and the Telugu districts, in which they resorted to wanton attacks against Congressmen and against the police, were recounted. It is clear from the Press Note that Communists indulged in acts of violence and came deliberately into clash with the forces of law and order. When recently, the Provincial Government ordered the arrests of some Communists, they tried to excite public sympathy for themselves by posing as the victims of persecution and repression.

In the Press Note referred to above, the Government have, however, made it unequivocally clear that they cannot tolerate conditions in which acts of violence are committed and law and order are challenged by any party. They have emphasized that they would use all the forces at their command to put down lawlessness and deal sternly with those who perpetrate or provoke violence.

Attention may be drawn in this connexion to the remarks made by the Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, about Communists, which provide an unerring clue to some of the recent happenings, in which they figure prominently in the Province and elsewhere. Speaking at a Press Conference in Bombay, he is reported to have said that "all those whose policies and actions led to reaction were reactionaries and as far as the Communists were concerned (and his remarks were confined to Indian Communists) the Government had evidence to show that they were planning a nation-wide sabotage and the like in certain parts of the country. They were also collecting arms to

achieve their ends. It was with a view to stop this kind of activity and nip it in the bud that many of the Provincial Governments had taken action and arrested certain of the Communists." In the reports of clashes between the Police and Communists in some places in Malabar and elsewhere, there has been specific mention of the fact that Communists were in possession of firearms and other weapons which they used for attacking parties of Malabar Special and the ordinary police.

Acts of violence like these cannot be tolerated by any Government and those who indulge in them necessarily pit themselves against the forces of law and order. Arrests of individual Communists and firings by police at some places have to be considered in the context of this fundamental consideration and it will be in their own interests that the people should appreciate the background of the incidents and the motives that actuate the Communists in creating them. In the words of the Prime Minister of India that motive is nothing else but and nothing less dangerous than "a nation-wide sabotage."

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Local Boards in 1945-46

The number of district boards in the Province continued to be 24 during the year under notice. There were 375 major panchayat boards at the end of the year. Sixteen panchayat boards were superseded and seven panchayat boards were reconstituted during the year. No major panchayat board was abolished. There were 6,757 minor panchayat boards at the end of the year under review. Thirty-two minor panchayat boards were abolished and 72 minor panchayat boards were reconstituted during the year. The Presidents of 10 panchayat boards were prosecuted for misappropriation of panchayat funds. Only 2 of the 19 casual elections held in respect of district boards were contested. In the case of major panchayat boards, there were 355 elections, of which 47 were contested, and 75 per cent of the electors went to the p

elections.—The
ined 32 284

of newly opened roads. The total mileage of district board roads for every 100 square miles of local fund area ranged from 15.0 in Nellore to 70.3 in Tanjore. The Government sanctioned an increase of 50 per cent in the provincial grants for the maintenance of trunk and important marketing roads in view of the increased cost of maintenance of roads. The cost of road maintenance during the year amounted to Rs. 161.73 lakhs. Thirteen schemes, financed from Central Road Fund, were during the year.

Education.—The education continued to be levied during the year under notice in all districts. Income from this tax during the year amounted to Rs. 71.77 lakhs. The number of centres in which elementary education was provided in 1945-46 was 43,500. The number of students, who are attending primary School-Levels, is 1,00,00,000. The number of students attending secondary schools is 1,00,00,000.

for the examination were declared eligible for the University course of studies.

Public health.—The average area and population served by each public health centre in the Province were 93 square miles and 20,000 persons, respectively. The number of persons depending on each centre ranged from 16,000 to about 66,000. The number of health centres in the Province is 1,00,000.

largest number of deaths from these diseases occurred in Guntur. The number of deaths from smallpox fell from 18,055 to 15,780. The district worst affected by smallpox was Tanjore where 2,587 deaths were recorded during the year. There were 1,854 deaths from plague, of which 1,383 occurred in Coimbatore district.

Administration.—The administration of the District Boards of South Arcot, South Kanara, the Nilgiris and Tinnevely was good. The remaining 20 District Boards presented fair records.

[April 16]

Sales Tax

It has been represented to the Government that it is inconvenient and extremely difficult for registered dealers to collect sales tax on fractions of a rupee. The Government have issued orders that for purposes of collecting tax under the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, the registered dealers shall ignore fractions of a rupee less than eight annas and treat fractions of a rupee of eight annas and more as one rupee.

[April 17]

Recruitment of District Educational Officers

In their Press Communiqué No. 45, dated 14th February 1947, the Government stated, inter alia, that it was their intention that recruitment of District Educational Officers should not be confined to persons in Government cadres but that efficient men in local board and aided services should also be given scope for being appointed as District Educational Officers and that they were actively considering the matter of fixing proportions according to which vacancies should be filled.

The Government
the Division

teacher-recruits. They should not have completed the age of 40 years on 1st July of the year in which the selection for recruitment is made. They should have had experience as teachers in a recognized school for a total period of not less than 12 years and a candidate who, in addition, has had experience as Headmaster of a recognized High School in the Province will be given preference.

Before commencing to perform his regular duties, the teacher-recruit may, at the discretion of the Director of Public Instruction, be required to undergo training for a period not exceeding 4 months under a District Educational Officer and during such training he will be given a salary calculated at the rate of Rs. 200 per mensem or the pay drawn by him in the non-Government institution at the time of his recruitment, whichever is less. The recruits will be admitted to the Madras Contributory Provident Fund and will not be governed by the ordinary pension rules.

[April 18]

Corruption among Government Servants

During the month of January 1948, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 212 persons, including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the month. Of these, 4 were let off as charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 198 were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 10 persons and they were suitably punished. The names and designations of those persons and the punishment awarded to them are as follows:—

M. Mahadevan, Lower Division Clerk, Presidency Magistrate's Court, Madras (Pay reduced to a lower stage in the time-scale); Raghava Naidu, Forest Watcher (Services terminated), Sheik
B. Forest Watcher (suspended
ns); R. V. Ratnam Naidu,
(suspended); J. Raghunath
Sub-Inspector of Police,
district (dismissed from
Doraisingam, Checking
City Rationing Office,
Chowkidar, Rationing
and D. C. Bheemappa
Chowkidars, Rationing
district (Re-
P. Arunachalam,
Office; Mannar
(discharge)

Compost making

At the instance of Sir Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, who returned to Madras after a tour to some places in South India, the Director of Agriculture, Mr. M. S. Sivaraman, I.C.S., convened a conference of some Heads of Departments on Sunday the 18th April 1948, at which questions connected with the manufacture and distribution of compost as manure were discussed.

Sir Datar Singh in the course of his remarks stressed the value and importance of compost as manure particularly in view of the great need for augmenting the food production in the country. He explained the Government of India's scheme for promoting the production and distribution of compost and the financial and technical assistance they will be prepared to offer the Provincial Governments in the execution of their schemes.

It was pointed out that in the Madras Province, the Urban Compost Scheme has been in operation since 1944; but during the last three years, i.e., 1945-46, 1946-47, 1947-48, both production and distribution of compost had been progressively increasing but production was still below the target. One of the bottle-necks in compost distribution was the transport from the place of production in the urban areas to the villages where it is needed. As regards production, some of the municipalities did not have the necessary space where the town refuse could be dumped for transformation into compost. The absence of a suitable agency to co-ordinate the work of the Agricultural, Public Health and the Local Administration Departments, which was essential if the scheme has to work successfully, was another handicap. Propaganda among the villagers for popularizing the use of compost in order to induce them to use it in large quantities would also probably be required on a larger scale to get them to increase their use of compost.

In this connexion the following note which explains the working of the compost schemes in Madras Province will be of interest.

There are two Compost Schemes in operation in Madras Province, viz., the Urban Compost Scheme and the Village Compost Scheme:

I. Urban Compost Scheme.—There are in all 1,012 towns containing populations of 5,000 and above. The total urban population in Madras Province (1941 Census) is

By

utilization of all the refuse material available in the above towns, it would be possible to prepare nearly 12 lakhs tons of manure per year. Out of the above 1,012 towns, 87 are municipalities and all the others are panchayat boards. Since these bodies generally maintain staff for the collection of urban refuse, it would be possible to extend the Urban Compost Scheme so as to cover all the above towns.

The Urban Compost Scheme was started in Madras Province in 1944. In 1944-45 the number of compost centres was 23 and the amount of compost produced and distributed were 41,300 tons and 5,400 tons respectively while in 1946-47 the number of centres increased to 113, and the amount of compost produced and distributed rose to 80,720 tons and 58,200 tons respectively. In 1947-48, it is estimated that the production would go up to 100,000 tons of which 78,000 tons is proposed to be distributed.

It would be noted from the above figures that the Urban Compost Scheme has remained at a stationary level in Madras Province during the last 3 years, while other Provinces like U.P. and C.P. have doubled and trebled their production at the same time.

If a Compost Development Officer be appointed to supervise the working of the scheme, it is felt that the production can be raised from the present level of 100,000 tons to a level of 200,000 tons within a year. The ultimate target is 10 lakhs tons per year. After the above officer is appointed, he may be asked to make a survey and prepare a detailed report indicating the difficulties met with at present by municipalities in expanding production and distribution of compost. He should prepare a three-year plan of development, so as to cover all the urban areas (1,012 towns) in the above period; and in the light of this Report, a suitable revised scheme of Urban Composting may be prepared, making provision for all help needed by municipalities in operating the scheme by way of:— (a) grant of loans or advances for purchase of carts or trucks for refuse collection; (b) expeditious acquisition or vesting of land required for Compost Depots; (c) grants or loans for undertaking Compost production; and (d) help needed to market the manure produced either in trucks maintained by the municipalities or through local societies or agriculturists.

II. Village Compost Scheme.—The Scheme is in operation at about 2,300 village centres and subsidies are offered for digging of pits and filling up the same with manure. The scheme was sanctioned by the Madras Government towards the end of 1944 (G.O. No. 4675, Development, dated 1st November 1944), but actual work of digging pits, etc., started only from August 1945. The quarterly reports sent in by Madras Government show that about 5,000 to 6,000 pits are in operation and about 50,000 tons of manure are prepared per year.

The present scheme is not prepared on comprehensive lines so as to indicate (a) the average quantity of manure prepared per village at present (say, in terms of number of cubic feet of manure per head of cattle maintained in the village, as determined from data for villages selected at random from each district of the Province), (b) the proportion of refuse and other waste material not collected in the villages, but allowed to go waste; (c) the average proportion of cattle dung used as fuel in the villages; (d) the average chemical analysis of manure prepared in villages, with special reference to the conservation of cattle urine for increasing the nitrogen content and improving the quality of manure prepared in villages; (e) scope for preparing extra manure from farm litter, forest leaves, water weeds, etc.; (f) scope for tree planting in villages, with a view to preventing the burning of cow-dung as fuel.

There are about 34,800 villages in Madras Province, with a total rural human population of 370 lakhs and a total cattle population (cows, bullocks and buffaloes) of about 226 lakhs. This works out to an average of about 1,050 humans and 650 bovines for each village. Taking two-thirds of the bovines to be adults, it should be possible to prepare about 50,000 to 60,000 cubic feet of manure (about 1,000 tons) for the average village, by complete utilization of all the refuse materials available locally. Statistics are not available for the present quantity of manure prepared in the average village at present time, but it is likely to be about half the above figure.

Statistical

The Statistical Department has now been constituted as an Advisory Committee.

Madras with a view to giving prompt Statistical service to other departments of the Government and to the public. The new department will be located at a central place in the Fort and will be under the direct control of the Hon'ble Premier.

[April 21]

Oil Technological Institute for Anantapur

The Government of Madras have approved the proposals submitted by the Director of Industries and Commerce for the establishment of an Oil Technological Institute at Anantapur for the purpose of undertaking research in oil technology, and the training of apprentices for a diploma course. They have sanctioned the necessary expenditure and staff for a period of three years.

[April 24]

Grants-in-Aid under Firka Development Scheme

The Government have directed that the scheme of payment of grants-in-aid to private institutions, engaged in constructive work, sanctioned in their order, dated 25th March 1948, should be applicable to all private institutions in the province, irrespective of the fact whether they are located within the selected firkas and centres, or outside.

[April 24]

Training of Additional Midwives Sanctioned

The Surgeon-General had suggested that in addition to 474 midwives, who are being trained in various Government medical institutions in the province, more could be trained in their training centres.

Contribution to Agrarian Reforms Committee

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 5,000 as contribution to the Agrarian Reforms Committee constituted by the President of the Indian National Congress in accordance with the suggestion made by the conference of the Revenue Ministers of the provinces held in December 1947.

The object of the Agrarian Reforms Committee is to examine and report on the reforms relating to land tenure and allied subjects arising out of the proposed abolition of Zamindaris.

[April 24]

Resettlement of I.N.A. Personnel

The following resettlement facilities are at present offered by this Government to the ex-servicemen:—(1) Co-operative Land Colonization Schemes, (2) Training Schemes, (3) Ex-servicemen's Centres, (4) Co-operative Workshop Schemes and (5) Employment Exchanges.

(2) It has been learnt from the Government of India that they are agreeable to extending the benefits of resettlement schemes, financed wholly or partly by them or from the Post-War Services Reconstruction Fund, to only such of the ex-Indian National Army personnel as had gone over from the Indian armed forces, and not to those recruited from civilians outside India, the criterion being whether a particular individual is an ex-member of the Indian armed forces or not.

(3) The Provincial Government considered whether the policy in respect of their schemes mentioned in paragraph 1 should be brought into line with that of the Government of India or whether, in conformity with the previous decision in regard to ex-servicemen, all ex-servicemen should be treated alike.

Fund. The following are a few examples of such concessions:—(i) Membership in Motor Transport Co-operative Societies for ex-servicemen; (ii) Allotment of isolated plots of land for cultivation and (iii) Assignment of house-sites.

[April 27]

Grant of land to Political Sufferers

In their Press Note No. 305, dated 23rd December 1947 the Government announced their scheme for the grant of land to Political sufferers. Necessary action in this regard is being taken in the districts. In their subsequent Press Note No. 88, dated 3rd April 1948, it was announced that a non-official Advisory Committee would be constituted for each revenue district and that assignments will be made by the Collectors in consultation with their respective Committees. The Government have accordingly issued orders appointing Advisory Committees, two in each of the districts of Vizagapatam, Kistna, Bellary and Madras and one in each of the other districts. In the case of districts for which two committees have been constituted, their jurisdiction will be coterminous with that of the corresponding District Congress Committees. The names of the members of each Advisory Committee are appended.

2. In accordance with the decision already announced, no lands will be assigned within the actual limits of towns and municipalities including the Corporation of Madras. The Political sufferer residents in Madras would therefore have preferred applications for lands in other districts. The two Committees appointed for the respective Congress Districts in the Madras City will act as liaison bodies between the political sufferer applicants and the Collectors of other districts. The Collectors of districts will therefore consult the concerned Advisory Committees for Madras before applications of the residents of Madras are disposed

Collectors have been instructed to convene immediately a meeting of the committee or Committees concerned for each district and make arrangements for the assignment of lands as possible.

Revenue Officers have been directed to give every consideration to the political sufferers who cannot afford to pay the necessary numbers, etc. for the purchase of land. The Advisory Committee for each district will also be required to advise the Government on the necessity for the purchase of land.

5. In the Ceded districts and other upland areas in the Province where the soil is poor, land (wet or dry) may not yield the same income as an equal area in other parts of the province. In such backward tracts, therefore, an area which will yield the same income as 5 acres of wet land elsewhere will be assigned. The Collectors have been instructed to decide the suitable extent for this purpose in consultation with the members of the Advisory Committees.

