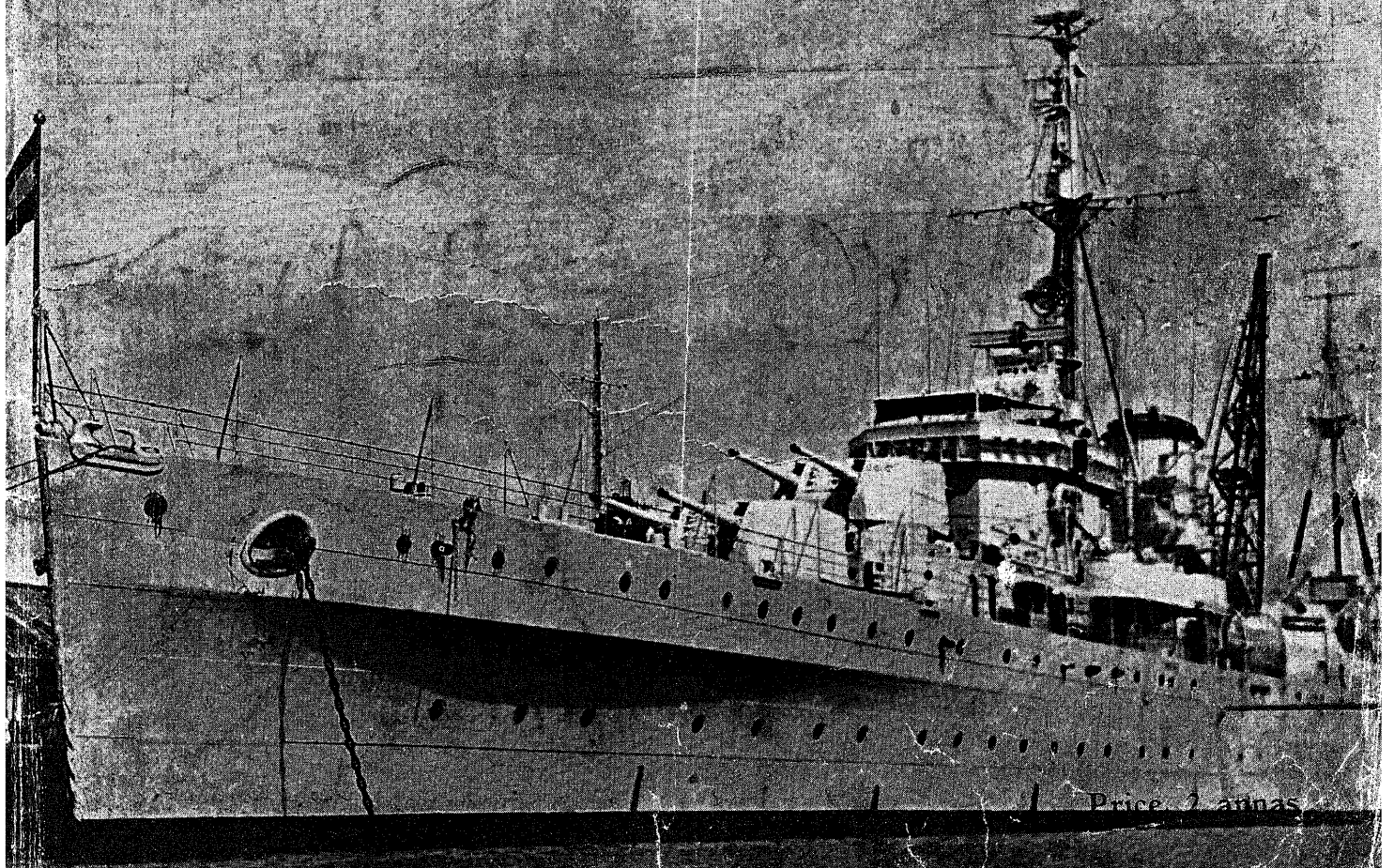


# MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 1st DECEMBER 1948

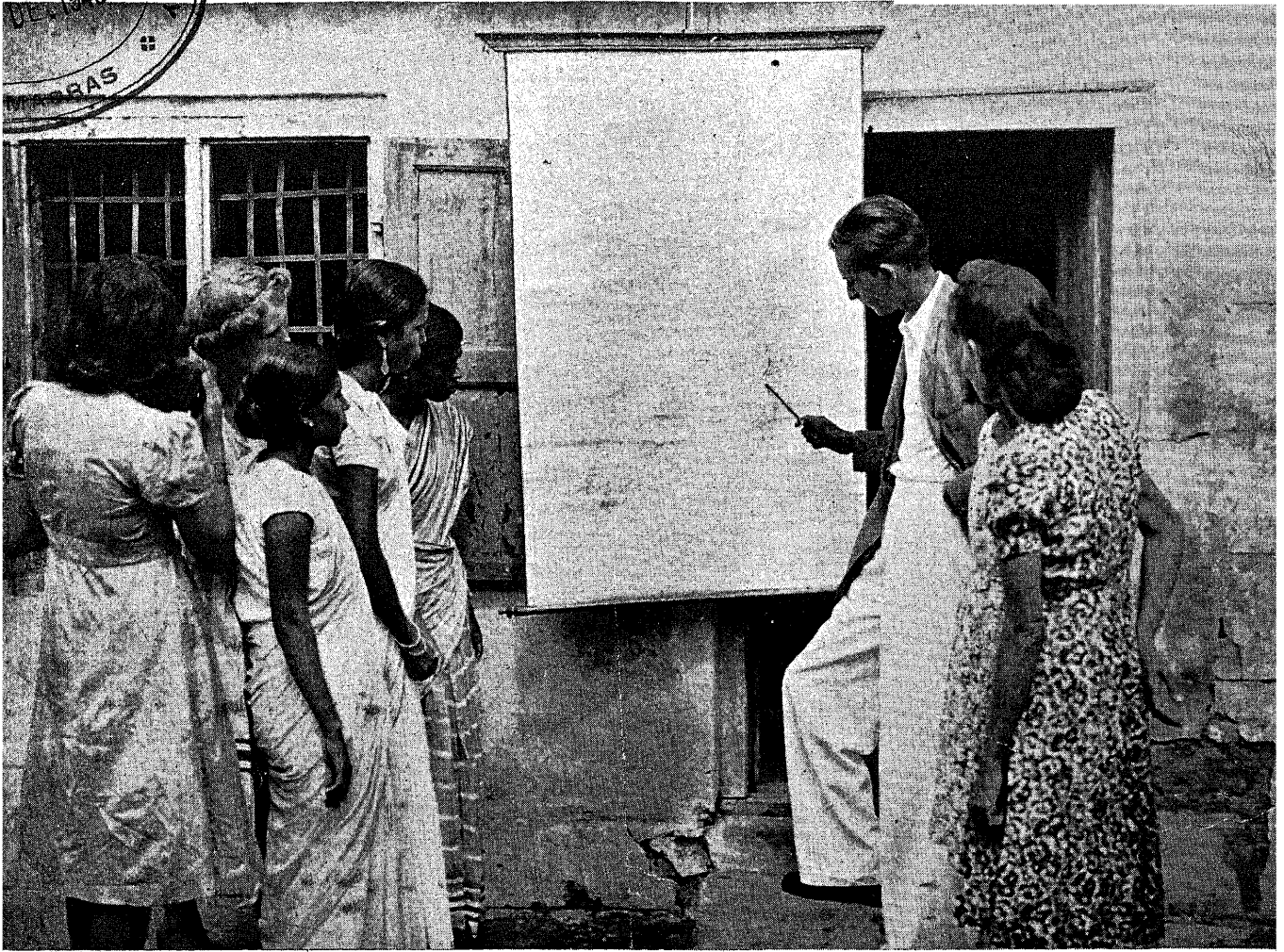
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# WOMEN CONDUCTORS