6. Porambokes and village commons required for communal purposes and tank beds will in no circumstances be assigned to anyone. The current leases for lands granted under the Grow More Food campaign expire in many cases on 30th June 1948. Such lands also may now be assigned to political sufferers except when such assignment will result in a person of very poor means being dispossessed.

7. Applications for lands in zamindari areas will be kept pending until the Zamindari Bill becomes law.

8. The Government hope that assignment of lands will now proceed expeditiously so that it may be possible to bring the assigned lands into cultivation in the coming cultivation season.

[April 28]

Increase of Bed Strength in Medical Institutions

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the increase of the bed strength of the Government Headquarters Hospital, Vellore, from 91 to 133 and a temporary staff for the hospital. They have also sanctioned a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 1,400 for the purchase of furniture, crockery, etc. for the hospital.

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the increase of the bed strength of the Government Hospital, Mayavaram, from 30 to 45 and a temporary staff. They have also sanctioned a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 3,700 for the purchase of medicines, furniture and hospital necessaries.

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the increase of the bed strength of the Government Headquarters Hospital, Ramnad, from 61 to 70 and a temporary staff for the hospital. They have also sanctioned a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 1,000 for the purchase of furniture and hospital necessaries.

Public Holidays

On reconsideration, at the instance of the Government of India, of the question of statutory, non-statutory and sectional holidays, which are being granted in Government offices in this Province, the Government of Madras have directed that the following holidays shall be observed in Government offices in this province in the year 1948 with effect from 1st June 1948:—

Thursday, the 10th June—King's Birthday; Thursday, the 1st July—Half-yearly closing of bank accounts; Saturday, the 7th August—Ramzan; Thursday, the 19th August—Avani Avittam; Friday, the 27th August—Janmashtami; Saturday, the 28th August—Sri Jayanti; Monday, the 6th September—Vinayaka Chaturthi; Saturday, the 2nd October—Mahalaya Amavasai; Monday, the 11th October and Tuesday, the 12th October—Ayudha Puja; Thursday, the 14th October—Bakrid; Saturday, the 30th October—Deepavali; Friday, the 12th

November—Muharram; Saturday, the 25th December—Christmas Day; all penultimate Saturdays.

Consequent on the abolition of all sectional holidays now being granted to the various communities, the Government have decided that the number of days of causal leave, permissible per year, shall, with effect from this year, be increased from 15 to 20 days. The maximum period for which a Government servant may absent himself continuously on casual leave (including holidays) shall continue to be ten days. [April 30]

Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun

In connection with the admission of candidates to the Prince of Wales Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun, who desire subsequently to enter a cadet College with a view to obtaining commissions in the Indian Land Forces, the Royal Indian Air Force or the Royal Indian Navy, full particulars

regarding the aim and scope of the course of training rules for admission to the College, fees, etc., have been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on the 20th and 27th April and 4th and 11th May 1948.

Copies of the "Regulations for the Prince of Wales Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun," the "Regulations respecting admission to the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun," the "Regulations respecting entry to the Royal Indian Air Force" and the "Regulations respecting recruitment, training, rates of pay, etc., of Commissioned Officers of the Royal Indian Navy," can be obtained from the Manager of Publications, Civil Lines, Delhi, on payment.

All applications should be submitted in the prescribed form in duplicate to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Madras Governor's Camp, not later than the 20th May 1948. Applications received after that date will not be considered. [April 27]

Departments' Corner

Labour Department

Labour Situation in the Province

The Government of Madras have declared Electric Tramway Services, Motor Transport Services and Cotton Textile Industry as Public Utility Services under the Industrial Disputes Act for a period of 6 months from the date of publication of the above order in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

The workers of the Vinayagar Cigar Company, Madras, went on a stay-in-strike from 1st April 1948, demanding proper supply of leaves, etc. The Deputy Commissioner of Labour brought about a settlement of the dispute on 12th April 1948, and the workers were asked to resume work on 14th April 1948.

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the constitution of a second Industrial Tribunal at Madras.

The President, Skin Merchants' Association, Dindigul, has reported that tannery workers working in the tanneries at Dindigul have struck work on 1st April 1948. The Lab

advise the workers to resume work as any strike during the pendency of adjudication is illegal.

During the period, the Government have referred five disputes for adjudication by Industrial Tribunals.

[1st Fortnight of April 1928]

Forest Department

Forest Development Plans

There are no less than eleven schemes for forest development.

(1) *Reopening of the Madras Forest College.*—The Madras Forest College Coimbatore, was closed as a measure of retrenchment in 1939. The reopening of the College was considered in connection with the Post War Development Scheme sanctioned in 1945 and the College was reopened in October 1947.

(2) *Revival of the Working Circle.*—The Forest Working Circle was abolished as a measure of retrenchment in 1939. It is now being considered in connection with the Post War Development Scheme.

(3) *Reopening of the Madras Forest College.*—The Madras Forest College Coimbatore, was closed as a measure of retrenchment in 1939. The reopening of the College was considered in connection with the Post War Development Scheme sanctioned in 1945 and the College was reopened in October 1947.

(3) *Management of Panchayat Forests.*—The management of the ryots forests by the Forest Panchayats has been a failure. The transfer of the management of these forests to the Forest Department has therefore been considered as a Post War Development Scheme. The question of transferring the Panchayat Forests in six selected districts to the Forest Department is under the consideration of the Government.

(4) *Control of Private Forests.*—The object is to control the private forests, if necessary, by enquiring them. The report of the Special Officer on the conditions of the private forests has been received and is under consideration.

(5) *Expansion of Casuarina Plantations.*—The Government are considering a scheme is to

proposed to constitute a Soil Conservation Board for the Nilgiris with official and non-official members.

7. *Further Forest reservation including Village forests.*—Madras has reserved forests covering about 12 per cent of its total area against the accepted ideal of 20 per cent to 25 per cent by which the villager may be enabled to satisfy his requirements of agricultural timber and fuel within a reasonable distance of his home. It is proposed to vest with the Forest Department the control over the afforestation in the Rampa Agency, Kollemalais and in such areas as the Hagari and Pennar river banks and over the tank bed lands.

The scheme will take 20 years for its full development and will ultimately be largely self-supporting. The scheme has not yet been sanctioned.

8. *Extension of teak plantations.*—For the past 20 years the Forest Department has been converting all suitable and suitably situated land in its possession into teak plantations at the rate of 1,500 acres per year. The new plantations when they reach maturity will bring about a three-fold increase in the output of teak. But there will still be a deficit of about 20,000 tons a year if it is desired to cut out imports. This will need about 700 acres of plantations annually for the rotation period of 70 years. At rotation age the crop on an acre would be worth about Rs. 2,000 per acre and there would be substantial intermediate yields. The scheme has not yet been sanctioned.

9. *Softwood plantations.*—Supplies of softwoods to the West Coast mills have generally come from private forests. It seems highly probable that the present softwood plantation activities will have to be expanded on a considerable scale. It will be necessary to acquire private forests for this purpose. The tentative plan is to produce 10 lakhs of cubic feet a year needing about 20,000 acres a year. 1,000 acres per year.

to result in an additional net revenue of about Rs. 1,09,500 annually. The scheme is under consideration.

Carrying the Mount Stuart Road system in South Coimbatore Division into the Ulandi Valley (a metalled road).

The road is necessary for the formation of teak plantations apart from timber extraction. If the road is not constructed we will have to depend on the good offices of the Cochin State for the transport of timber from the Ulandi forests at any future date.

Consideration of the scheme has, however, been postponed by two years.

11. *Improved amenities for forest staff and labour.*—The excellent results that have followed from the special attention paid to the housing of the subordinate Forest staff, the anti-malarial measures and the provision of simple medical care notably in South Coimbatore Division indicate the importance of the work of this kind in other Centres of activity. Further schemes are under consideration.

Veterinary Department

The Serum Institute has been transferred from the Agricultural College buildings, Coimbatore to the Meat Dehydration Factory Buildings at Ranipet with effect from 24th March 1948.

Electricity Department

During March 1948, ten extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 each were sanctioned by the Chief Engineer for Electricity at an estimated total cost of Rs. 1,79,430.

During the month, supply to 131 numbers agricultural services and 21 numbers industrial services was given.

Work on the major schemes and extensions under execution was progressing. One of the 2,500 K.W. sets in the Madras Power has been satisfactorily completed and is now in regular service. Measures for electric supply position were taken. Four small sets of 21.9 K.V.A. each were commissioned and supplied. One set also sent to connected being

Resettlement Activities

March 1948—A general summary

Employment Office Statistics.—There is a marked increase in the registration from 6,465 in February to 8,376 during the month. This is due mainly to the rush of more ex-servicemen to the Exchanges for getting themselves registered or re-registered with a view to get at the Railway reserved vacancies for which the last date for receipt of applications was notified as 31st March 1948. It is also due to the intensive drive for recruitment to the Armed Police Units, and throwing open of the Employment Offices to civilians. Men thrown out of Government Offices due to retrenchment, as a result of decontrol, is also another reason for this increase.

The total number placed in employment during the month was 1,761 as against 2,151 during the previous month. The decrease is partly due to the higher placings of last month in the Armed Police Units and in the Muchkund Hydro-electric Scheme. The men recruited for this Scheme last month having decamped from the work spot, further recruitment has been suspended. The Railway reserved vacancies and the openings in the Army and Police are keeping up the placings which should otherwise have stopped steeply. Of those placed in employment 1,516 persons were ex-service personnel as compared with 1,850 in the previous month. Analysing the placings effected during the month 4 per cent are posts carrying increased salary of Rs. 60 to Rs. 100, 22 per cent are posts carrying a pay of Rs. 36 to Rs. 60, 47 per cent are posts carrying a pay of Rs. 21 to Rs. 35 and 27 per cent are posts carrying a pay of Rs. 20 and less. A further analysis of these placings shows 8.5 per cent of the placings are in private industries and the rest are in Government and Railway reserved vacancies.

Vacancy position.—The number of vacancies notified during the month was less than last month, and the vacancies outstanding under all heads, Government, Railways and Private, were also less than last month. It amounted to only 20 per cent of the number of persons on the live Register at the end of the month.

Difficulties in resettling ex-servicemen.—In addition to the inherent qualification in not possessing diplomas and certificates of training, being able them to secure the ex-

reject jobs and are unwilling to move out of their homes. The physical standards for enrolment in the Armed Police Units are found to act unfavourably in respect of their height and chest measurements, and some of those who are found fit, have not joined the Forces readily. Even in the matter of undergoing technical training the ex-servicemen are not joining the Centres quickly. The closing of the reserved vacancies and the large scale retrenchment in Government services are all factors adversely operating against ex-servicemen.

Disabled.—Nine disabled persons were placed in employment during the month and one of them was appointed as a Police Constable at Vizagapatam, though he was declared to be suffering from a disease incurable at the time of demobilization. He has completely recovered and was found medically fit for the job.

Employment trends and opportunities.—The labour unrest in some parts of the region still continues. Though the textile mills in and around Coimbatore were re-opened after the lock-out of nearly two months, it is reported that only 10 per cent of the workers have joined duty. In Malabar district there were strikes in three factories and in some other minor concerns, affecting about 1,000 persons. No new factory has come into existence during the month except the starting of the Tungabhadra Industries in Kurnool district. The other factories are under construction and there is difficulty in securing machinery. The unemployment in the educated middle class is likely to go up with the discharge of many thousands of clerks on account of retrenchment in Government service. The employment position has worsened, but there is enough work available for unskilled labour, if people are only willing to do hard manual labour.

Labour shortages and surpluses.—The bulk of men on the Live Registers of Employment Offices are for the posts of peons, watchmen, clerks, motor drivers, fitters (General), postmen, duffries, motor mechanic, police constables, coolies, cleaners, painters. The technical tradesmen are not sufficiently experienced, and the demand for really qualified men for the posts of fitters, welders, tracers, blacksmiths, carpenters, moulders, overseers and engineers could not be met. Unless unskilled and unqualified persons are trained and police, and come forward to work in the fields, the help for

TABLE I.
Registrations and Placings—March 1948

Name of Sub-Regional or District Employment Office	Number of Registrations during the month including re-registrations.		Applicants placed in employment by Employment Officers during the month.		Number of applicants on the live register at the end of the month.	
	ALL.	EXS.	ALL.	EXS.	ALL.	EXS.
Vizagapatam (S.R.E.) ..	331	256	55	36	1,791	1,290
East Godavari (D.E.O.) ..	153	101	23	13	2,184	1,682
Bezwada (S.R.E.) ..	156	121	45	34	1,521	1,238
Guntur (D.E.O.) ..	159	130	30	29	1,171	1,039
West Godavari (D.E.O.) ..	114	94	10	10	521	428
Anantapur (S.R.E.) ..	55	31	38	35	684	606
Bellary (D.E.O.) ..	62	44	45	33	786	694
Cuddapah (D.E.O.) ..	53	47	43	41	1,554	1,470
Kurnool (D.E.O.) ..	80	44	67	35	1,154	1,112
Vellore (S.R.E.) ..	459	405	127	118	3,779	3,502
Chittoor (D.E.O.) ..	98	83	36	36	380	337
Coimbatore (S.R.E.) ..	368	259	167	143	2,941	2,380
Nilgiris ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salem (D.E.O.) ..	164	138	84	80	2,038	1,809
Madras (S.R.E.) ..	1,527	864	167	124	7,043	4,358
Chingleput (D.E.O.) ..	464	386	43	37	1,617	1,254
Nellore (D.E.O.) ..	231	186	44	36	736	621
Trichinopoly (S.R.E.) ..	529	371	118	101	2,701	2,137
Tanjore (D.E.O.) ..	474	409	42	40	2,019	1,708
South Arcot (D.E.O.) ..	397	251	80	64	2,058	1,532
Madura (S.R.E.) ..	478	378	112	103	1,924	1,687
Ramnad (D.E.O.) ..	509	401	51	50	1,198	1,055
Tinnevely (D.E.O.) ..	491	455	116	113	1,136	1,051
Calicut (S.R.E.) ..	816	772	154	151	2,215	2,116
South Kanara (D.E.O.) ..	101	89	45	44	811	758
Madras (R.E.E.) ..	107	37	24	10	522	270
Total ..	8,376	6,352	1,761	1,516	44,484	36,134

TABLE II.
Number of Employers using Employment Offices, Vacancies notified and vacancies outstanding—March 1948.

Name of the Sub-Regional or District Employment Office.	Number of employers using offices during the month.	Number of vacancies notified during the month.	Number of vacancies outstanding at the end of the month.			
			Reserved.	Central and Provincial.	Others.	Total.
Vizagapatam (S.R.E.) ..	27	16	16	116	36	271
East Godavari (D.E.O.) ..	10	10	10	10	10	10
Bezwada (S.R.E.) ..	19	19	19	19	19	19
Guntur (D.E.O.)
West Godavari (D.E.O.)
Anantapur (S.R.E.)
Bellary (D.E.O.)
Cuddapah (D.E.O.)
Kurnool (D.E.O.)
Vellore (S.R.E.)
Chittoor (D.E.O.)
Coimbatore (S.R.E.)
Nilgiris
Salem
Madras
Chingleput

Name of the Sub-Regional or District Employment Office.	Number of employers using Employment offices during the month.	Number of vacancies notified during the month.	Number of vacancies out standing at the end of the month.			
			Reserved.	Central and Provincial.	Others.	Total.
Trichinopoly (S.R.E.) ..	28	123	..	76	20	96
Tanjore (D.E.O.) ..	33	53	..	25	5	30
South Arcot (D.E.O.) ..	16	88	..	30	32	62
Madura (S.R.E.) ..	23	120	..	54	..	54
Ramnad (D.E.O.) ..	10	48	..	30	..	30
Tinnevely (D.E.O.) ..	29	88	..	9	..	9
Calicut (S.R.E.) ..	19	151	..	40	7	97
South Kanara (D.E.O.) ..	5	62	..	27	7	34
Madras (R.E.E.) ..	15	44	6,208	68	22	6,298
Total ..	513	1,896	6,327	1,223	335	7,885

TABLE III.

Number of persons placed in employment by Employment Offices classified according to wage groups—March 1948.

Wage/Salary Group.	Number placed in Employment by Employment Offices—		
	Ex-Service.	Others.	Total.
Rupees 35 per mensem and below	1,159	153	1,312
Rupees 36 per mensem to Rs. 60 per mensem.	303	77	380
Rupees 61 per mensem to Rs. 100 per mensem.	53	14	67
Rupees 101 per mensem and above	1	1	2
Total ..	1,516	245	1,761

TABLE IV.

Number of persons who refused to accept appointment offered for or failed to attend interviews with the employers—March 1948.

Category of personnel.	Number of applicants who refused to accept appointments offered to them.			Number of applicants who failed to attend interviews without satisfactory explanation.	Total.
	The pay was inadequate.	For other reasons.	Total.		
Ex-servicemen	174	192	366	867	631*
Others	31	41	72		
Total ..	205	233	438	1,541	

* This figure includes both

.. .. and number selected and (1948).

270
31,167

Miscellaneous

Yarn control.—The Madras Yarn (Dealers) Control Order was repealed with effect from 16th March 1948 and the movement of yarn within the Province has been made free. The 'B' and 'C' class dealers in yarn have gone and the 'A' class quota holders continue. The mills will supply yarn only to the quota holders. The mills have undertaken to supply yarn direct to the co-operative societies as before. The quota of yarn for the co-operative societies will be fixed by the Provincial Textile Controller on the basis of the number of looms in the societies.

Movement of handloom cloth.—In pursuance of their liberal policy the Government have allowed the free export of handloom cloth from this Province to Coorg and the States of Sandur, Cochin, Travancore and Mysore.

The following concessions were allowed to exporters of handloom cloth :—

1. Consignee's name and address need not be given in application for permits.

2. Means of transport need be shown only as "rail" thus permitting the exporters to send the cloth by goods or passenger train.

3. The exporters will be allowed to send the cloth in consignments.

Credit Agricole in Bihar

In the recent past, much progress has been made in the distribution of seeds, manures and cattlefeed to cultivators at cheap rates. The Credit Agricole functioning under the Bihar Co-operative Department has been expanded and a special committee has been appointed to look after its working and suggest suitable ways and means for its improvement and development.

During the first 18 months of the present Government, 20,000 maunds of seeds, 6½ lakh maunds of oil-cakes for manufacturing and cattlefeed and 21,000 chemical fertilizers for manure distributed. The entire distributed oil-cakes and a part of the chemical fertilizers has been made on a subsidy basis. The province's demand of oil-cakes is about 12 lakhs maunds per year and a similar quantity for cattle-feed and the supply is much less than the demand. During war years, there has been considerable increase in the acreage under oil-cakes. This is the case of

Number of ex-servicemen recommended for training and number selected and posted to Training Centres (March 1948)—cont.

MADRAS REGION—cont.

II. Selected and Posted—

A. Technical Training—			
1. During the month	..	..	767
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	13,385
B. Vocational Training—			
1. During the month	..	..	35
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	2,521
C. Training for War Disabled—			
1. During the month	..	..	} Not available.
2. Cumulative to date	..	..
D. Women—			
1. During the month	..	..	Nil.
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	330
E. Apprentices—			
1. During the month	..	..	70
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	172

Progress report of the resettlement and employment of men in the Madras Region up to March 1948.

A. Total Recruitment	..	..	..	..	413,807
B. Index cards of ex-servicemen of the Madras Province (British India) received in the Muster Register Section at the Regional Exchange, Madras, up to 30th September 1947	..	..	..	..	208,491
C. Ex-servicemen registered at Employment Exchanges and District Employment Offices (including re-registrations up to 29th February 1948)	..	..	..	..	204,323
D. (a) Placed in employment by Employment Exchanges and District Employment Offices	..	..	..	..	38,041
(b) Recruiting and Employment Offices and Special Assistants to Collectors	..	..	..	..	21,638
E. Found Work	..	..	..	..	3,778
Total, D. & E.					63,457
F. Undergoing training under the Technical Training Scheme of Government of India	..	..	..	..	2,542
Vocational Training	..	..	..	..	740
Disabled Training	..	..	..	..	312
Apprenticeship Training	..	..	..	..	134
					3,728+275*
G. (a) Ex-servicemen who have not availed of opportunities for training	..	..	..	..	9,949
(b) Who are considered unsuitable for employment by Special Assistants	..	..	..	..	2,204
(c) Whose registrations have lapsed	..	..	..	..	108,719

* This figure represents the number of women under training.

TABLE VI.

Number of training centres sanctioned and number of ex-servicemen undergoing training as on the 31st March 1948.

Type of Training Centres.	Number of training centres.	Number of seats sanctioned.
Technical	32	3,234
Vocational	16	1,073
Disabled	1	480
Women	62	
Apprenticeship	15	

Total

requires 40 to 50 thousand tons a year of ammonia sulphate and the quota allotted to it is barely a third of that. The supply of phosphate manures is also not better. Now that the Government have decided to expedite the establishment of super-phosphate factory and ammonia sulphate factory in the Province, the future seems promising.

The Government of Bihar propose to make the distribution of cheap and good manures and seeds to cultivators, if necessary on credit, a permanent feature of rural economy of the Province. A large number of distribution depots will be set up all over the Province. The construction of these depots will cost about Rs. 30 lakhs and the amount has already been sanctioned by the Government.

* * *

The Charka Programme

The charka programme need not displace other efforts toward reform, but it seems to possess certain advantages which make one wonder whether it does not deserve the strongest emphasis among them all. These advantages are the closeness of its adaptation to the ingrained habits and modes of thought, action and institutions of the great majority of the people, its simplicity, its ability immediately to produce necessities, the relative ease of learning, its cheapness of installation and operation, the relative simplicity of organization required, its absence of need for special legislation or Government aid of any sort, its ability to do without foreign capital or indeed of great capital from any source. It taps very great existing but unused sources of physical power and raw materials by simple, inexpensive means requiring slight skill. It provides one elemental security and removes its provision from the field of profiteering. It does not need as much capital or attention as either agriculture or tailoring. It is an indigenous form. It tends immediately to the most valuable qualities of the charka, its perservance. It is

national servant would build up a programme of anti-malaria campaign, improved sanitation, settlement of village disputes, conservation and breeding of cattle, and hundreds of other beneficial activities. Wherever charkha work is fairly established, all such ameliorative activity is going on according to the capacity of the villagers and the workers concerned."

The khaddar programme is not a cure-all, but it does seem to be the most effective first step towards a renaissance of Indian economic life.

TABLE VII.

Number of persons who have passed trade test in the month of March 1948.

Description.	In March 1948.	Cumulative.
Technical Trainees—		
Grade II	55	497
Grade III	119	1,399
Vocational Trade	10	10
War Disabled—		
Technical Grade III	2	38
Vocational Grade III	15	108
Total	201	2,052

Railway Traffic—Comparative Figures—March 1948

South Indian Railway				Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway		
	March 1948.	March 1947.	February 1948.		March 1947.	March 1948.
<i>Coaching traffic—</i>				<i>Earnings—</i>		
Number of Passengers	12,720,486	13,458,236	11,514,103	Coaching	84,53,000	87,91,000
Earnings Rs.	78,37,027	71,21,113	72,14,975	Goods	63,43,000	63,62,000
				Miscellaneous.	18,72,000	13,12,000
<i>Goods traffic—</i>				<i>Volume of traffic—</i>		
Weight in tons	611,494	588,334	534,134	Number of	7,997,000	7,984,000
Earnings Rs.	53,37,613	44,65,943	52,27,793	Passengers.		
				Goods	442,000	448,000
				traffic (tons).		



Prohibition News Letter

The following is a brief summary of reports received from Prohibition districts regarding the ameliorative activities. The period covered by the reports ranges from the last week of March to the first week of April 1948.

Trichinopoly.—There was a conference of the Uplift Associations in one firka which was largely attended. Rural games and sports were played as usual. Chedukudu, long jump, sack race, kummy, kolattam were among the more important events. Prizes were distributed to winners. School children also participated. During the last week of March, there was a Taluk Tournament in chedukudu as well as a volley-ball tournament. The closing functions of the Trichinopoly division Rural Uplift School came off on the 29th March. There were rural games in which a good number of villagers competed. The occasion was availed of by more than one Department to publicize their activities. The Egg-Marketing Society, Trichinopoly, exhibited their eggs while the Agricultural Department put on show their implements. A park and a volley-ball court were opened early in April. Ex-tappers of one village have taken to spinning and weaving.

North Arcot.—One panchayat board has resolved to contribute Rs. 4,000 for the main purpose of constructing a village hall to serve as a community-centre. The North Arcot District Rural Tournament was conducted at Vellore on 8th and 9th April 1948. In all, teams from 11 taluks participated, 110 villagers competing in the various events. Seventeen schools also entered the lists. There was also a variety entertainment in Wandiwash taluk.

Chittoor.—Rural games were played in all the divisions as usual. Two firka tournaments and six inter-village matches were conducted during the last week of March. Bhajanas and folk dances were performed in several centres. Also harikatha were performed. Dramas were performed and community singing was organized. A reading room was opened during the last week of March. The opening ceremony attracted a good deal of public interest. A Rural Exhibition was held in one place on 29th March. Folk dances were also performed well as variety entertainments.

was inaugurated in

South Kanara.—An Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition was held in connection with the last day of the Rural Uplift School. Certificates were given for the best exhibits. At the instance of a gramasangham a library and reading room were declared open on 4th April. Propaganda was also done among ex-tappers. They were exhorted to adopt improved methods of jaggery manufacture.

Bellary.—Firka tournaments were conducted in which several teams took part. A gymnasium was also opened; dramas were enacted. Two Betterment Committees were started; Thrift Day celebrations were held at two places and hundi boxes were distributed. Proposals to form a Bricklayer's Co-operative Society and Mat-weavers' and Potters' Co-operative Society were examined. A Co-operative Building Society was started in the last week of March. A Cleanliness and Sanitation Day was organized by Harijans in one place and the owner of the most well-kept house awarded a prize. A Village Industries Conference was held. As a measure of co-ordination, ameliorative staff and workers in the Department of Women's Welfare, have made joint visits to villages. Thrift campaign was also conducted.

Guntur.—A one-day Cattle Show was held in a few centres. The show attracted a good deal of public interest. The propaganda van entertained the gathering. The Special Development Officer spoke on prohibition, rural uplift, milk supply and cattle breeding.

Madura.—A drama was enacted by students of Rural Uplift School, Dindigul. It depicted the evils of drink and black-marketing and brought out among other things, the advantages of the Thrift Scheme. Two Milk Supply Societies for the benefit of ex-addicts and others were organized in several places. A Thrift Day was conducted.

Tanjore.—One Palmyra Jaggery Production Society was organized during the last week of March. One Milk Supply Co-operative Society, as well as a Co-operative Credit Society was also organized for the benefit of the ex-tappers. Sixty hundi boxes were distributed.

Cuddapah.—A Cattle Show and an Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition were held in the last week of March. In this connection the ameliorative staff put up a stall for handicraft articles.

Anantapur.—A Cattle Show and an Agricultural Exhibition were held in one place from 20th to 22nd March. Prizes were awarded for the best exhibits. Prizes were in the shape of agricultural implements. Firka tournaments took place as usual. The annual festival at Kadiri took place in the last week of March. The occasion was availed of for holding an Agricultural Exhibition. Propaganda was also done on prohibition.

Salem.—In connection with the closing of the Rural Uplift School, there was a special tournament. There was also a rural exhibition in which several departments took part. Two public radios were installed by the villagers in two places. One Wool-Weavers' Co-operative Society is training ex-addicts in the art of manufacturing woollen carpets. Two Mat-Weavers' Societies were also organized. A Milk Supply Society conducted a Cattle Show.

Kurnool.—Firka tournaments, cattle show, agricultural and industrial exhibition, rural games and sports were among the important items of activities during the period. All these evoked considerable public interest and were successful. Thrift Day Celebrations were also conducted. A Night School for adults, mostly Harijans, was opened. Ex-addicts, it is reported have turned a new leaf and many of them are financially reviving.

Nilgiris.—There was a tournament in the last week of March in which 16 events including mass

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Towards Nation Building

Role of Cattle Wealth in India

Dominion Agriculture Minister's Speech

Animal husbandry is the hand-maid of agriculture. Much of the efficiency of the latter depends on the former. The role of cattle wealth in India was recently emphasized by Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram while opening the Seventh Indian Cattle Show in Delhi. He said :

"The cattle problem in India is not merely a humanitarian problem of animal welfare but in it are substantially involved both the health and wealth of our nation. The earlier we realize this the sooner shall we see the end of poverty and disease in the country," stated Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Agriculture and Food Minister of the Government of India when he opened the Seventh All-India Cattle Show in Delhi in February 1948. The following is the full text of his speech :—

"I am glad it has been possible for me to snatch some time from other urgent duties and come and open this All-India Cattle Show. I have come because I realize the important place which the cattle problem occupies in the national economy of our country. With so many big questions confronting the nation at the present moment, it may appear as if one were diverting time to a small affair in performing the opening ceremony of this cattle show. Clouds are still thick over Kashmir, scarcity and who knows worse is in the offing in Madras, our fellow Indian evacuees from Pakistan are still awaiting full response from the people of India. Other problems also occupy the present thought

"But despite these urgent, cases we cannot ignore those the the situation of welfare of the population of the country. Therefore, the welfare of our people is a paramount consideration. Let us take steps of such a nature as to ensure the national health and energy programme.

economic welfare. Hence it is that you find me in your midst even though it be for a brief while. I have agreed to participate in to-day's functions because I fully appreciate the importance of cattle wealth to our predominantly agricultural nation and, therefore, its close connection with the vital interests of the people.

"I congratulate the workers of the All-India Cattle Show Society for the good work it has been performing. The Society was started by the Government of India in the year 1938 with the object of organizing and establishing periodical shows of cattle and poultry and to carry out all activities for the furtherance of breeding and improvement of livestock in India, to undertake propaganda for the improvement of animals and poultry in India and to spread the knowledge of the principles upon which better animals and poultry may be bred. Besides the central show held in Delhi, two regional shows and several smaller shows in the well-known breeding tracts are held annually with the help of Provincial and State Governments. I know the Society can do far more service if its financial resources were greater and I hope it will not be long before its funds are substantially augmented to help it to serve better the cause of agriculture.