*The Government have introduced the system of employing women as conductors on Government transport buses. The picture shows some of the selected candidates attending a training class.*



*Some of the selected candidates start on a course of practical training*

# Madras Information



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Vol. II, No. 21

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

December 1, 1948

## SHORT NOTES

### Women Conductors

This Province has given lead to the rest of India in ways more than one. In the introduction of Province-wide Prohibition, Madras has scored a march over the other parts of the country. Again in the organization of a special department for women's welfare, the Government have taken a unique step. The Government have since appointed women conductors for Government buses in the City. This might sound a strange innovation but the question

has been asked that if women can be lawyers, judges, teachers, doctors, etc., why not they be conductors also?

The candidates selected for women conductors' posts are given theoretical and practical training for a period of one week. Elsewhere in this issue appear photos bearing on this training. During the seven days of training, they are given a thorough grounding in all the aspects connected with a conductor's work.

### Irrigation Conference in Nilgiris

The half-yearly Irrigation Conference of the Nilgiris district was held recently. It was also attended by representatives of other departments. A useful programme was gone through. The questions discussed

included the creation of a model farm of paddy in the district, the formation of a Co-operative Farming Society, Grow More Food Campaign and the progress made in the investigation of Irrigation Schemes in the district.

### Ex-servicemen's Day

Friday, the 1st October 1948 was observed by all the Ex-servicemen's Co-operatives as a day for collections for the benefits of Ex-servicemen and their families. The Ex-servicemen co-operatives convened informal meetings of their members and objects of the Flag day and the purpose for which funds were collected were explained to them. Collections were made from members, employees and the public. A sum of Rs. 1,381-8-3 was collected on the flag day.

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"Just like the Ganges, patriotism is a blessing that comes from heaven. Waters of patriotism, like those of Ganges are strong and turbulent. They should be properly dammed for fruitful irrigation and all round prosperity."

—H.E. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

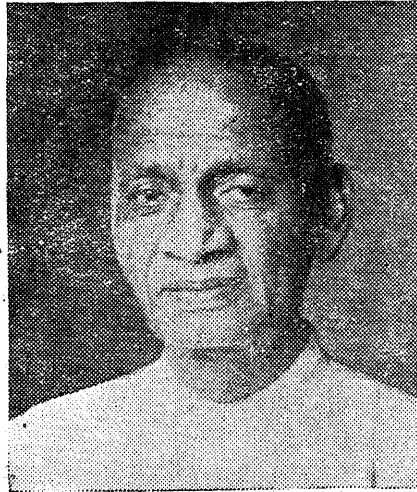
## IDEAS AND IDEALS

### Regeneration of Villages

Speaking recently at Nagpur Hon'ble Sardar Patel reminded his audience of the importance of rural regeneration, he said :—

“Gandhiji built his struggle on four walls. The first was untouchability. That sin had to be washed out. That is not part of Hindu religion ; it is a foreign matter. We have attained some success in it, but its poison had spread so much that when we were in Yeravada Jail, he had to wield his biggest weapon against the British Government. They had resorted to such a manoeuvre in granting self-government that it would have disintegrated the Hindu community. In this world, fighting is carried on with arms, but Babu saved the Hindu community by his weapon of fast. But we have not yet cast out untouchability from our hearts ; that wall is therefore only half-built.

“The second wall was self-sufficiency in cloth. Whatever cloth we need, we should make ourselves. That used to be the case before the British came. There was a charka in every home. Babu plied his charka daily and regularly up to his end. It



is in the same manner that we should ply the charka. You know that we used to sing that we would weave Swaraj out of the cotton yarn. They remain, however, mere words, otherwise the country would not have been in the present sore straits. Thus the second wall also remains incomplete.

“The third wall was Hindu-Muslim unity. What shall I say about it ?

Babu lost his life working for it. We are all responsible for his death.

“The fourth wall was national education. We did not follow Gandhiji, even there and did not help him attain the Swaraj of his conception—which he called Ram Rajya. Babu knew our weaknesses. But he had hopes that some day the seed would bear fruit. He knew that Swarajya could not be attained in his lifetime. In India two forces were at work. India was influenced by Western culture and civilization. In big cities and factories, the labourers were being ground down. That is a poisonous system. By mills turning out big stocks of goods only a few men get rich. In India some 60 to 70 lakhs of labourers work in the mills. But crores of workers are lying idle. The smaller crafts in villages have been swallowed by the bigger ones of the town. We copy the big business of the foreign countries. When Babu came to India, he revived the ancient indigenous Indian system. The conflict between both the systems goes on.

“Whatever type of Swaraj we have got, we have secured through Babu's austerities. He wanted Ram Rajya ; that dream he has left with you. Crores of our men live in villages. How can they experience the benefits of Swaraj ? Even in cities none has tasted the fruits of Swaraj. They are still in the same pitiable state. After we attained Swaraj, the conditions in cities should have changed but they are actually worse.”

### Tolerance based on understanding

“This Province had already set an example of communal harmony while the rest of India had been a seething mass of communal hatred. Tolerance is only the first stage of communal harmony. True tolerance should be based on understanding the other person's point of view, his religious tenets and his faith”. Thus remarked H.E. the Governor of Madras, presiding at a public meeting on the occasion of the Deepavali celebration by the Madras Harmony Council.

His Excellency added : “We are met here today not just to celebrate Deepavali, but to explain its significance to the public at large, especially to those belonging to communities other than Hindus. To a Madras audience I need hardly explain the virtues of tolerance, you might think it impertinence,\* especially when it is stressed



by a non-Madrasi. This Province had already set an example while the rest of India had been a seething mass of communal hatred.