Two-fold Problem

"You know that India is essentially an agricultural country and cattle are the backbone of agriculture. About 80 per cent of India's rural population is agriculturist, for whom cattle have an importance of their own. They occupy a prominent position in the rural economy of the country and have therefore been treated with special care and affection from the most ancient times. The two-fold problem we need to solve is to produce more milk products to provide nutrition to our people and we need to develop their and stronger agricultural operations indispensable to the national economy.

bovine population (cattle and buffaloes) of undivided India was 208.2 millions. It is estimated that as a result of the partitioning of the country, about 30 million cattle have gone to Pakistan. In spite of our huge cattle population, the country is in short supply both with regard to bullocks as well as milk. One of the main reasons is that our cattle suffer essentially from food shortage. The slow process of starvation to which our livestock is exposed, is evident from its unthrifty condition, poor productive capacity, stunted growth, late maturity and long-interval calving period. We thus lose millions of tons of milk and an enormous amount of horse power. Do we realize what this means in terms of national health and production and therefore of national wealth. As matters stand at present, not more than 60 per cent of the fodder required is available and only one-fourth of the total concentrates needed can be obtained. The position with regard to the supply of milk is still worse. About 22 million tons of milk are produced annually from cows and buffaloes in India. This must be increased to about 65 million tons to meet the minimum nutritional requirements of our people when calculated at the rate of 1 lb. of milk per day per head of the population (8 oz. in milk and 8 oz. in the form of milk products, ghee, butter, etc.). To allow for the feeding of calves, another 10 million tons is needed. The present per capita consumption of milk in this country is only 5 to 6 oz. In some of the other countries, it is far greater. It is as much as 40 oz. in Denmark, 45 oz. in Australia, 35 in U.S.A. and 39 in Great Britain. It would thus be seen that although we possess the largest cattle population in the world, we supply the least quantity of milk per head of the population. Cattle rearing in this country is carried out under a variety of adverse climatic and other conditions. The average breeder is poor. He lives on small fragmented holdings, the large majority of which are less than 5 acres. The average size of his herd consists of only two or three animals against 27 to 30 in countries like Great Britain. The units are small and uneconomical. The individual farmer cannot have

Considering the immensity of the task and the numerous complications, the solution is not easy to find, but it is evident that we must endeavour to improve our cattle by better feeding, breeding and management.

Better Feeding

The problem of providing more fodder and concentrates for our cattle is indeed difficult, for pressure on land is already heavy and there is serious competition between man and animal. In any plan to bridge the gulf between supply and demand as regards deficiency in cattle feed, the requirements of human beings must of course receive primary consideration, but on a careful review of the entire position in regard to cultivation and yield as a result of introduction of the latest scientific methods, it appears possible that by re-adjustment of our cropping programme some extra feed can be made available for cattle. But their total requirement can only be met if production from land can be increased by about 50 per cent. We must, therefore, tap every other source to supplement food for cattle. These sources can be:—

(1) Hay and silage making out of the surplus grass which is available during monsoons should be practised all over the country. There are 136 million acres of grazing land in India. No precise data are available as to how much grass this land produces, but the limited information we have, goes to show that the production of grass is about 2 tons green per acre. At least one-third of it could easily be preserved as hay or silage. All this now goes to waste.

(2) A number of forest areas under the forest Departments grow large quantities of grass which would be made use of by cutting and preserving as hay or silage.

(3) Crops which are known not only to increase the quality of nutritious fodder but also improve fertility of the soil such as Burseem should be extensively grown wherever possible.

(4) Large quantities of cakes are at present used entirely for manurial purposes. It is a matter for consideration if this cake would not only serve the object in view if some of it is passed through cattle.

(5) The Nutritional Laboratories of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute have explored possibilities of food-stuffs such as mango seeds, sun seed,

peas, groundnut husk, bawar seed are rich in feeding value and can be extensively used as feed for cattle. The methods of their preparation and use have been described in detail in one of the issues of the *Indian Farming* published by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(6) The deficiencies in rice straw, if corrected by the addition of bone ash, will increase the utilization of this food stuff.

(7) A great deal can be accomplished if the mixed farming practices are more widely adopted.

(8) Thirty per cent of waste can be saved if all fodder is chaffed before being fed to cattle.

(9) More use should be made of fodder bearing trees, as their leaves and pods provide excellent fodder.

(10) The fish meal industry in the country should be developed so that more of highly concentrated protein food is made available in the form of fish meal for cattle.

Improvement by Breeding

Planned scientific breeding of animals is also necessary for improvement of our cattle. A number of Government farms are at present producing pedigree bulls of various breeds and these animals are distributed in the villages for the improvement of local stock. There are about 45 such farms in India which annually issue about 1,868 bulls. Considering the requirements of the whole country, these 1868 bulls distributed annually do not meet even 1 per cent of our annual requirements. To produce the bulls required annually for the whole country at the Government farms is not a practical proposition. Our efforts to improve the village cattle should, therefore, be concentrated in the following directions:—

(a) All bulls issued from farms should be located in a specially selected breeding tract and concentrated in a few villages, so that casualties and replacements are assured. In the area all other male stock should be removed. In due course, the "villages" would be in a position to supply the better bred bulls for distribution in other areas.

(b) Efforts should be made to develop dual purpose breeds which would produce both milk and bullocks and also yield a large quantity of milk. We should progress towards the production of dual purpose breeds.

are now setting up a farm at Jubbulpore where it is proposed to study this problem in great detail.

(c) The method of artificial insemination is being widely practised in several other countries, where it has definitely proved its value. Work done at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute has shown that a great deal can be achieved even under Indian conditions. Four experimental field centres set up recently have yielded very promising results. By the adopting of this method one bull can do work of 10 and extensive use can be made of really superior sires. It is, therefore, essential that necessary steps should be taken by all Provinces and States to explore the possibilities of the use of this method to the fullest extent.

I do not propose to deal in to-day's speech with all the problems relating to our cattle wealth and thus blur the main outline of the picture. I want on the contrary to draw particular attention to that outline alone. Hence I propose to content myself with this brief reference to the outstanding features of the cattle problem in our country. The topical question of the prevention of slaughter of cattle or the salvage of the useful cattle from slaughter, and the insurance of cattle are all under examination by Committees and I hope their results will be before the public ere long. These and other allied questions will be, I trust, satisfactorily dealt with in due time. This will however be only possible if we realise that the cattle problem in India is not merely a humanitarian problem of animal welfare but that in it are substantially involved both the health and wealth of our nation. The earlier we realise this the sooner shall we see the end of poverty and disease in this country.

We have met under the shadow of a great national tragedy. Within a yard here lies a simple memorial of the greatest work of the animal world. Let us let this lead in the raising of the cattle and so do our duty in keeping their memory.

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spread a knowledge of the principles of good animal and poultry breeding.

In a fee'ing reference to Mahatma Gandhi, "a real benefactor of the poor cow", Sir Datar Singh said: "I cannot say whether it is mere chance or it is the result of the affection and love, Bapuji

had for the cow that the site selected for his last remains is the one where we had last year's All India Cattle Show. The spot where he has been cremated is exactly where he had the collection of our best cows last year and were going to have the competition for the highest milk-yielding cow this year."

life but are also a burden on others as the result of ill health.

Raising Health Standard

Moreover, in respect of many diseases, the patient is often an active disseminator of infection and the treatment undertaken for his cure forms an important part of the preventive campaign. Thus it is clear that a combined attack on the problems of ill health is necessary in order to achieve satisfactory results. The conditions essential for healthful living should be secured through a concentrated effort to improve the environment. At the same time as comprehensive a provision as possible should be made to provide remedial and preventive care to the sick and to the healthy who are exposed to infection.

Other measures which are necessary for raising the standard of the public health include an improvement of the standard of nutrition, an extensive programme of physical education and of recreational activities including within its scope both sexes and different age groups of the community and education of the people in personal and communal hygiene in order to enlist their active co-operation in the preservation of their own health.

Having thus enumerated some of the essential elements of a national plan for improved public health let me now proceed to suggest certain standards in respect of the necessary provision under various heads as well as put forward some proposals which, in my view, deserve earnest consideration by the authorities concerned. It is obviously impossible to deal here with these matters at any great length and my remarks are only intended to stimulate thought and discussion so that an intelligent appreciation of the urgent needs of the country in the field of public health may be promoted.

Housing Conditions

Housing conditions in India today are very unsatisfactory, both in urban and in rural areas. In rural areas have often no water supply and lighting is insufficient and inadequate of ventilation is a common feature. Many houses are in state of disrepair. Overcrowding exists to an extraordinary degree in towns, particularly in Industrial centres, while the hygienic condition of the houses occupied by the working class is very poor.

Freedom without Health is Meaningless

The importance of public health cannot be overstressed. It is a basic condition for progress in every country. The mass of people has yet to realise fully this fundamental fact. The individual who compose the nation have a great part to play in the formation of public health and in a free India, they cannot shirk their duty.

"Freedom without Health is meaningless," said Dr. J. N. Mehta in a recent broadcast survey of the health problems in this country. He said:

What is the background of the public health in India today against which we have to plan a healthier and happier India without which the freedom we have achieved after several years of arduous struggle and with the sacrifice of many lives has no meaning to the people of this country? Judged by the commonly applied standards of mortality sickness rates we are far behind most of the civilised nations of the world.

Our general death rate is about two and a half times those of the more progressive countries; more than five times as many infants die in India as in Australia and New Zealand, two of the healthiest countries: the mortality rate among women as the result of child-bearing, which should normally be a physiological process, is about several times that of England, and, in respect of certain infectious diseases such as cholera, smallpox and plague, we have in India such a high incidence that the country is considered as a reservoir of these infectious diseases and the enforcement of the quarantine regulations for the removal of goods and the enforcement of the feature of it.

The incidence of infectious diseases in India is so high that it is truly a national disaster. For every 100 million people, every year 100,000 are victims to these diseases and 100,000 are victims to these diseases.

is considered to be in the neighbourhood of one million.

Public Health Programme

Many other forms of sickness, such as hookworm, filariasis and guinea-worm infection are also prevalent in different parts of the country and these, although they may not contribute appreciably to the mortality rate, help to reduce the vitality of the affected persons and to decrease their working capacity as well as their enjoyment of life.

It is against this background of ill health that we have to plan a programme of public health endeavour in free India. In attempting to do so let us consider what the essential conditions are for enabling our people to lead healthy lives.

In the first place let us recognise the supreme importance of hygienic environment for our urban and rural populations, without which medical care, however, elaborately planned, will largely fail to achieve permanent results. A healthy environment will include hygienic houses and clean surroundings, the provision of a proper drainage arrangement and of safe water supplies, adequate supervision over the quality and purity of the food made available to the people, effective control of the breeding and dissemination of insect vectors of diseases such as mosquitoes, flies, fleas and lice and the provision of parks, gardens and other open spaces with the necessary facilities to promote recreational and cultural activities.

No less important than environmental hygiene is the expansion of existing medical services in order to provide adequate curative and preventive medical care to the many millions of patients in the country. While it is an effective improvement of the environment on the lines indicated to remove the causes of disease, it is to promote a permanent standard of the public health, it is equally an insistent demand for the working capacity of the people.

indication of the existing conditions in industrial centres—

“The filth and squalor which we saw in Cawnpore or the *bustees* of Calcutta are indescribable. A dark dingy room of about 10 feet by 8 feet in size, built in such a manner that neither light nor air can enter it and with, as in the case of the coal mines area, as many as 8 or 10 persons not infrequently living in it, represents the type of living accommodation which workers have to accept in these congested industrial centres. Washing and bathing facilities as well as latrine accommodation are often non-existent. Indeed, men and women have to go sometimes two or three furlongs in muddy roads and without light to answer the calls of nature. The inconvenience they have to undergo is aggravated during rains.

We have taken Cawnpore and Calcutta as examples. The position is no better in other large industrial cities such as Bombay, Ahmedabad Madura and Coimbatore. In the plantations we were shown quarters into which we could enter only by crawling. In the coal mines area housing conditions are equally unsatisfactory.”

Water Supply

It is this depressing state of existing housing conditions which will have to be altered and improved considerably as an essential part of our health campaign. Certain minimum standards for housing have been recommended by the Bhore Committee, suggesting certain requirements in respect of floor space, ventilation, built-up area and the provision of essential sanitary conveniences. These requirements should, in my opinion, be kept in view as the standards to be achieved in respect of all housing construction.

The Bhore Committee reported that the proportion of population served by protected water supplies was about 4.5 per cent for the country as a whole and that this percentage varied in the different provinces from about 1 to 90 per cent. Presumably the absence of safe drinking water for an overwhelmingly large section of the population the existing incidence of cholera and other bowel diseases from year to year can hardly be checked.

Provincial Governments have, it is understood, begun to realise the importance and urgency of this problem and in practice the first step for the year is to provide for the supply of water.

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But the success of these schemes will depend to a large extent, it seems to me, on concerted action in which the Centre and the provinces should fully cooperate with one another.

In the first place the necessary expenditure may have to be financed largely from loans and co-ordinated effort to raise funds would, therefore, seem to be a wise step towards the fulfilment of the programme.

Secondly, the water-supply problem is interlinked, particularly in certain provinces, with the conservation of river water on an inter-provincial basis. The training of public health engineers, the production of pipes and other appliances that are necessary on an adequately large scale to meet the country's requirements, the enforcement of certain desirable standards of purity on a common basis—these are also matters in which inter-provincial co-ordination can usefully be developed to the advantage of India as a whole. It is hoped that these and similar questions will receive the consideration of the authorities concerned.

Health Services

I do not propose to elaborate any detailed plan for the development of health services. The committee has, after consideration, put forward certain short-term nature development of the proposals for all administrative purposes.

had put forward no blue-print for adoption by health administrations and that its recommendations should be modified conditions. Such changes would seem to be necessary and desirable now, particularly because recent events following the partition of the country have brought to the fore the refugee problem and other matters, the demands of which on the public purse are so insistent as to necessitate a more attenuated health programme than the short-term ten-year plan of the Bhore Committee.

In a convocation address last month at Bombay to those who received the diplomas of the College of Physicians and Surgeons I put forward certain proposals which included concentration of effort on rural medical relief through the establishment of hospitals or expansion of existing ones at the headquarters, sub-headquarters and leading towns to the propagation of 250 bed hospitals at the headquarters of districts, medical aid institutions at these headquarters, a travelling line of relief, well

expansion advocated the training number of colleges system. Side by side developments preventive also be a of

carry out a variety of preventive duties such as inoculation against epidemic diseases, sterilization of water supplies and control of the insect vectors of diseases. The idea was put forward that instruction for such workers should be in the local mother tongue in order to promote a large out-turn of trained personnel than in the past.

I also emphasised that cheaper methods of construction should be adopted in order to provide the large number of hospitals, dispensaries and other medical institutions that will be required and urged that research should be undertaken in regard to building construction so as to ensure reasonable efficiency and cheapness, all useful methods, such as the use of local material and the standardisation and mass production of necessary parts such as doors, window-frames, etc., being pursued towards the achievement of this end.

I recognise that these suggestions do not constitute in themselves an integrated plan of health development but these proposals, if carried out, will help materially towards an expansion of existing medical and preventive health activities. What is more, they can fit in eventually into any larger scheme of health services which may, in due course, be developed throughout the country.

An essential condition for an adequate expansion of medical care, curative and preventive, is the production of necessary drugs and other medical supplies in the country itself so as to make India largely self-sufficient in these directions. Failure to pursue this policy with vigour will retard materially the development of the health programme and will also place the country in a position of great disadvantage in the event of an international emergency impeding the free flow of such supplies from abroad. This country at any time should, therefore, be lost proceeding with measures necessary to achieve this end.

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Education, Co-operative and Health Departments and the machinery for planning and execution should, therefore, be broadbased enough to include them all. I would urge that, in the Central and Provincial spheres, the establishment of such co-ordinated effort should receive early attention.

Lastly, all the suggestions put forward here require for their fulfilment the active support of the people. Such support can be forthcoming only if they participate in the programmes of development. Any process of spoon-feeding, whereby the measures introduced have behind them only or mainly the support of the authorities, is bound to fail because, as soon as such support is withdrawn, there will surely be retrogression and an eventual stoppage of the beneficent activities which have been brought into existence.

A practical approach towards the enlistment of the support of the people appears to be through the utilisation of the co-operative movement in the development of as many activities as possible, multi-purpose co-operative societies being promoted towards this purpose. A many sided attack on community life so as to improve the economic and cultural standard of life can alone place the building of national health on firm and secure foundations.