“But I may go a step further and say that tolerance in itself is not enough. Tolerance is only the first stage of perfect communal harmony. Mahatma Gandhi wrote in one of his letters that sometimes tolerance implies an assumption of inferiority of other faiths to one's own, whereas Ahimsa teaches us to entertain the same respect for the religious faiths of others as we accord to our own. This should be the goal that we should aim at. This was the goal for which Gandh'ji strove daily at his prayer meetings where the Quoran and the Bible, the Gita and the Granth, all found a place of honour.

“I would not go so far as to say that tolerance always implies an assumption of the inferiority of somebody

(Continued on page 6)

## PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

### Teachers Employed as Branch Postmasters

The Government have decided that teachers in the service of Government and of District Boards employed as Branch Postmasters shall be granted with effect from September 1, 1948 dearness allowance at the maximum rate admissible to them in Government or District Board Service, without taking into account the dearness allowance granted to them by the Postal Department.

This decision has been taken in response to representations received from the teachers, who had been allowed as per order dated February 22, 1946, a rate of dearness allowance from Provincial funds or District Board Funds corresponding to the difference between the rate of dearness allowance to which they are eligible in Government or Board Service and that granted by the Postal Department.

[November 5]

### Public Services and Pensions in 1947-48

The statistics of the strength and cost of the several services in this province, as well as the number of pensioners and the amount of pensionary liabilities of the Government during 1947-48 show that the total number of posts in the Indian Civil Service was 108, involving an expenditure of Rs. 11.13 lakhs. The strength of other All India Services and High Court Judges, excluding the I.C.S. Judges, was 161, involving an expenditure of Rs. 15.89 lakhs. The total number of pensioners under the I.C.S. and other all India Services was 102 and 243, respectively.

The total strength of the Provincial Services was 2,983 and the cost involved was Rs. 164.06 lakhs. The strength of the Subordinate, Ministerial and Inferior Services, including village establishment, was 1,48,462 involving a cost of Rs. 843.47 lakhs. Pensioners under the former category totalled 927 and under the latter 32,392. The strength of the village establishment was 106,678 and the cost thereof Rs. 173.05 lakhs. The total cost to the Government on account of salaries and pensions during 1947-48 amounted to Rs. 1,371.77 lakhs.

[November 5]

### Drive against corruption among Government Servants

The following is a list of non-permanent Government servants discharged from service during the period between 1st April 1948 and 30th June 1948 for suspected or proved corruption :—

| Name of individual.<br>(1)          | Post last held.<br>(2)   |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.</b>     |  |
| (1) R. M. Sundaram .. .. .          | Demonstration Maistri, Madura taluk.                                 |
| (2) R. Narayanasamy .. .. .         | Do.  |
| (3) M. Kanagarajan .. .. .          | Do.  |
| (4) S. Karuppaiah .. .. .           | Do.  |
| (5) R. Rengaraju .. .. .            | Do.  |
| (6) A. Subramanyam .. .. .          | Store-keeper, Saidapet.  |
| (7) Francis .. .. .                 | Do.  |
| <b>CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.</b>   |  |
| (1) Rajasekara Reddi .. .. .        | Firka Supply Officer, Proddatur.                                     |
| (2) P. Venkataramanaiah .. .. .     | Temporary Firka Supply Officer, Muddanur.                            |
| (3) N. D. Karakada .. .. .          | Enquiry Officer, Circle Rationing Office, Mangalore (North).         |
| (4) T. K. Mahboob Khan .. .. .      | Chowkidar, Tinnevely district.                                       |
| (5) Peter Fernando .. .. .          | Do.  |
| (6) Muthusamy Pillai .. .. .        | Do.  |
| (7) Shamsuddin .. .. .              | Do.  |
| (8) Gulam Dastagir .. .. .          | Do.  |
| (9) M. Ayyasamy .. .. .             | Petrol Supervisor, Assistant Rationing Officer's Office, Coimbatore. |
| (10) Paramanantham .. .. .          | Enquiry Officer, Rationing Officer's Office, Ootacamund.             |
| (11) S. Ayyakannu Raj .. .. .       | Firka Supply Officer, Kamapuram.                                     |
| (12) A. Bland .. .. .               | Reserve Assistant Transport Officer, Madras.                         |
| (13) Hanumanthu .. .. .             | Chowkidar, Guntakal.   |
| (14) Venkatramudu .. .. .           | Do.  |
| (15) Sowrapu Pedda Narayana .. .. . | Chowkidar, Tadpatri.   |
| (16) D. C. Bheemappa .. .. .        | Chowkidar, Anantapur.  |
| (17) Madduleti .. .. .              | Do.  |
| (18) D. Krishnamurthy .. .. .       | Firka Supply Officer, Adavivaram, Vizagapatam taluk.                 |
| (19) K. Babu Rao Patnaik .. .. .    | Firka Supply Officer, Gonnaivalasa, Vizianagram taluk.               |
| (20) Vajaravelu .. .. .             | Peon, VII-B Circle, Rationing Office, Madras City.                   |
| (21) Gopalakrishnan .. .. .         | Enquiry Officer, II-A Circle, Rationing Office, Madras City.         |
| (22) Allum .. .. .                  | Clerk, II-A Circle, Rationing Office, Madras City.                   |
| (23) B. Doraisingam .. .. .         | Upper Division Clerk, III-B Circle, Rationing Office, Madras City.   |

NOTE.—Items (13) to (23) under Civil Supplies department relate to the period from 1st January 1947 to 31st March 1948.

### INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| S. Venkatesan .. .. . | Temporary Lower Division Clerk, Office of the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras. |
|-----------------------|--|

| <i>Name of individual.</i><br>(1) | <i>Post last held.</i><br>(2)   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.</b>       |   |
| T. Abubacker .. .. .              | Junior Attender of Copyists (Inferior service) acted temporarily as Record Attender, District Court, Tellicherry. |
| <b>POLICE DEPARTMENT.</b>         |   |
| (1) Daniel Vedam .. .. .          | Subedar, Special Armed Police, Tiruchirappalli Unit at Red Hills.   |
| (2) A. V. Ponnambalam .. .. .     | Peon, City Police Office, Madras.   |
| <b>REVENUE DEPARTMENT.</b>        |   |
| (1) Md. Shukur .. .. .            | Masalchi, I.A.T.C.'s Office, Anantapur.   |
| (2) V. Jagannath .. .. .          | Temporary Clerk <i>cum</i> Checking Inspector for Bread Rationing, Tellicherry.                                   |

[November 5]

### Provincial Compost Development Committee

As recommended by the Central Compost Development Committee, the Madras Government have constituted a Provincial Compost Development Committee to take up active measures for the development of compost manure in this Province. The constitution of the Committee will be as follows :—

(1) The Hon'ble the Minister for Agriculture—*Chairman*, (2) the Director of Public Health, (3) the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, (4) the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, (5) the Director of Agriculture, (6) the Secretary to Government, Development Department, (7) the Provincial Motor Transport Controller, (8) the Provincial Firka Development Officer, (9) one Municipal Commissioner (representing municipalities), (10) one agriculturist (non-official) and (11) the Provincial Biochemist for compost (if appointed)—*Secretary*.

[November 6]

### Honorary Medical Officers

The Government have directed that the following procedure shall be followed in making appointments to the posts of Honorary Medical Officers and Honorary Assistant Medical Officers, which were last advertised by the Surgeon-General in 1947 :—

The vacancies in each hospital (except the City hospitals, which will be grouped together to form a single unit) will be allocated, as far as possible, between war service and civilian candidates in the ratio of 2 : 1. On a consideration of the recommendations made by the Surgeon-General and the special Committees prescribed under the rules, the Government will select

candidates for appointment. In the vacancies reserved for civilians, appointments will be made for a period of five years. In vacancies allotted to war service candidates, appointments of such suitable applicants as are available will be made temporarily for a period not exceeding one year. If suitable war service applicants are not available, suitable civilian applicants will be appointed temporarily for a period not exceeding one year.

War service vacancies will be re-advertised, as well as all the war service vacancies for which there are no applicants in the war service or civilian, and which therefore remain unfilled, so that a final chance may be given to all demobilized war service candidates for submitting their applications. In the case of these posts filled temporarily as above by war service candidates, if more suitable war service candidates apply on re-advertisement, they will be appointed for a period of five years ousting the existing incumbents. If more suitable war service candidates do not apply, the existing incumbents will be continued for a period of five years from the date of the first appointment.

In the case of the posts filled temporarily as above by civilian candidates, if suitable war service candidates apply on re-advertisement, they will be appointed for a period of five years, ousting the existing incumbents. If suitable war service candidates do not apply, the posts will be de-reserved and the existing incumbents will be continued for a period of five years from the date of the first appointment. In the case of vacancies for which there were no applicants and which remained unfilled, suitable war service applicants will be appointed, if they are available. If not, they will be de-reserved and filled up by civilians. Civilian vacancies which remain unfilled may also be re-advertised by the Surgeon-General at the same time.

### Junior and Senior Assistant Medical Officers

An Assistant Medical Officer will be classed as "Junior", if he has not put in satisfactory service as an Assistant Medical Officer for three years or over three years, except in the special cases mentioned in the rules relating to the terms and conditions of service of Honorary Medical Officers. An officer who has rendered three years or over three years satisfactory service may be classed as "Senior". An Assistant Medical Officer (Junior) may be designated as an Assistant Medical Officer (Senior) on his completing three years satisfactory service as an Assistant Medical Officer (Junior).

[November 10]

### Industrial Finance Corporation of India

The Government of India have set up the Industrial Finance Corporation of India with headquarters at New Delhi under the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948 (Act XV of 1948), for making medium and long-term credits more readily available to industrial concerns where recourse to normal banking channels or to the capital issue market is either impracticable or inappropriate. Under the Act, the Corporation is authorized to extend financial aid only to public limited companies or co-operative societies where such companies or societies are engaged in the manufacture or processing of goods or in mining or in the generation or distribution of electricity or any other form of power. The importance of an institution such as the Industrial Finance Corporation will readily manifest itself at the present time in view of the plans for the industrialization of the country. The Industrial Finance Corporation of India is now in a position to consider applications from all eligible industrial concerns for financial assistance.

[November 12]

### Assistance to Agriculture

The following is a review of the quantities of materials received and distributed by the Agricultural department, during August 1948 :—

### Standard Steel

The opening balance of standard steel for August 1948 was 4,241 tons. Against an allotment of 2,000 tons by the Government of India for the

quarter ending 30th September 1948, a quantity of 734 tons only was received during the month leaving a balance of 797 tons yet to be supplied from the quarterly quota. The quantity distributed by the Agricultural Department during the month of August was 562 tons. The closing balance for the month was 4,413 tons. A considerable portion of this balance consists of unsaleable categories.

#### Fertilizer

*Ammonium sulphate.*—For the fertilizer year ending 31st July 1948, the Government of India have allotted to this Province 48,500 tons of ammonium sulphate. Against that allotment, a quantity of 31,955 tons has been distributed up to the end of August and the closing balance at the end of the month was 16,545 tons. During the month the quantity distributed was 5,585 tons.

*Ammonium phosphate.*—For the fertilizer year 1947-48 (ending with 31st July 1948) the Government of India have allotted 1,500 tons of ammonium phosphate. The quantity distributed up to the end of August 1948 was 1,275 tons, of which 64 tons were issued during the month. The closing balance for the month was 225 tons.

#### Groundnut Cake

This manure is not supplied by the Government of India but is procured by the Agricultural Department from the mills on the basis of 60 per cent of their production. The opening balance of groundnut cake with the Department for August 1948 was 15,187 tons. A quantity of 7,503 tons was received and a quantity of 15,201 tons was distributed during the month (excluding Kurnool district for which figures have not yet been received). The closing balance for the month (excluding Kurnool) was 7,489 tons. These figures are outside the 40 per cent production of the mills

which is distributed direct to the ryots by mills, dealers, etc.

[November 15]

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#### The Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act, 1946

The Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act, 1946, which was enacted in 1946 and which came into force on 3rd December 1946 was intended to prevent the indiscriminate denudation of private forests and interference with customary and prescriptive rights therein. It also provides for the stay of suits and other proceedings in which a claim to customary or prescriptive rights in a private forest is involved. The Act applies to (1) private forests in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara having a continuous area exceeding 100 acres and owned by a single person or by more than one person jointly, and (2) forests situated in estates as defined in the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908 and (3) private forests in other areas in the Province which may be declared by the Provincial Government to be forests for the purposes of the Act. The Act will cease to be in force on 2nd December 1948. Under section 1 (4) of the Act, however, the Government are empowered to extend the life of the Act for a further period or periods not exceeding two years in the aggregate. The Government have considered the question of extending the life of the Act beyond that date.

2. Under the Zamindari Abolition Legislation, all estate forests will stand transferred to the Crown and will vest in them free of all encumbrances as soon as the estates are notified under the Abolition Act. The more important of these forests will then be constituted as Government reserved forests and the provisions of the Madras Forest Act, 1882, will then apply

to them. The Abolition Bill has been passed by the Legislative Assembly and it will be introduced in the Legislative Council shortly. The Bill is expected to become Law before the end of December 1948. But in view of the object of the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act it is necessary that the Act should continue to apply to estate forests till such time as they are taken over by the Government under the Abolition Legislation. It is also necessary that the Act should continue to apply to the forests in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara and to private forests in ryotwari areas declared as forests for the purposes of the Act. The Government have accordingly decided that the Act should be continued for a further period of one year from 3rd December 1948. A notification to this effect is being published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

[November 15]

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#### Aided elementary schools

The Government have directed that with effect from February 1949 (in respect of the grants payable for November and December 1948) the grants payable to elementary schools, including the 15 per cent grant due to managements, be paid monthly according to a specified procedure and programme, instead of quarterly, grant which has hitherto been in force.