Today, the common man, and even, the educated section of the population is apathetic to the large amount of preventive suffering through sickness and mortality that exists in our country. A sufficiently broad programme of national regeneration will, by its own momentum, sweep away this cloud of apathy and should also help, it is to be expected, to promote the progressive realisation of improved national health and prosperity.

Prime Minister Nehru's National Relief Fund

The main purpose for which this fund has been organized is now fairly widely known. This fund is primarily intended for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees. The refugees constitute a problem of staggering magnitude in Free India and there is ample scope for private donations to go to

their assistance. This fund has been organized in all provinces and in this province its President is His Excellency the Governor of Madras Sir Archibald Nye. So far a sum of Rs. 48,294-8-0 has been received as donations to this fund.



Special Articles

Military Training in Schools

By Mr. KURUVILLA JACOB

In the terms of reference of the National Cadet Corps the Government of India has said, "During the recent war, difficulty has been experienced in finding a sufficient number of suitably qualified Indian Officers for the Armed Forces. Although a large number of applicants for commissions came forward, the greater proportion were lacking in the necessary qualities of initiative and self-confidence and a sense of responsibility. These essential ingredients of leadership which are as necessary in an officer as physical courage and bodily fitness, do not necessarily develop naturally nor is it always easy to develop them after a man's character is formed. They have usually to be brought out by training during the impressionable years of a man's life. That absence in so many candidates would seem to point, therefore, to some defects in the present system of education. It is believed that the institution throughout India of a National Cadet Corps might go far towards putting this right."

The Government have decided, therefore, to set up such a Cadet Corps which would have as its aim :

- (a) The development of leadership, character, comradeship and the ideal of service, and
- (b) the stimulation of interest in the defence of the country to the widest possible extent.

These are, in fact, the objectives of the National Cadet Corps as well as of the Madras Scheme.

Defects of Educational System

No one who has seriously examined our present educational system will deny that there are many places of weakness where we neglect many important aspects of the life of the pupils. What opportunity do they get for developing initiative, self-confidence and responsibility?

development of the young citizens, but the training of the majority of pupils consist in the daily five hours of class room drudgery.

Another common weakness in our schools is the lack of orderliness. Even at ordinary times this is a nuisance, but in a time of crisis lack of orderliness can be positive danger. Instead of being useful, young citizens can be a source of trouble. Orderliness again is something which can be achieved by orderly activities and not by "the dictation of notes and lecturing."

Lethargy and softness is another weakness which is common among our young people. I do not believe that we are born with these traits; circumstances have turned us that way. Children who are born active with an urge for working with their hands and to run about are put through an educational system which make them unfit for any hard physical work or for adventure of any kind.

Lack of Loyalty

One of our distinguished Indian Military leaders said the other day that we as people seem to lack 'loyalty.' There is plenty of verbal expressions of loyalty to our country and Gandhiji and so on, but not enough of that practice of loyalty which should be expressed in our loyalty to our institutions, loyalty to our immediate superiors and colleagues. We can be loyal citizens of the country only by being loyal to the group or class or institutions in which we work. Few excuses for evading instruction, criticising your immediate and colleagues behind their backs, are typical of an ill-ordered school who has not got loyalty to the group or class can never be true to the wider groups of the nation. It is the greatest importance should be given opportunity in school life where such loyalty is built up.

The present educational system

programme giving the children opportunities for becoming efficient, useful and hardy citizens.

Reform

In the scheme of Reorganization of Secondary Education an effort has been made to face these problems. In forms 1 to 4 there is provision for Citizenship Training (not through class room textbooks) but through activities similar to those in scouting and Junior Red-Cross. The Government is making arrangements for training teachers for the course and let us hope that the teachers will co-operate with this scheme and make it a success.

In forms 5 and 6 the problem is to be met by a scheme of "Military Training" for all boys who are physically fit. The term Military has given rise to some misunderstanding. While some are attracted to it by the spirit of manliness, strength, courage and discipline which are characteristics of Military Training, others are horrified by its association with all the brutalities and sufferings which all wars have caused.

However, it is a fact that in Military Science there are many activities which are of educational value for the training of useful and hardy citizens and in the methods of Military Training there is a thoroughness and efficiency which we seem to lack in our schools.

The programme of training in this scheme includes a carefully worked out syllabus in Physical Education and also certain activities in Military Training which can be included in the school programme with benefit. I give below a list of the main activities, which, I am sure, you will agree, as suitable for the training of citizens for peace or war :—

- 1 Body-building exercises.
- 2 Indigenous exercises.
- Yogasana exercises.
- Minor Games.
- Fundamental athletics.
- Field craft, including field formation, field engineering, firing, digging, etc.
- Mechanics, etc.

- 14 Elementary weapon training consisting of demonstrations and lectures on service weapons and shooting with sport rifle.
- 15 Organized visits to places of interest.
- 16 Annual camp.

Military Aspect

Except for the provision for shooting practice with Sport rifles it is doubtful whether anyone can criticise the scheme on educational grounds. On the other hand for Military efficiency this item is not of much importance and the main reason for its inclusion is to familiarise the boys with the rifle and with the art of marksmanship. If there is conscientious objection to the use of it as a compulsory training it may be left as optional.

The scheme is organized on the lines of military training because if efficiency and precision are to be expected we must adopt methods of proved efficiency. Anyone who has tried to organize any activity will confess the amount of sloppiness and slackness one has to encounter. If a scheme like this is drawn up and left to the schools to work them out in their own way it is possible that it may have the fate of the Manual Training and Physical Training in Schools.

The Cadet Training Scheme of the Government of India and the Madras Scheme have many points in common, and the main differences are—

(a) The Cadet Training is controlled by the Defence Department of the Government of India and it is a more advanced kind of training for a select number of pupils.

(b) The Madras Scheme is controlled and organized by the Education Department of the Province and is meant for all boys who are physically fit.

The main items of expenditure for the Madras Scheme are for uniforms, annual camps, allowances for members of the staff and for other expenses of technical staff and Training Stores.

If this training is an educational activity in the school it is only logical that the expenses should be met in the same way as other school activities through school fees and Government grants. If it is a purely military training under the Defence Department certainly we can ask the Government to find the entire cost.

The questions will be asked what will be the relation between the two schemes. It seems to me that both the schemes can work together provided that the pupils who are selected for Cadet Training are exempted from the School Training of the Madras Scheme.

While I would have some hesitation in recommending the Cadet Training for girls, I cannot see any reason why the Madras Scheme should not be adapted for High School girls also, because it is mainly citizenship training.

I am afraid that the term Military Training has given the impression to some that we are planning something against the spirit of the Teaching of Christ and Gandhiji. An orderly, healthy, efficient citizen who is trained to serve his country and to risk his life if necessary in the service of his fellow-men is what this training contemplates, and I believe it is in the best interests of peace and the well-being of the citizens.

The value of organic manures lies not only in their supply of nitrogen but also because they contain that very essential complex compound called 'humus' which is vital for maintaining soil fertility. Large quantities of humus are available in greenmanures, compost and cowdung.

Although the total production of cowdung in India represents about 800,000 tons per annum the total quantity of cowdung is not used for manure. Thus from cowdung, India gets a little more than 300,000 tons per annum.

Compost is manufactured from town refuse, sweepings, fodder refuse and nightsoil. During the last 3 years the Ministry of Agriculture has devoted some attention and a great deal of effort to produce compost from nightsoil. Out of 4,000 municipalities, 600 are working on such schemes and the total annual production is estimated at 600,000 tons. Although the major production of this manure is used for market garden crops some of it is also used for cereals and other crops. This manure provides much needed humus for the soil.

The total estimated production of compost in about 7,000 villages is about 1,000,000 tons a year.

Green Manure and Oil-cakes

Large scale tests have been carried out by the various departments of Agriculture in India on the value of green manures in practically every Province. The practice has become popular both in Madras and Bengal under conditions of assured water-supply.

The nitrogen contents of oil-cakes are very small varying from 1.5 per cent to about 7 per cent compared to India's requirements. The total production of inedible oil-cakes in India which are used for manure is about 250,000 tons.

Bonemeal

In war times India's export in bonemeal averaged 2 lakh tons. These were crushed at a mill and then shipped.

Manure Position in India

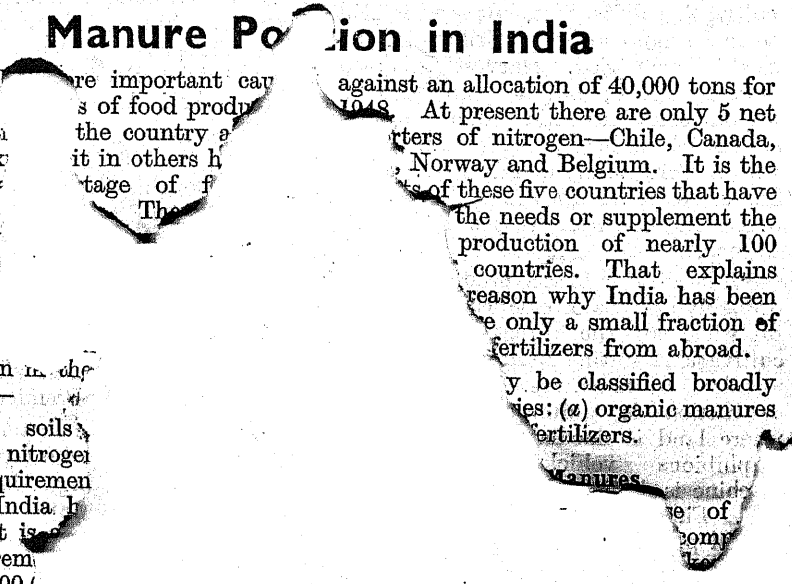
One of the most important causes of the slow growth of food production in many parts of the country is the failure to exploit the enormous potentialities of the soil. Water and the crop are of great importance in the monsoon season. The fertilizer position in the country is as follows:—

Indian soils are deficient in nitrogen. To meet her requirements of fertilizers, India has to import large quantities. It is estimated that the requirements of India are about 1,000,000 tons per annum.

against an allocation of 40,000 tons for 1948. At present there are only 5 net exporters of nitrogen—Chile, Canada, Norway and Belgium. It is the only one of these five countries that have the means to supplement the production of nearly 100 countries. That explains the reason why India has been unable to import more than a small fraction of her requirements of fertilizers from abroad.

Fertilizers may be classified broadly into two types: (a) organic manures and (b) inorganic fertilizers.

The organic manures are of two types: (a) green manures and (b) animal manures. The inorganic fertilizers are of two types: (a) nitrogenous and (b) phosphatic.



manures and (c) compound manures of the first two.

Among the first those useful to India are (i) ammonium sulphate for all crops, particularly rice; (ii) ammonium nitrate, (iii) sodium nitrate, both useful for dry crops, (iv) calcium cyanamide useful for all crops and (v) potassium nitrate useful for dry crops.

With the exception of potassium nitrate and to some extent ammonium sulphate, no other manure is manufactured in India. Ammonium sulphate is now available to the extent of some 45,000 tons a year from within the country. When the Sindri factory goes into operation the production will be about 420,000 tons per annum.

Phosphatic Manures

India's requirements for manuring 3,000,000 to 5,000,000 acres of cereals,

particularly rice, are estimated at 100,000 to 150,000 tons a year. Superphosphate can be produced from bone as a by-product of the glue and gelatine industry. Without this industry the production of superphosphates alone from bones is expensive. Experts, however, are of the view that cheap superphosphate can be produced in India by utilizing surplus sulphuric acid and importing ground rock phosphate from North Africa.

It has sometimes been stated that chemical fertilizers are harmful both to land and crops. This question was discussed in detail at one of the meetings of the F.A.O. and the recommendation of this world authority is that the rational use of chemical fertilizers has no deleterious effect on soil or crops. It is unlikely therefore that any Department of Agriculture in the country could have advocated the straight use of chemical fertilizers.

Rice Production in the Far East

By GEORGE MARTIN

Although world rice production this year is estimated to reach 93 per cent of pre-World War II level, quantities available for export will still be less than one-half of those then available. In view of the low nutritional standards of the rice-eating countries of Asia even before World War II and additional demands of an increased population during the last decade, restoration of rice production is the only way to overcome the food shortage in the deficit areas of Asia.

It will hardly be possible to solve Asia's food problem within a short time. Its importance is shown by the fact that in 1947 the Far East (including India) imported about 6,500,000 tons of food products—mostly cereals—from the United States, Australia and Argentina, whereas before the war it exported about 4,500,000 tons of rice, sugar, oilseeds and other food products annually.

the weather at harvest-time is too uncertain to ensure that the crop can reach the "dead-ripe" stage before harvest. It has been found that in these conditions binders are better, but these need driers to deal with the grain. British Guiana produces already a rice surplus of up to 30,000 tons, and prospects for further expansion appear to be good.

Trials are also being carried out in Malaya. There, amphibious vehicles—"weasels"—are being used for ploughing wet paddy lands and, on the dry paddy land, wheeled tractors. They have successfully surmounted cultivation difficulties, but seed is still sown by hand although drilling of the seed is being tried. Harvesting is also done by hand; but it is intended to try out combines which might be successful under Malayan conditions with a more clearly defined dry season. Similar experiments are to be taken in the near future in Borneo.

Mechanisation of rice production probably only be economically successful when all the "hard" work—cultivation, sowing and weeding—are done by machines. In areas where land is flooded, amphibious vehicles and combines are being used.

Final publication

area concerned. A great deal of experimentation remains to be done, but all the methods now employed in the United States, Australia and elsewhere will be tried in suitable areas in the British Commonwealth. From these small beginnings mechanisation may well come to play a vital part in the rice production of Malaya and Borneo.

In West Africa

Plans are also being made for expansion of rice production in British West Africa. Although there is already some peasant cultivation, increased production seems possible. As there is a large unsatisfied local demand, it seems unlikely that there will be any large exportable surplus for some time to come. An ample domestic supply of rice might well, however, contribute to world food needs by releasing more or other kinds of export crops at present consumed locally, such as groundnuts.

These plans for increased rice production are only part of the programme for increased food production in the British Commonwealth, which are designed at the same time to raise the standard of living of the local population and to help overcome the world food shortage.

Bihar Premier on the Role of Policemen

"Policemen are like gardeners. They tend and nurse the delicate plant of society. They pour out their entire being into its development to maturity. They weed out the poisonous cut-growths that threaten to envelope and overwhelm the society", thus observed Dr. Sri Krishna Sinha, the Bihar Premier, while speaking after giving away the prizes at the final of the Bihar District Police Officers' Sports Meeting on April 1.

Policemen are a right hand. Indeed they are my left hand. They are responsible for the peaceful functioning of the State. They are the backbone of the people. They are the people who mark the progress of the country. It is a vital part of the Premier added.

utility of sports in the country, he said. The training of the police is a vital part of the country's development.

Delhi Notes

Salt Production to be Stepped up

The Government of India are formulating comprehensive measures to step up indigenous production of salt so that India attains complete self-sufficiency in this vital commodity in as short a time as possible. Details of the Government plan including a licensing system for large scale manufacturers and measures to encourage production by co-operative societies will be published shortly.

Meanwhile Government consider that the first instalment of the plan should be made public immediately so that small scale manufacturers may take full advantage of the current salt season.

Henceforth individuals or groups may freely produce salt in any land to which they have lawful access for this purpose and by whatever process they desire, i.e., construction of pans and solar evaporation or boiling of brine or scrapping or excavation of saline earth or natural formations of salt provided that the total area of land covered by the salt works set up by any individual or group is not more than 10 acres. No licences are needed and no applications for licence need be sent to any Government authority in such cases. The provisions of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944, will not stand in the way of the right of the small scale manufacturer mentioned above.