[November 17]

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Control of pests and diseases of crops

The Government have sanctioned the continuance of the comprehensive scheme for the control of pests and diseases of crops during 1948-49 and have sanctioned an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 1,00,866 on the working of the scheme during 1948-49.

[November 17]



## DEPARTMENTS' ACTIVITIES

### Firka Development Department Intensive Khadi Scheme

The intensive part of the Khadi Scheme has been enforced in seven selected firkas of the Province with effect from the beginning of the year 1947. The main objective of the scheme has been to secure self-sufficiency in regard to cloth in terms of Khadi. The *modus operandi* adopted for achieving this object may briefly be described thus :

#### Arrangements for production

Each selected firka is in charge of a Centre Khadi Officer who is assisted by personnel trained in Khadi work by the All-India Spinners' Association and posted at convenient sub-centres in the firka. A register of regular spinners in each village is maintained by the officer in charge. These officers are provided with adequate stocks of cotton purchased by the Government for sale to the regular spinners and also with a special cash advance with which to buy yarn from the spinners. The officer sells the cotton to the regular spinners at its cost price which is fixed by the Government and buys the yarn produced by the spinners also at a rate fixed by the Government. The officer receiving the yarn issues it to selected weavers capable of handling handspun yarn and on the production of the cloth woven by the weaver, the officer pays the weaving wages to the weavers at the prescribed rates. This procedure ensures that the spinner and the weaver get the prescribed wages for spinning and for weaving respectively.

#### Self-sufficiency

The principle of self-sufficiency which governs the scheme obviously requires that the spinner and his or her family should have their cloth requirements met out of the Khadi produced from their own yarn and be allowed to sell to others only that amount of Khadi produced by them in excess of their requirements. But it is very often found that the poorer spinners depend upon the wages earned in spinning for satisfying more immediate wants than clothing, such as food and provisions. To enable them to do so to a small extent,

arrangements have to be made to deduct only a fraction of the wages earned by the spinners each month and keep them in deposit with the Centre Khadi Officers till the deposit grows sufficiently large to fetch an article of clothing like a dhoty or a saree. These deposits deducted from the wages of the spinners are entered in ledgers maintained by the Centre Khadi Officers and pass-books held by the spinners. This arrangement has been in force for a few months now and it is found that spinners, particularly of the poorer classes, are realizing its advantages.

#### Subsidy

Provision has been made in the Intensive Khadi Scheme to grant a subsidy to spinners who take the cloth made out of their own yarn to meet the clothing requirements of themselves or their families. The spinner is required to deliver his yarn to a weaver in the presence of the Khadi Officer in charge of the village and to take delivery of the woven cloth and pay the prescribed weaving wages to the weaver also in the presence of the Khadi Officer. On the cloth so produced, the Khadi Officer concerned has been authorized to pay to the spinner a subsidy now fixed at the rate of 9 pies per hank of 840 yards of yarn contained in the cloth in five centres and 6 pies per hank in two centres (viz., Kota Uratla and Erragondapalam) where the weaving wages are comparatively low. The spinners who deposit part of their wages in instalments with the Khadi Officers and purchase cloth against those deposits are placed on a par with those who get Khadi produced directly out of their own yarn and are admitted to the concession regarding the payment of subsidy. It may thus be seen that the subsidy paid is an index of the progress of self-sufficiency work.

#### Surplus khadi

In spite of the facilities provided for the spinners to take Khadi for their own requirements by the scheme of deposits and subsidies as detailed above, the Khadi produced in the Intensive Khadi Centres is far in excess of consumption by the spinners. In order to extend the benefits of the Intensive Khadi Scheme to the residents of the respective centres, Government have ordered that the Khadi

in the hands of the Centre Khadi Officers should be sold to the residents of the villages comprising the Centre. Further, Government have also decided to use Khadi for all State purposes in view of its unifying influence and as the best expression of the Government's homage to the memory of Gandhiji and have ordered that all officers of the Government who have been enjoined to use uniforms should use Khadi for the purpose and that the requirements of all the departments of Government in cloth should be met from Khadi. The surplus Khadi held by the Intensive Khadi Centres will be diverted to meet these requirements of officers and departments of the Government and arrangements are being made to obtain indents from them and make supplies from the centres.

### Labour Department

As a result of the recommendations of the Industries Conference held at New Delhi in December 1947, the Government of Madras have constituted a Representative Provincial Labour Advisory Board with the Hon'ble Minister for Industries as Ex-Officio Chairman, the Secretary to Government in charge of Labour as Ex-Officio Secretary, the Commissioner of Labour and the Provincial Textile Commissioner, Madras, as representatives of Government and twelve other members representing employers, labour, Railways, Trade Union, Textile Workers' Union, Madras Dock and Factory Labour, Plantation, etc., to advise on matters relating to increasing industrial production, to fostering friendly and fullest co-operation between labour and management, etc.

The Government Transport Employees' and General Workers' Union have given up the strike fixed for 24th October 1948 as most of their demands have been met by Government.

[Second fortnight of October 1948.]

(Continued from page 2)

else's faith, but I do think that, in quite a number of cases, tolerance can be based on mere indifference. Tolerance based on indifference can never be secure, for it is at the mercy of every gust of passion. True tolerance should really be based on understanding the other person's point of view, his religious tenets and his faith. It is for this ideal of understanding that we are gathered here together and in India, at present, I can think of no better cause."



## Education Department

*Special—Hindustani Schools.*—Arrangements are nearing completion for giving aid to Hindustani Schools which are preparing candidates for the "Rashtra Basha Visharad" and "Pracharak" examinations in Hindustani conducted by the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha. These schools will be treated as "Special Schools." It is also proposed to start a Government Examination in Hindustani for the award of a certificate.

*Aided Schools for the Blind and the Deaf and Dumb.*—Stipends to candidates under training as teachers for the blind and deaf mute, have been awarded by Government. Teachers trained during this year will be utilized for new Government schools for defective children to be opened during 1949-50. Proposals for training teachers for the blind and deaf mute on a fairly large scale have been made and are expected to start in the school year 1949-50.