* * *

West Coast Major Port Development Committee

The Government of India have constituted a port committee known as "The West Coast Major Port Development Committee" to investigate the following:

1. (a) the stretch of the coast during the war and during the seasons of

(b) if so, what is required, having regard to the construction and maintenance costs and allied transport developments, possible improvements in existing ports and the total area to be set

(c) what improvements are necessary in the present

accommodation of ships of large size and tonnage at all seasons of the year is required;

(b) if so, where it should be sited, having regard to economy of construction and maintenance of the port and allied transport developments required and having regard to the needs of the entire area; also what measures are necessary for establishing it;

(c) what improvements are necessary in communications to the existing ports; also what other measures should be taken for the development or provision of additional facilities in these ports as may be found necessary or desirable.

2. The composition of the committee will be as follows:—

Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai—*Chairman*.

The General Manager, B. B. & C.I. Railway, Bombay, for the former investigation, and the General Manager, M. & S.M. Railway for the latter.

Mr. S. N. Haji, Scindia Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., Bombay.

Mr. K. Mitter, Docks Manager, Calcutta Port Commissioners, Calcutta.

Mr. J. B. Murray, Chief Engineer, Calcutta Port Commissioners, Calcutta.

Commander D. Shankar.

Mr. V. V. Bhide, Secretary to the General Manager, B.B. & C.I. Railway, Bombay—*Secretary*.

The Committee is requested to submit its recommendations to the Government before the end of April 1948.

* * *

Roads—Arteries of Body of Nation

By their advice, practical work was done in India. Roads Congress was held in the country. It was a successful pioneering the progress and advancement of the body of Nation. Mr. J. B. Puri, Minister for Communications, United Provinces, addressed the Road Congress on April 10.

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Over two-hundred Engineers and Road experts attended the session which was held in the hall of Thompson Engineering College. Mr. C. G. Kale presided. Those present included the Chief Engineers of United Provinces, East Punjab, West Bengal and Assam, Mr. G. M. McKelvie, Consulting Engineer to the Government of India and Mr. B. D. Puri, Principal of Thompson Engineering College.

Welcoming the delegates Mr. Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim, Minister for Communications in United Provinces said inter alia:

"Unless our villages were connected with roads, it will not be possible to improve the lot of the common man. His economic, social and cultural development depends on this to a great extent. But it is not possible within our financial resources to have a vast mileage of first-class metalled roads specially at this time when there is scarcity of material and lack of transport facilities. Therefore we will have to depend on cheaper quality of roads constructed out of the material that may be available in the locality. I hope it will be possible for the Congress to devise ways and means which, while giving to the tax-payer the best value for the Rupee, will enable the road work to be pushed in spite of the existing difficulties. What I mean to say is that the Congress will not base its suggestions purely on scientific principles but in formulating them also take into consideration such factors as the vastness of the country, its financial resources, the present day conditions in the country and difficulties in obtaining machinery from abroad. Now as we are a free nation, there should be no difference between Government point of view and the point of view of their experts and Government should have no difficulty to act according to their guidance."

The minister supported establishment of a Road Board and stressed the importance of a Non-lapsing Road Fund. In United Provinces, he added, they had already a Road Fund the continuation of which was being maintained.

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Committee, which consists of three other members, viz., Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Director of Scientific and Industrial Research, Travancore, Rai Bahadur Shiv Charan Das, Salt Controller to the Government of India and Dr. M. D. Mithal, Director, Central Waterpower Irrigation and Navigation Commission.

The Committee's terms of reference are—

(i) To examine the existing methods of salt production in Government and private-owned salt works, and to make recommendations as to what steps should be taken to increase production, etc.

(ii) To indicate the areas in which new salt works may be established with advantage and the technical standards which should be prescribed for these works.

(iii) To examine and report on the best method of enforcing minimum standards of quality of salt offered for sale and methods to prevent wasteful production of salt below such quality.

(iv) To report on the necessity and or usefulness of model factories to guide production and to give concrete proposals for their establishment.

(v) To report on the character and extent of the technical assistance and supervision which must be provided to private Salt works.

(vi) To report on the desirability and possibility of establishing whether under State control or otherwise, modern installations for the production of salt otherwise than by solar evaporation, particularly for the manufacture of high quality edible salt, salt for industrial use and by-products of salt.

* * *

National Central Library for India

The Government of India have appointed an expert committee to consider and report on the advisability of establishing a National Central Library in India. It is proposed that...

The term Committee and report

(a)

- (d) finances; and
- (e) the relation of the National Central Library with (i) the Imperial Library, Calcutta, (ii) the Central Secretariat Library and other Central Government Libraries and (iii) Provincial Libraries.

* * *

War on Tuberculosis

In practically all the civilized communities of the world tuberculosis as a cause of death is undoubtedly the most important among the infectious diseases. Based on a few surveys it has been estimated that over 500,000 people die from tuberculosis every year in India. It is responsible, in addition, for an enormous amount of prolonged disability, suffering and economic loss.

The wide prevalence of the disease is shown by the fact that more than half the population, particularly in urban areas, becomes infected by the age of 20, and nearly all sometime during life. Fortunately for us, however, only a small proportion of those who are infected develop the disease in a progressive or fatal form. It is also estimated that, in at least 80 per cent of patients, spontaneous healing occurs. The primary infection appears therefore to be able to stimulate the production of adequate protective power in the vast majority of people, to a degree sufficient to enable them to escape further infection.

Ever since the discovery of the tubercle bacillus by Kock in 1882 research workers have been trying to evolve an effective method of artificial immunization. So far the most promising results have been produced through vaccination with an attenuated strain of the tubercle bacilli called B.C.G.

B.C.G. vaccination was first introduced in France by Calmette in 1921. Since then it has been used in an increasing measure in most of the European countries, particularly the Scandinavian countries. Calmette advocated the administration of B.C.G., to new born infants with no confidence that a lasting immunity would be achieved. The inauguration of the National Tuberculosis Commission on April 1st, 1930, was a landmark in the history of tuberculosis control in India.

it was among such classes that the most successful results have been claimed in France.

The harmlessness of B.C.G. has been established beyond doubt by its practical application on a scale exceeded only by a few proved methods of immunisation such as those for small-pox, diphtheria and enteric fever. A considerable measure of protection has been demonstrated for this form of vaccination against tuberculosis by the reliable data which have accumulated in the countries concerned, particularly those from Norway and Sweden. Though Calmette gave the duration of immunity following B.C.G. vaccination as of the order of 2 to 4 years, recent studies from Norway and Sweden suggest that the immunity might last for 5 to 6 years or even more.

The Ministry of Health in the Government of India, after careful consideration of the question in all its aspects, has come to the conclusion that mass vaccination with B.C.G. constitutes a potent and speedy method of bringing under control the high incidence of tuberculosis which has been spreading rapidly through the country. It is recognised that other measures directed towards improving the standard of life of the people and isolating infective patients are also essential for developing a comprehensive plan of attack. But B.C.G. has its known definite place in the campaign against the disease in order to achieve demonstrable results in its control within relatively short time. It has therefore been decided to introduce B.C.G. vaccination, in the first instance, on a limited scale under the strict supervision and control of the Central Government.

* * *

New Food Production Drive

A plan aimed at increasing the food production of the country by ten million tons within the next five years is to place the economy on a footing is recommended to have the Foodgrain Commission headed by the chair-

mittee, it was appointed by following the acceptations of the commission.

ements of India of rationed quantity of rations per head of the population.

respectively are 44.4 million tons while the total production is 39.9 million tons, the shortage being 4.5 million tons. But the shortage should be much more than this to attain the standard balanced diet of forty ounces per adult per day. This, of course, includes milk, pulses, vegetables, fruits, etc.

Asking the Government to make all-sided efforts to secure the target, the Committee suggests development of large-scale multi-purposes storage dams on the major rivers of the country, rehabilitation of famine tracts, intensive cultivation of areas already cultivated through better supply of irrigation, manure and seed, and extensive cultivation by bringing under plough a portion of the cultivable waste land of all types through rapid survey and development of selected suitable blocks of such land.

The Committee has asked the Government to maintain a central reserve of a minimum of one million tons of wheat and rice throughout the five-year period to meet any emergency. The dependence of the country on the imports of foodgrains, the Committee says, should be ended and steps taken to terminate all need for imports after a period of not more than five years. The Committee, however, recognises that in the immediate future, for five years, that is, before the new scheme of food production begins to show results, imports of foodgrains would be necessary for current consumption and the maintenance of the central reserve, but directs that the scale of imports should be restricted to quantities needed for the maintenance of the central reserve and to meet any emergency such as failure of crops in any year.

The imports of grain should continue to be a monopoly of the Government during the next five-year period as, in the opinion of the Committee, it would prevent fluctuations in the prices of primary commodities.

For the successful drive the Government should establish an Agricultural Planning Commission with members representing the States to co-ordinate plans, to determine supplies and allocate supplies and approve plans for reclamation of waste land. A permanent central committee with

members to be given by the Centre with a full time Board of Directors to undertake the planning and the execution of land reclamation projects, setting up of Provincial Boards of Agriculture to advise the Central Board and the Provincial Governments and to assist the central land reclamation organization.

The Committee also recommends that the development of agriculture must remain primarily the responsibility of the provinces and States.

Provinces and States are asked to pay the greatest attention to (1) minor irrigation projects such as open surface wells, bandharas, tanks, etc., (2) development of local natural composts. Development of co-operative societies or gaon panchayats to handle the food-production drive are also suggested.

The Central Government is also asked to set up a Committee of experts to examine in all its aspects the possibility of establishing additional units for the production of suitable types of fertilizers.

In regard to the handling of the imported stuff the committee recommends that an enquiry should be made into the desirability of setting up an autonomous executive organisation to handle the imported foodgrains under the Government's auspices. In the view of the Committee, the departmental handling of the foodgrains suffers from certain defects which must

be removed if Government is to continue to handle the imports of foodgrains for the next five years.

The function of this Committee would be to receive grain, keep it in suitable storage and dispose of it at prices determined by the Government from time to time. It would also maintain and turn over the central reserve.

The Committee has also suggested increase in production of substitute food, such as, potatoes and sweet potatoes. Development of deep sea fishing and inland fisheries are also recommended to both the Central and Provincial Governments.

* * *

Gesture to Aborigines and Hill Tribes

The Government of India have decided to award a certain number of scholarships during the year 1948-49 to students belonging to the Aboriginal and Hill Tribes who wish to pursue their studies beyond the Matriculation stage. For this purpose the Government of India have appointed a Special Board to administer this scheme.

Applications for these scholarships will be invited shortly through advertisements in the press. No applications will be entertained or acknowledged unless they are submitted in the manner which will be indicated in the advertisement.

Other Provinces

War on Illiteracy in East Punjab

The Government of East Punjab have launched a rigorous campaign against illiteracy in the province. It is reported to have been initiated by the Education Department of the Government. The total expenditure of Rs. 10,000 and an extra Rs. 8,830 has been spent on the scheme.

Surat district in recognition of the best village improvement work done by it during the year 1946.

* * *

Co-operative Movement in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have announced that 235 co-operative societies have been registered in the province during the year 1946. The number of members in these societies is reported to be 1,23,000. The Government have also announced that they will be providing financial assistance to these societies.

societies. Out of 91 societies registered in the urban areas, 27 were consumers' societies, 27 housing societies, 18 producers' societies and the remaining ones include salary earners', colonization and co-operative workshop societies.

The progress of co-operation in rural areas continues to be satisfactory.

Amongst the housing societies is included one for the Harijans at Modasa in Ahmedabad district which was established with the help and efforts extended by the Gujarat Harijan Sangh. Similarly, the efforts of the Dang Seva Mandal to popularize the co-operative movement amongst the forest workers were responsible for the formation of a society for the economic uplift of these workers in the backward tract of Nasik district.

The co-operative workshop at Karad will maintain mechanical and carpentry departments and undertake repairs of bullock-carts, agricultural implements, motor-buses, sugarcane crushing machines, etc. The membership of the society consists of ex-servicemen possessing mechanical and technical knowledge as well as the others interested in the co-operative enterprise.

New Deal for Backward Classes in Bombay

Various subjects affecting the welfare and social progress of the backward classes were discussed and several resolutions passed at a recent meeting of the Provincial Backward Class Board.

A resolution recommended that the Constituent Assembly should be approached for special provision being made for the protection and development of backward classes in Bombay Province like the Harijans and Adwasis, who are socially, culturally and economically backward, on the lines of a similar provision in the Indian constitution proposed for the Scheduled Castes and scheduled tribes.

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local production of such films and their large-scale exhibition for instructional purposes constitute some of the features of the Bombay Government's audio-visual educational drive.

Nearly half the Government educational institutions have been equipped with 16 mm. sound projectors. More silent and sound projectors will be made available to the educational institutions in the Province. The existing stock of films will also be increased. At present, the Central Film Library is stocked mainly with foreign films and, pending production of local films, the possibilities of adapting them with the use of commentaries in various regional languages will have to be explored.

The Government has appointed two Advisory Boards for Visual Education for organizing audio-visual education. The Technical Advisory Board will also implement the scheme for the local production of films in collaboration with the cine-industry. The organization that is already functioning marks the beginning of the 5-year scheme that is going to be implemented in the province-wide introduction of audio-visual education.

Hirakud Project in Orissa

The salient features of Hirakud dam project may be briefly stated. A dam is proposed to be constructed across the Mahanadi at Hirakud—nine miles upstream of Sambalpur. It will be 150 feet high and three miles long. Nearly one-third of the dam will be reserved for surplussing the flood water of this giant river. Six irrigation channels will be taken out from the dam to irrigate 11 lakhs of acres of land annually. Hydro-electric power will be generated firstly at the dam and secondly at a place 12 miles upstream where on an average of nearly seventy feet is available. It will have a flood absorption of 2.8 million acre feet.

The area... reserved...
 1,35,000 acres...
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incorporating modern amenities in due course. New village sites will be located after careful consideration of the various factors so as to make the community life happy and full.

The total cost of the Hirakud Dam has been estimated at 47.81 crores of rupees, which is expected after some years to yield a return of more than four per cent. Over and above the financial returns, it is felt, there will be appreciable indirect benefits, such as increase in food production which at present is the crying need of India, development of basic industries (thereby providing employment to millions) provision of almost complete flood control and provision of navigational facilities and clear domestic water supply in thousands of villages.

Tractor Works in U.P.

The first tractors and implements assembly Works in U.P. were opened here on April 20 by the Industries and Development Minister, Pandit Keshav Deva Malaviya, when he visited the United Provinces Commercial Corporation.

This agriculture machinery works have been started in the province, as a sequel to the Government's big mechanised agriculture drive.

Education Drive in U.P.

The Hon. Babu Sampurnanand, Minister of Education, who has been planning to make the province as widely educated as possible within the shortest period, has begun 'attack' on all fronts. In the first year he concentrated on a scheme of expansion of rural education and formulated a scheme to open 22,000 schools in five years. He has now decided to introduce compulsory primary education in all the Municipalities in the province in a period of three years.

Exhibition in Assam

Inance of exhibi-
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economy of the country may develop and flourish at the hands of the people.

The responsibility of organizing exhibitions will, however, rest with the officers of the Rural Development Department when appointed.

* * *

Uplift of Backward Classes in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has reconstituted the Special Development Fund with the object of financing a programme of special uplift of the backward classes and has earmarked a sum of Rs. 100 lakhs in addition to the unutilized balance out of the Rs. 25 lakhs previously allotted for such programme.

According to the principles laid down for incurring expenditure the Fund can also be utilized for experimental schemes for the uplift of backward classes and the expenditure should either be non-recurrent or spread over a limited period not extending ordinarily beyond five years. Schemes involving permanent recurring expenditure may not be financed from this Fund.

* * *

Anti-Corruption Drive in Bombay

Nine Government servants including a Station Master were caught red-handed just after they had received illegal gratification and one probationary Sub-Inspector of Police, one Post-Master and one Rationing Inspector and one clerk detected on the basis of complaints and information received from the public by the Provincial Anti-Corruption Branch during February 5 to April 7, 1948. The Branch also hauled up three persons in Belgaum for black-marketing kerosene.

* * *

Adult Education Campaign in Bombay

With a view to expanding the adult education campaign the Government has recently appointed committees for Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. The Government has also announced the opening of Adult Education during the years ending 1951 to ensure that the large sum of Rs. 100 lakhs spent is properly utilized to the satisfaction of the people.

adult literacy campaign, the Government considers that there should be an organizing agency to attend to the special problems and difficulties of adult education.

The Government has accordingly sanctioned the creation of the nucleus organization consisting of five posts of officers in the Bombay Educational Service Class II as a temporary measure, for a period of four years in the first instance with effect from April 1, 1948. Out of these five posts four will form part of the offices of the Regional Adult Education Committees, and will be under the administrative control of the Educational Inspectors of the Divisions concerned. The officers will work as Secretaries to the Regional Committees and will attend to the work of expansion and organization of Adult Education Centres for which they will have to tour over their respective regions.

The fifth post will be for the whole of the Province for Urdu Adult Education.

* * *

Augmenting Food Production in Bombay

The Conference of Vice-Chairmen and Secretaries of the Rural Development Boards in the Bombay Province, which met in Poona under the presidency of the Honourable Mr. M. P. Patil, Minister for Forests and Agriculture, on Monday, April 19, held discussions on various important problems confronting the workers in that field, at present. The lines on which close liaison should be kept between the District Rural Development Boards and the Agricultural Department were laid down. The various Grow More Food Schemes of the Bombay Government were discussed in detail. The need for the active interest in the Grow More Food Campaign was emphasized. It was decided that all the District Development Boards should formulate comprehensive schemes for their respective districts for augmenting the food production.

The Government has decided to set up a committee to look into the possibilities of utilizing the surplus capacity of the State for the production of food grains.

at such time as is suitable for the purposes according to the climatic and other conditions in each district. The dates are to be fixed by each District Development Board.

* * *

Cattle Dung Manure in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has approved of a scheme for the utilization of cattle dung, lying waste on the Bombay Suburban Area, as manure in connection with the "Grow More Food Campaign." The total expenditure on the scheme is estimated to be Rs. 1,72,960 and the application of 20,000 tons of manure to vegetable and other food crops is expected to increase the food production by about 2,000 tons valued at Rs. 2,50,000.

There are about 50,000 heads of cattle in Bombay City and suburban area and it is estimated that about 50,000 tons of manure would be available each year for supply to the surrounding vegetable and foodgrain area. Most of it is at present wasted by being thrown into the drains or burnt. It is proposed to make a beginning by utilizing this valuable manure for agricultural purposes by engaging motor trucks on hire for the purpose of taking the stocks of dung from the suburban area to the nearest railway station and arranging for the transport by railway to the distributing centres in Thana, Surat and Kaira districts.

The scheme will be under the charge of the Provincial Biochemist, Town Refuse Composting Scheme, Bombay Province, who will be assisted by an Assistant Compost Development Officer stationed in Bombay for the purpose of supervising the operations of the Scheme. It is proposed to arrange on contract through the Bombay Humanitarian League for the collection and removal of 5 wagon loads (100 tons) of cattle dung daily from the Andheri-Jogeshwari-Goregaon area, to be loaded at Andheri Railway station at Rs. 95 per wagon load (20 tons). Arrangements would be made with the railway authorities for the supply of 5 wagons (20 tons) daily to the city. It is assumed that the cost of the scheme will be Rs. 1,72,960 per annum.

training in a number of industrial establishments in Bombay and Ahmedabad cities will be given.

The scheme was first introduced in 1936 and was, and continues to be, intended to provide suitable vocational training to the boys of the educated classes who cannot afford expensive University or technical education.

The period of training extends from three to five years depending on the course of training selected. The trainees are required to attend technical classes in the evening and their practical and theoretical training is carried out simultaneously.

The candidates for admission to the scheme must be between the age of 16

and 20 years and should have completed pre-matriculation education. They must possess good physique and be prepared to engage themselves in hard manual work. As a rule, the boys selected for training are paid about Rs. 50 a month as wages and dearness allowance at the commencement by the industrial establishments to which they are apprenticed.

Agricultural and Veterinary Notes

Manurial Requirements of Paddy in Madras Province

Rice forms the staple cereal food crop of the Province and as such special attention has been devoted to the study of the crop by the Agricultural Department with a view to increase its yield by resorting to improved methods of cultivation, selection of seeds, timely sowing, proper irrigation, manuring, etc. Among the various factors contributing towards increased production, the role of manuring is probably the greatest and this has been well established by the series of manurial experiments carried out in the several Agricultural Research Stations of the Province representing different types of soils, climate, environmental conditions, etc. Will all the efforts of the Department to augment the target of production, the average yield for the Province is still as low as 1,400 lb. per acre for wet paddy. The defect is mainly due to lack of water and manures. Given, therefore, ample water and sufficient manures the average yield can be forced up at least by 30 per cent from the present level, i.e., about 2,000 lb. per acre. That this achievement is possible has been clearly demonstrated by the responses obtained in manurial experiments conducted during the past two decades and more in the Government farms located in Godavari, Kistna and Cauvery deltas and in Malabar.

as super or ammonium phosphate—preferably with green manure, either grown 'in situ' or brought from outside, has invariably proved extremely beneficial to rice crop. The need for the concentrated nitrogenous and phosphatic measures as well as bulky organic manures has been keenly felt both for the maintenance of the inherent fertility and stepping up the productive capacity of our rice soils.

Nitrogen in organic and inorganic forms with the exception of sodium nitrate has been found very effective in enhancing the yield. Of the various bulky organic manures, green manure by itself when applied at the rate of 4,000 to 5,000 lb. per acre, having a nitrogen content of 30 lb. has resulted in a good yield of the crop, i.e.,—above 2,000 lb. per acre in most of the centres,—apart from its being very economical. The manure may be grown 'in situ' where water-supply can be had during the off-season after the harvest of the paddy crop or obtained from special trees, shrubs and plants rich in foliage and nitrogen, such as *C. pungum*, etc. The oil cakes—whether nut, castor, *pungum* or tobacco cakes—have all been found efficient in increasing the yield out the Province when applied in equal nitrogenous quantities.

cakes, the relative doses to supply 30 lb. N are 400, 600 and 660 lb., respectively.

The trials with phosphates, especially the easily available ones such as super, amophos or Nicphos have indicated that these are more effective in enhancing the yield when applied in presence of organic nitrogenous manures like oil cakes, green leaf, etc., than when supplied alone. The optimum dose for super for our soils can be fixed at 1½ cwt. per acre to furnish 30 lb. P 205 per acre.

Based on the intensive studies on manuring of paddy in the typical rice growing centres of the Province, the following manure schedule may be adopted for all the rice tracts, selecting suitable manures according to their availability and cost in the respective areas.

Green manure 5,000 lb. per acre to provide 30 lb. N either alone or preferably in combination with the following:—

I. Oil cakes—		LB.
Neem	..	330
Castor	..	300
Tobacco seed		330
Groundnut		200
Ammonium sulphate		75
Ammonium phosphate	e.	100
Guano		200

Apply phosphoric respectively. yard manure applied in the dosage in

available phosphorus (1½ cwt.) or fish or amophos to provide phosphoric acid may also as possible, at least to assure the productivity and production

Common Contagious Diseases of Bovines

It is very necessary that the Agriculturist should have some knowledge of the fatal diseases which attack cattle in this Presidency.

The most common diseases are dealt with below.

Rinderpest.—Rinderpest is the most serious contagious disease of cattle and causes enormous losses. This disease breaks out in a village by the introduction of an infected animal from outside. The disease is caused by what is called a virus, a very small thing which cannot be seen by the most powerful microscope. This virus is present in the various discharges of an animal suffering from the disease and these discharges contaminate other objects like food and thus the disease spreads. The disease can be easily recognized by its characteristic symptoms of high fever for three or four days accompanied by dullness, staring coat, shivering, loss of appetite, suspension of rumination and discharges from the eyes, nostrils and mouth. From the fourth day, the fever goes down and diarrhoea sets in. This diarrhoea lasts for another four or five days during which time the animal becomes very weak and finally dies of exhaustion. If the mouth is opened, ulcers and a bran-like deposit will be found in it; about 50 per cent or more of sick animals die.

The disease spreads by contact and the infection is carried to healthy animals by such objects as the feet and cloths of attendants, food materials and utensils.

Treatment of sick animals is of very little value, but an animal that has recovered is immune from further attacks. Therefore to prevent the diseases, the following measures should be adopted. Report immediately to the nearest Veterinary Assistant and burn the droppings and disinfect the place. When a Veterinary Surgeon arrives he will protect the animal by inoculation about its

Maligna
 gic Septicæmia
 called, is another
 disease of cattle
 highest number of dea
 buffaloes are more
 an cattle and it
 oe disease,
 ism which



Artificially inseminated cow with the calf born
 Cow inseminated on 13th January 1947; Heifer calf born on 22nd October 1947

taken into the animal's system by grazing or through contaminated water.

An animal attacked with this disease will be obviously ill, not inclined to move with the herd, off its feed, shivering with staring coat, dry hot muzzle, hurried breathing and if it is a milking animal there will not be any milk yield. In a few hours, the symptoms become alarming. A swelling appears at the throat and sometimes extends to the dewlap. The swelling is hot, painful and tense. The lining of the eyes, nostrils and become dark red and blood may be seen. The tongue becomes sticky and may hang out of the mouth and will not be able to swallow. Difficulty in breathing and a grunting noise. The animal dies in one or two days.

arrival will diagnose the disease and he will then protect all the other animals likely to get the disease by inoculation.

Blackquarter.—This disease of cattle unlike malignant sore-throat occurs more in dry and arid tracts than in wet areas. Young cattle from six months to three years are the most susceptible. The disease is characterized by the appearance of a rapidly increasing swelling containing dark decomposed blood and gas usually found at the hind quarter or the shoulder or neck. This disease is also caused by a micro-organism which lives and multiplies in the soil and remains alive for a very long period which may be years. An animal attacked with this disease shows dullness, loss of appetite, disinclination to move due to lameness and a fever. A swelling appears at the hind or some other part of the body which is hard and

Anthrax is another rapidly fatal disease of all animals. In cattle, buffaloes and other animals, the disease runs such a rapid course that the affected animals are sometimes not noticed ill at all, but are found dead. The carcase will be bloated with the rectum protruding and blood escaping from the natural openings. When an animal is affected, the first symptoms noticed are high temperature, shivering and suspension of rumination. The eyes are red and there is difficult breathing. The animal shows colic pains and passes dung stained with blood. The disease is caused by a micro-organism called the *Anthrax Bacillus*. These organisms are commonly found in the soil and are taken in with grass and gain entrance into the blood stream and multiply. Other sources of infection may be from contaminated fodder, oil-cake, etc. The disease is important because it is also dangerous to human beings. Therefore, any animal which dies suddenly without showing any symptoms should be suspected for anthrax and great care should be taken to prevent infection of the soil by contamination through the discharges of a dead animal. The carcase should not be cut open and the natural openings should be plugged with cotton wool or straw soaked in strong disinfectants. Human beings get *Anthrax* by the organisms entering through a cut or abrasion

while skinning an animal which died of the disease or by eating uncooked flesh of such animals. The same preventive measures mentioned for the other diseases should be adopted, report the incidence at once, isolation of the sick, disinfection of infected places and protective inoculation of the healthy stock.

Foot and mouth disease.—Although the mortality from this disease is not so high as the ones already mentioned, it is highly contagious and affects cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats, pigs and even human beings. The infection is spread by contaminated fodder, litter, food material, water and infected milk. Attendants, milkmen and small animals like dogs, cats and birds may carry the infection. Very often the disease starts from one end of the Presidency and spreads along the cattle routes to the other end. The first symptoms noticed in an affected animal are high fever, dry muzzle, depression, shivering and stoppage of rumination. After two days, the animal smacks its lips and saliva dribbles from the mouth. On examining the mouth, there will be redness of the membrane and small blisters appear on the tongue, gums and inside of the cheeks. At the same time, there may be constant shaking and kicking of the hind limbs. There will be heat and pain in the place between

the hooves and vesicles may be seen there. The blisters in the mouth burst and leave a raw surface and later join altogether. In milch cows the milk yield diminishes greatly and the milk becomes thin and slimy. Occasionally, vesicles may appear on the udder and teats. Neglected cases may become fly-blown at the angles of the mouth, nostrils and in the interdigital space. This disease though not fatal causes great inconvenience to the farmer by rendering work animals unfit for work. Milk cases run a course of one or two weeks and require no treatment. But, when they are subjected to unfavourable conditions such as dirty cattlesheds, wet weather and long walks, the disease becomes aggravated and complications such as fly-blown conditions and shedding of the hooves occur. The disease can be easily treated by keeping the cattle shed dry and clean and dressing the ulcers with mild disinfectants. The mouth may be washed with weak solution of alum, permanganate of potash or common salt and the ulcers dressed with margosa oil. The feet can be attended to by spraying with mild phenyle solution or by keeping in a foot bath made with some disinfectant solution. If the ulcers are severe, they may be dressed with a solution containing coconut oil, tar and copper-sulphate. The milk from sick animals should not be consumed.

New Machines to Help Food Production in Britain

By A. B. LEES, Assistant Editor of the "Farmer and Stockbreeder", London

Farmers in Britain, faced by rising labour costs and a shortage of skilled workers, are coming to depend more and more on machinery, particularly in dairy farming. New electric milk floats, hammer mills, green-crop loaders and muck-shifters—these are some of the latest machines which farmers in Britain are adopting increasingly.

Petrol rationing in Britain is responsible for the increasing popularity of electric battery-operated milk delivery

dairy equipment, and
by dairy

When a portable milking plant, known as a bail, is taken to the fields where the cows are, they are collected within a fence of single-strand electrified wire. The advantage of this wire is that it avoids waste of grass during milking.

Of recent years, when home-grown feeding stuffs have become the few machines have proved themselves more thoroughly than the harrow. Its great virtue is adaptability. Grain may be broken up without bruising the grain, and the machine is suitable for use on all types of soil.

Much work has been directed to the development of machines to load and distribute farm-yard manure. The Rapier muck-shifter takes the form of a self-propelled crane with different buckets and buckets for manure loading, turning, turning compost, covering and covering roots, or loading roots.