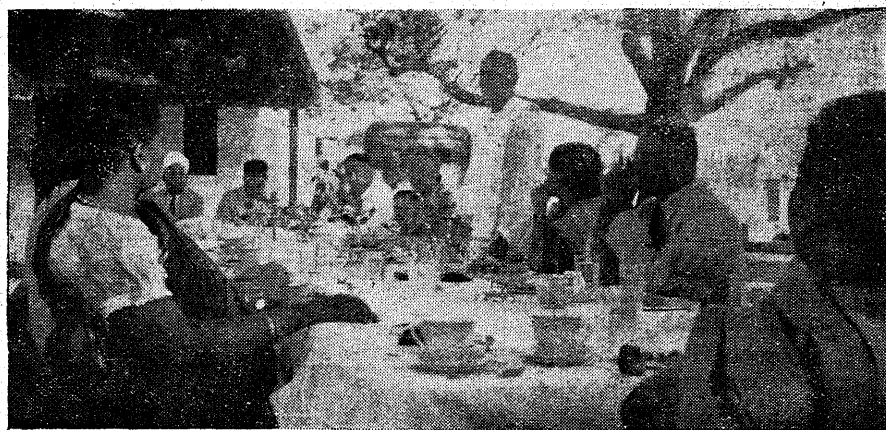
*Camp Conference of Inspecting Officers.*—A Conference of Inspecting Officers was held at Saidapet from 4th to 8th September 1948 in which a useful programme was gone through.



## Irrigation Department

*Krishna district.*—The Government have sanctioned the scheme for providing irrigation facilities to the Pedapatnam and Narayanapatnam villages in the Bandar taluk of Krishna district by extending an existing channel. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 2,80,000 for works or Rs. 3,66,300 inclusive of direct and indirect charges and is expected to afford irrigation facilities to about 2,200 acres of dry land. The area benefited by the scheme is expected to yield 1,100 tons of cleaned rice, valued at Rs. 2,75,000.

*Tiruchirappalli district.*—The Government have sanctioned the scheme for the construction of two bed dams in the Kattalai South Bank Canal in the Tiruchirappalli district and the clubbing of several channels of the canal at certain sluice sites, at an estimated cost of Rs. 55,180. Although no additional revenue is expected, the scheme will save annually the trouble and expense of the formation of the Korambus at a cost of Rs. 1,500 per annum and would improve the supply to the ayacut.



A Conference of the Inspecting Officers of the Education Department was held recently at Saidapet. The above photos were taken on the occasion

*Malabar district.*—The Government have sanctioned the scheme for carrying out repairs to the Vandithode anicut in Polipilli village of Palghat taluk of Malabar district and improving and extending the existing channel taking off from it at an estimated cost of Rs. 70,000 for works or Rs. 92,075 including direct and indirect charges.

In addition to improving the defective irrigation in 270 acres of land the scheme is expected to enable the irrigation of an additional extent of about 147 acres of land, resulting in annual additional production of 74 tons of rice, valued at Rs. 18,500.

[October 1948]

## Department of Industries and Commerce

### Borewells

In a 6" diameter borewell put down for the Hindu Hostel, Cuddalore N.T., South Arcot district, to a depth of 81' 0" below ground level, good springs have been tapped below 74' 0", as a result of which the water level has risen to 10' 0" below ground level. The quality of the water is good and the borewell gives a continuous supply of 45 gallons per minute. The borewell has cost about Rs. 550 only including the cost of lining pipes. It is proposed to install a suitable size electric pump set directly on the borewell with an overhead tank and distribution pipe connexions.

## Home Department

### Bus Transport

Eight petrol buses were registered during October bringing the total number of vehicles to 306 of which 25 are Diesel buses.

A complete course of instruction for the training of drivers and conductors has been compiled and its printing is under consideration. The procedure for accounting of conductors' cash, tickets, etc., has been drafted. Revised time tables and bus charts were prepared and introduced on routes 17A, 22A and 24A. A "Manual of Instructions" for drivers and conductors has been compiled and it is proposed to print and supply copies of the same to all drivers and conductors at a nominal cost.

On the technical side, it is gratifying to note that the number of sick vehicles has been considerably reduced.

It is proposed to open in the Body Guard Lines a canteen on a co-operative basis. Action has already been taken to register the canteen.

## Miscellaneous

### The Wynaad Colonization Scheme

The Wynaad Colonization Scheme aims at the reclamation of an area of about 31,000 acres of cultivable land in the villages of Kidanganad, Nulpuzha, Muppainad and Nenmeni in Wynaad taluk, Malabar district. Antimalarial operations are being carried on

in the area, which is now fairly free of malaria. A dispensary has been opened in the area to render medical aid to the colonists. Other items of work done are acquisition of land required for the scheme, opening of an Agricultural farm, opening up of communications and construction of buildings. The colonists are selected from ex-servicemen, the existing pattadars and sivaijamadars in the area including the aboriginals living there. The colonization of the area commenced early in February 1948 and about 545 colonists have been settled in the area up to the end of August 1948. Each of them has been given 2 acres of wet and 5 acres of dry or 10 acres of dry land. The Government have also sanctioned the grant of the following advances to the colonists:—

- (i) Reclamation of lands—Rs. 100 per acre.
- (ii) Construction of temporary huts—Rs. 250 per colonist.
- (iii) Agricultural advance—Rs. 500 per colonist.
- (iv) Interim advance for domestic expenditure—Rs. 500 per colonist per year for 5 years.
- (v) Construction of wells—Rs. 50 per colonist.
- (vi) Construction of latrines—Rs. 25 per colonist.

These advances are granted in the shape of materials and in instalments after the amount once advanced has been spent for the purpose for which it was advanced. The colonists have cleared the lands and cultivated them. The existing crops are reported to be very good and many of the colonists are expected to realize substantial sums from paddy, banana, ragi, tapioca and other crops. It is proposed to form a cooperative society of the colonists to

provide advances to the colonists and arrange for their recovery later.

The Government have recently examined the future policy in regard to the Wynaad Colonization Scheme and decided that the existing colonists may be given advances on the scale already approved by the Government and that no further colonists need be admitted for the present.

\* \* \*

### Sugarcane prices

With a view to safeguard the interests of the sugarcane growers in this Province by fixing a minimum price for sugarcane, the Government have declared the whole of the Province of Madras as controlled area under section 3 (1) of the Indian Sugarcane Act, 1934 with effect from 1st October 1948. A draft of a notification has also been published for receipt of objections and suggestions through the Director of Agriculture before 15th November 1948 for fixing the minimum price of sugarcane at Rs. 60 per ton (inclusive of cess and transport charges) to be paid in one instalment at the time of delivery.

\* \* \*

### Weights and measures

The Government have passed "Weights and Measures Act". The object of this Act is to secure the uniformity, which is now lacking. Weights and measures specified in the schedule to the Act with reference to particular trades are not to be used in other trades. The use of possession of unstamped or incorrect weights has been made a criminal offence. But no prosecution will be instituted in respect of the possession or use of an unrecognized weight or a measure for a period of six months after the Act comes into force.

## Fire Accidents

From 1st June 1947 to 30th June 1948.

| Number and nature of<br>fire accidents. | Amount of property<br>involved in<br>fire and saved<br>by the Madras<br>Fire Services. |              |
|---|--|--------------|
|   | Amount of property<br>that has<br>been lost (des-<br>troyed by fire).                  | RS.          |
| Madras City Fires ..                    | 236  | 1,74,091     |
| Town Fires .. ..                        | 1,770  | 68,39,207    |
| Village Fires .. ..                     | 523  | 39,70,080    |
|   | 2,529  | 1,09,83,378  |
|   |  | 60,95,843    |
|   |  | 12,21,88,669 |
|   |  | 1,61,11,165  |
|   |  | 14,43,95,677 |

## PROHIBITION TOPICS

### Prohibition and Social Welfare

Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction, Bombay, replied to all the arguments developed by the critics of the prohibition programme when, recently, he paid a visit to the Baramati Labour Welfare Centre conducted by the District Prohibition Committee, Poona.

The Minister said it had been suggested that the Government was going to loose an excise revenue of rupees nine crores and that, after all, only 10 per cent to 15 per cent of the population had been addicted to alcoholism. It had also been suggested that the Government should increase the excise duty and utilize the money derived from it towards financing nation-building activities. These arguments by the critics of the prohibition policy were fallacious, the Minister said. Even if the percentage of drink addicts were small, the effects of the evil were disastrous and inflicted suffering on the families of the addicts. The Government would certainly prefer sacrificing the tainted revenue and it was both unjustifiable and cruel

to make the addicts—the bulk of whom were persons of small income—'bleed' with increased excise duties.

The Government was determined, the Minister said, to go ahead with the prohibition programme despite the anti-inflationary measures that had been adopted. The price of rupees nine crores was not a high one if, with complete prohibition, the people got rid of the drink habit with its disastrous effects on health, and were enabled to grow in health and physical vigour. The Minister appealed to the audience and particularly to women to co-operate with, and help, the Government in making a success of the prohibition programme.

Emphasizing the importance and value of the welfare centres, the Minister reminded the audience that he himself was an agriculturist and understood the value of recreation and relaxation after a day's hard work. The centres were therefore established to cater to the needs of healthy entertainment and pleasure of the masses.

### Intoxicants

The following extract taken from Mahatma Gandhiji's "Key to Health" will be of topical interest in the context of Province-wide Prohibition in this part of the country.

The intoxicants used in India might be taken as the following: alcohol, bhang, ganja, tobacco and opium. Alcohol or liquor includes the country-made liquor and arrack, besides the large quantities of liquor imported from foreign countries. All these should be strictly prohibited. Alcohol makes a man forget himself and while its effects last, he becomes utterly incapable of doing anything useful. Those who take to drinking, ruin themselves and ruin their people. They lose all sense of decency and propriety.

There is a school who favour limited and regulated consumption of alcohol and believe it to be useful. I have not found any weight in their argument. Even if we accept their view for a moment, we have still to face the fact that innumerable human beings cannot

be kept under discipline. Therefore it becomes our duty to prohibit alcoholic drinks even if it were only for the sake of this vast majority.

Parsis have strongly supported the use of *tadi*. They say that although *tadi* is an intoxicant it is also a food and even helps to digest other foodstuffs. I have carefully examined this argument and have read a fair amount of literature pertaining to this subject. But I have been a witness of the terrible straits to which *tadi* reduces the poor and therefore I have come to the conclusion that it can have no place in man's food.

The advantages, attributed to *tadi*, are all available from other foodstuffs. *Tadi* is made out of *Khajiri* juice. Fresh *Khajiri* juice is not an intoxicant. It is known as *nira* in Hindustani

and many people have been cured of their constipation as a result of drinking *nira*. I have taken it myself though it did not act as a laxative with me. I found that it had the same food value as sugar-cane juice. If one drinks a glass of *nira* in the morning instead of drinking tea, etc., he should not need anything else for breakfast. As in the case of sugar-cane juice, palm juice can be boiled to make palm jaggery. *Khajuri* is a variety of palm tree. Several varieties of palm grow spontaneously in our country. All of them yield drinkable juice. As *nira* gets fermented very quickly, it has to be used up immediately and therefore on the spot. Since this condition is difficult to fulfil except to a limited extent, in practice, the best use of *nira* is to convert it into palm jaggery. Palm jaggery can well replace sugar-cane jaggery. In fact some people prefer it to the latter. One advantage of palm jaggery over sugar-cane jaggery is that it is less sweet and therefore one can eat more of it. The All India Village Industries Association has done a great deal to popularize palm jaggery, but much remains to be done. If the palms that are used for making *tadi* are used for making jaggery, India will never lack sugar and the poor will be able to get good jaggery for very little money. Palm jaggery can be converted into molasses and refined sugar. But the jaggery is much more useful than refined sugar. The salts present in the jaggery are lost in the process of refining. Just as refined wheat flour and polished rice lose some of their nutritive value because of the loss of the pericarp, refined sugar also loses some of the nutritive value of the jaggery. One may generalize that all foodstuffs are richer if taken in their natural state as far as possible.

Talking of *tadi* I naturally began to talk of *nira* and from that I went on to the topic of jaggery. But let us return to liquor for the moment.

None of the public workers perhaps have the same bitter experience of the evils of drink as I have had. In South Africa, most of the Indians going there as indentured labourers were addicted to drinking. The law there did not in any time permit Indians to take liquor to their houses except under a medical certificate. They could go to the drinking booths and drink as much as they liked. Even the women had fallen victims to this evil habit. I have seen them in a most pathetic condition. One who

has seen those scenes near the public bars will never support drinking.

African Negroes were not given to drinking originally. Liquor may be said to have simply ruined them. Large numbers of Negro labourers are seen to waste all their earnings in drinking so that their lives become devoid of any grace.

And what about Englishmen? I have seen respectable Englishmen rolling in the gutter under the effect of alcohol. There is no exaggeration in this statement. During the war many Englishmen had to leave the Transvaal. Some of them were taken in my home. One of them was an engineer and a good man in every way, when not under the effects of alcohol. He was a theosophist. Unfortunately, he was addicted to drink and lost all control over himself when he was drunk. He tried hard to give up the habit, but as far as I know he never succeeded.

On my return from South Africa to India, I had a similar painful experience of the evils of drink. Several Princes have been and are being ruined by liquor. What applies to them applies more or less to many a rich youth. The condition of labour as a result of taking alcohol is also pitiable. That as a result of such bitter experiences, I have become a staunch opponent of alcohol, will not surprise the readers.

In a nutshell, alcohol ruins one physically, morally, intellectually and economically.