At least three of these machines are made by firms in the north of England. The Rapier muck-shifter is a very speedy and efficient machine and because of its range of operation it has been

measure of
milk production
cial figures show
million gallons were
1938, no fewer than
as were sold in 1946
War II, of no less
bought for
ole proper

Opinions and Observations

C.P. Minister on Public Health

"The main task of public health does not consist in merely opening more and more dispensaries in the Province or in providing for a large-scale distribution of medicines. It is my firm belief that we shall not be able to check the spread of diseases until we do away with the insanitary conditions obtaining in our villages," observed Dr. W. S. Barlingey, the Hon'ble Minister of Law, in the course of a recent address. The Hon'ble Minister referred to many wrong notions held by the general public in the matter of public health and explained to the public the vital importance of the subject in a nation's life. Continuing Dr. Barlingey said, "we are now a free nation and our goal is to establish democracy in this country. Public health and democracy are closely connected. The average longevity in this country is so poor that the people die before they attain the age qualifying them for franchise. If the citizen of this country does not survive the age of 20 or 21 and if he does not live for

exercising his right of voting, will it not be a great blow to the establishment of democracy? You will, thus, realize how essential it is to evolve a higher standard of public health which can be maintained only by expunging all the insanitary conditions and habits obtaining in our society. The main problem to tackle in this connexion is the proper disposal of human excreta. It is a wellknown fact that our revered Gandhiji attached great importance to this matter. We have yet to develop the sense of cleanliness in our social environments. To infuse this spirit and to bring about sanitary conditions particularly in our villages is our primary duty.

Bombay Minister on "Rest and Recreation"

"The toddy-booths and wine-shops are frequented by the poor labourers because they have no other place where they can relax their tired limbs, recreate themselves and enjoy a social life and

thus refresh their minds and bodies. Their houses are usually the haunts of scarcities and as such cannot attract them. Poverty leads them to drink and the drink leads them to poverty. They are thus moving in a vicious circle and I think it is our duty to break up this circle." Thus observed Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction, inaugurating a Recreation and Amenities Centre at Kalyan, recently.

* * *

Jaipur Dewan on Co-operation

India can get rid of poverty and want by a widespread application of the co-operative movement to agriculture. This view was expressed by Shri V. T. Krishnamachari, Dewan of Jaipur, in his presidential address at the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Conference. He hoped that the co-operative principle would bring about a dynamic psychological change in the rural population and this new outlook would give them a passionate desire to "live better."

In spite of all the industrialization agriculture was still the pivot of India's economy and any great progress in this direction would certainly be reflected in other spheres of the nation's life, he explained.

Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings

Strikes

Strikes are the order of the day. They are a symptom of the existing unrest. All kinds of vague ideas are floating in the air. A vague hope inspires all, and a great deal will be the disappointment. A vague hope does not take definite shape. The late world in India, elsewhere, is the mercy of those who set up as guides and scrupulous, and when they are dis-ers are disappointed. They have a justly, to be chiefly instrumental in employers. And so it is a effort to make them. The political is winning to affect the. And there are leaders who are engineers.

In my opinion, it will be a most serious mistake to make use of labour for such a purpose. I don't deny that strikes can serve political ends, but they do not fall within the plan of non-co-operation. It does not require much effort of the intellect to see that it is a most dangerous and political use of labour. The political and the political are pre-

The conditions of a successful strike are simple. And when they are fulfilled a strike never need fail.

1. The cause of the strike must be just.
 2. There should be practical unanimity among the strikers.
- There should be no strikers.

Our Book-shelf

“CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAMME.”

By MAHATMA GANDHI. *Nanjivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. Pages 31. Price 6 Annas.*

The eighteen-point programme which Gandhiji drew up for the constructive development of the nation in the material, moral, and political spheres is explained in this brochure. Freedom is not an end in itself, but only a means; it is the beginning and not the end of our responsibilities. The independence which we have won by non-violent strength can be preserved and stabilised only by faithfully following the constructive programme.

It was the favourite quip of a few radicals, that the constructive programme had yet to be constructed. It was being cynically remarked that a nation cannot spin its way to Swaraj. Yet the achievement of Indian independence has come as the crowning triumph of the silent revolution set in motion by the constructive programme. Communal unity is its corner-stone; Khadi points the way to the economic emancipation of the Daridra Narayans, whose number is legion. The constructive programme is more than a political weapon; it is in its truest sense, a way of life itself.

In the few pages of this little booklet, one sees a great mind working, and a noble vision unfolding itself.

—K.D.

“Mr. JINNAH.” By V. N. NAIK. *Sadbhakti Publications, Bombay. Pages 85. Price Rs. 4-8-0.*

This book is an interesting study of the political career of one of the greatest men of our times. The course of Mr. Jinnah's public life is traced through all the different stages. It was a far cry from Jinnah, the fiery nationalist who raised a furious protest against the Willingdon Memorial at the Hall of Bombay, to the

in apportioning blame between both the Congress and the Muslim League. It is however, difficult to agree with his analysis that had there been no Gandhism in India, there would not have been any scope for the menace of Pakistan. In the concluding portions of the book he puts in a plea for restraint and understanding between the two dominions. He, however over-shoots the mark, when he gives himself up to rhetorical extravagance and says “The 9th of August has been wiped out and the 15th August takes its place. The 26th of January has fallen behind and the 3rd of June supersedes it. Time has now come to write upon the Congress agitation from 1921 to 1942, the one word, antiquity.” The truth is that the 15th August was born out of the 9th of August. The struggles of the past can never become part of antiquity; they are a rich heritage that has got to be cherished, a legacy that has to be enriched and a living reminder to keep the spirit of freedom always aglow.

—K.D.

“THE BRIDES BOOK FOR INDIA.”

By SIDNEY RALLI. *Publishers: Hind Kitabs, Ltd., 261-263, Hornby Road, Bombay. Price Rs. 5-8-0.*

The Brides Book for India is interesting, easy, and in many ways a delightful book. The style and easy expression with a touch of humour here and there makes it interesting reading too. It provides useful information and very helpful hints for the newly wedded wife in India.

The book however is met by a Bride who is fortunately well versed in life and in particular for the Indian young lady taking up her responsibilities. This Bride is one who can easily give the reader the benefit of her frequent trips to the hills. She has a good knowledge of the

congratulated on the delightful presentation of these mysteries, these facts obviously will interest only a small section of the young women.

Nonetheless there are some chapters which provide certain useful hints of common interest. Such for instance are the chapters dealing on “Personal relationship between husband and wife,” “Ready Reckoners”; “Chins up,” “Do it with disinfectant;” “Are you hip-heavy?” “Two letters,” “Perfect Guest and perfect Hostess;” “The other side of the medal,” and in particular the last chapter to which we invite very special attention “Are you the perfect wife.” The author has done well to realise that this chapter is incomplete without its complement and to add the chapter on “And you—the perfect husband” containing very practical hints which we earnestly commend for careful reading.

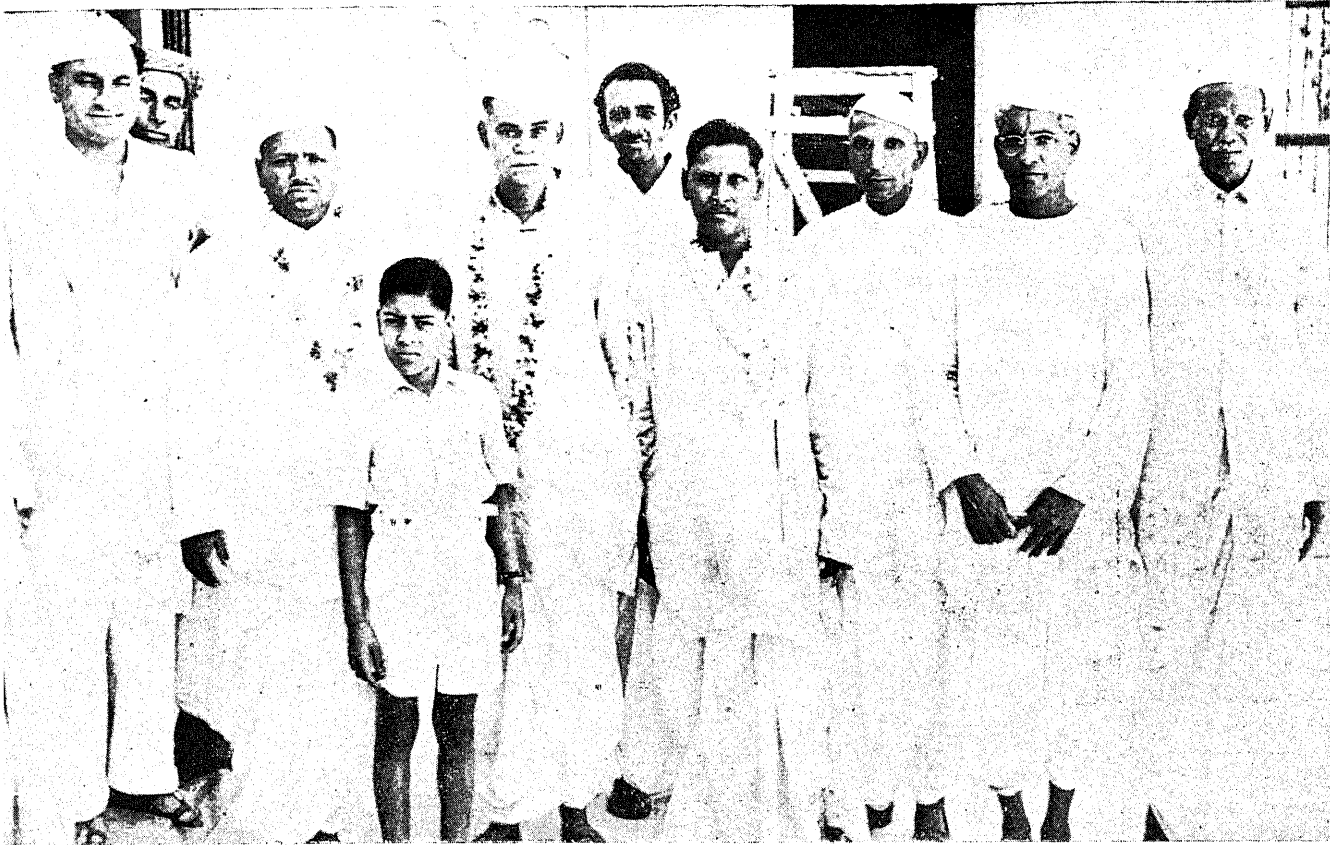
—P.P.N.

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE DOMINION OF INDIA.”

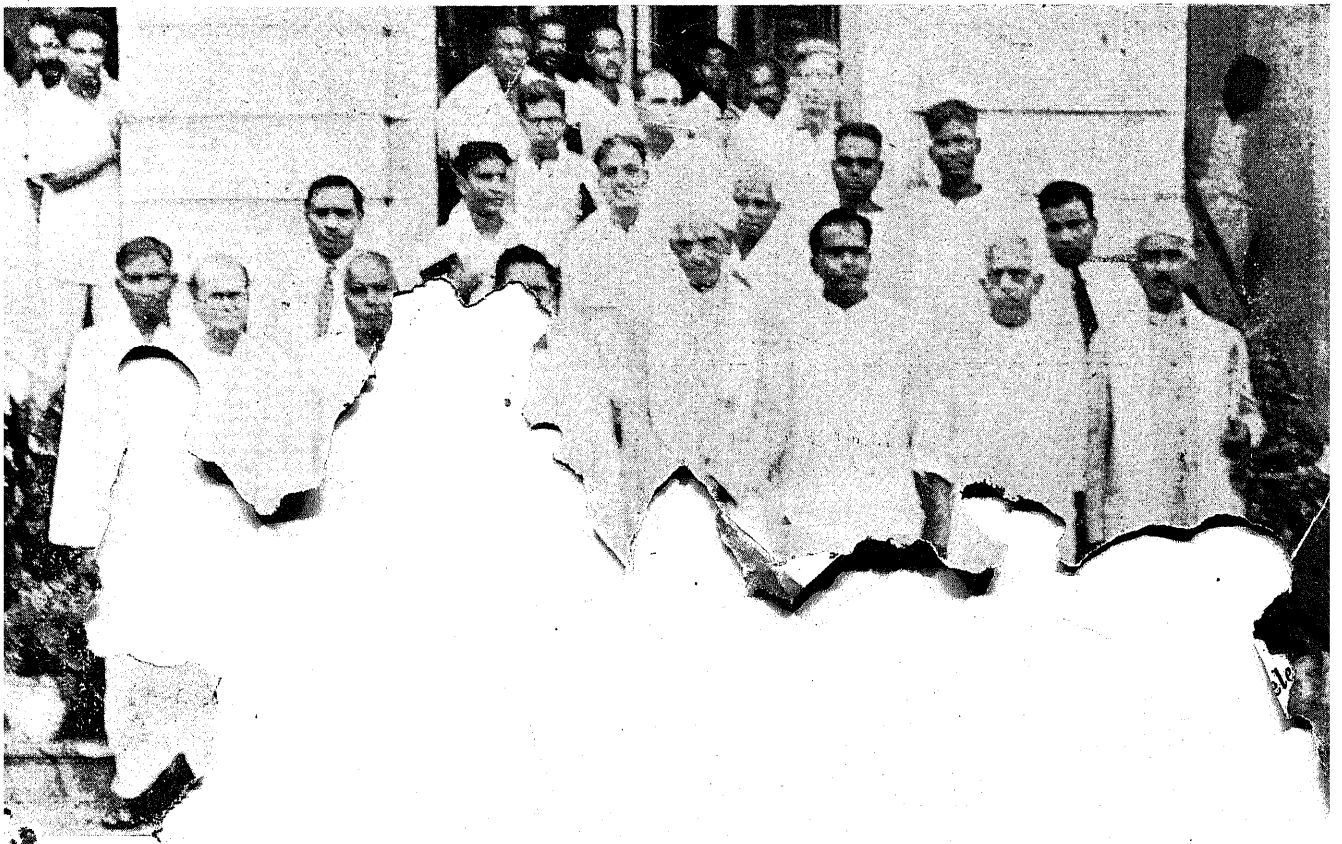
By MR. P. N. MURTHI, B.A., LL.B., Registrar, Federal Court of India and MR. K. V. PADMANABHAN, M.A., LL.B., Under Secretary, Constituent Assembly of India, with a foreword by SIR PATRICK SPENCE, ex-Chief Justice of India. [*Published by Metropolitan Book Company, Fair Bazaar, Delhi.*] Price Rs. 6-12-0.

The title of the book explains the nature of its contents. The authors have endeavoured to give an idea of the present constitutional and legal position of the Dominion with relevant details. The Book runs to 328 pages including appendices and is divided into three parts. The first part contains the Indian Independence Act of 1947 and the reports of the Boundary Commission relating to the Punjab, Bengal and Sylhet and the Assam. The second part deals with the Government of India Act of 1947 incorporating various amendments, adaptations and modifications from time to time. Part 3 contains the Governor-General's powers conferred by the Indian Independence Act of October 1947 are dealt with in the book. The three parts are preceded by an introduction which gives a survey of the constitutional changes. The book is sure to be of great guidance both

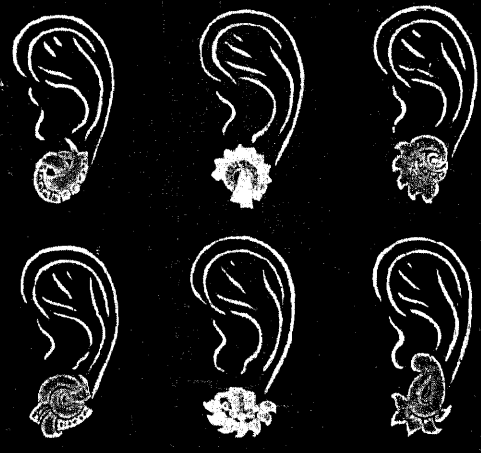
Harijan Welfare



Eleventh All-India Depressed Classes League Conference, Vijayavada. Hon'ble Sri Tapasse, Harijan Minister, Bombay Government, Mr. H. J. Khandekar, President, and Hon'ble Sri V. Kurmayya, Minister, Madras Government are seen in the group (with garlands)



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