## Library Grants to Gramasanghams

Recently Government have recognized Gramasanghams in Prohibition districts as being eligible for grants to libraries maintained by them. They have also relaxed the condition in favour of Gramasanghams in the prohibition districts that before a library applies for aid, it should have worked at least for a year and should have been inspected and satisfactorily

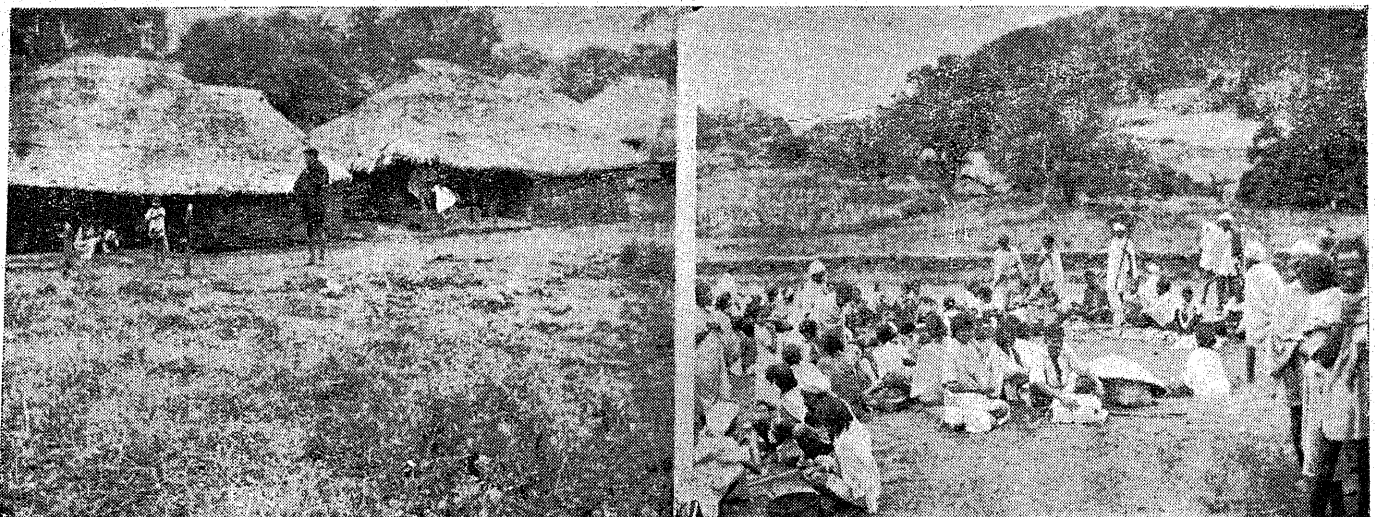
reported upon at least once by an Inspecting Officer of the Education department. The grant to the Gramasanghams will be subject to a maximum of Rs. 100 for each library maintained by them in the Prohibition districts. The Gramasanghams will provide the buildings, furniture and staff required for the library.

## Villages and Towns whose names have been changed

| <i>Previous name</i>            | <i>Present name</i>                   |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Kilvalur                        | Kilavelur                             |
| Shiyali                         | Sirkali                               |
| Tiravidamarudur                 | Tiravidaimarudur                      |
| * Tiruturaipundi                | Tiruturaipundi                        |
| * Arantangi                     | Arantangi                             |
| * Topputhurai                   | Topputhurai                           |
| Negapatam                       | Nagapattinam                          |
| Kariapatnam                     | Kariyapattinam                        |
| Adirampatnam                    | Adirampattinam                        |
| Anatandavapuram                 | Anandatandavapuram                    |
| Sermadevi                       | Cheranmahadevi                        |
| Conjeevaram                     | Kancheepuram                          |
| Bikshandarkovil                 | Bicchandarkovil                       |
| Trichinopoly                    | Tiruchirappalli                       |
| Minakshipuram                   | Meenatchipuram                        |
| * Mahadanapuram                 | Mahadanapuram                         |
| Bezwada                         | Vijayavada                            |
| Keelamangalam                   | Jayamangalam                          |
| Cochin                          | Fort Cochin                           |
| Mayavaram                       | Mayuram                               |
| Cocanada                        | Kakinada                              |
| Ellore                          | Eluru                                 |
| Kistna (district and river)     | Krishna                               |
| Oddakayapakkam                  | Kottakayapakkam                       |
| Patam (suffix in some villages) | { Pattinam (Tamil)<br>Patnam (Telugu) |
| Madura                          | Mathurai                              |
| Timnevelly                      | Tirunelveli                           |

\* The change is only in the Tamil spelling.

## Glimpses into Araku Valley



Residence of indigenous people of Araku Valley

A market day in Araku Valley

## IN THE SPHERE OF EDUCATION

### Education Reorganization Schemes

*(Continued from last issue)*

#### Collegiate Education

Coming to the matter of Collegiate education, it is a matter for the Universities. The Government had intended to take up the matter of reorganization of Collegiate education also and for that purpose, appointed an Expert Committee consisting of distinguished educationists of All-India reputation. In the meantime, a resolution was passed by the Central Advisory Board of Education requesting the Government of India to appoint a similar body. This Government understand that, in pursuance of that resolution, the Government of India are contemplating the appointment of a Commission to go into the matter of reorganization of Collegiate education. It is also expected that the Committee will go to work immediately and give their report within a year of their appointment. On the receipt of their report, such measures as may be necessary for the reorganization of Collegiate education will be taken up by this Government.

Research is an important aspect of education. While colleges have grown in number, along with them the number of students admitted into colleges and graduates going out of the colleges has also increased tremendously. But, there must be at least a few institutions in which work of a much higher calibre is done and research is organized. It is the intention of Government to make the Presidency College such an institution. With that end in view, on the advice of the University, the Intermediate classes in the Presidency College have been shifted to the Government Muslim College. The Government have also ordered the institution of a new chain of professors of a higher grade in the Presidency College. A committee consisting of representatives of institutions where high grade research is done and others is being appointed by Government to advise them as to the steps to be taken to convert the Presidency College into a high grade institution doing research.

The Government have also given grants (to Universities) to develop courses in new subjects such as

Atmospheric, Meteorology and other subjects in the Andhra University.

It is the intention of Government to have at least one college in every district so that people in the mufassal may have opportunities of sending their children to colleges. With this end in view, a Government College was opened in Cuddapah this year. All the other districts except the Nilgiris have now one or more colleges whether Government, local board or aided.

With a view to bringing the work of the Universities up to date, the Government have also taken up the amendments to the University Act. A committee was appointed by the Madras University for that purpose. On the report of the committee, the Syndicate and the Senate of that University considered the matter and their recommendations have been received by Government. The Government have, in their turn, appointed another committee to go into these amendments and the matter of introducing a Bill to amend the Madras University Act is under active consideration. Representations have also been received about the need for amending the Andhra and the Annamalai University Acts and these also will be taken into consideration in due course.

#### Technical Education

It is the policy of Government to encourage technical education as much as possible. Technical education may be of three kinds :

(1) That part of technical education which may be called pre-technological which is given in our reorganized technical high schools. These will provide subjects like Civil Engineering which have been provided for as bifurcated courses in high schools.

(2) The second type of institutions are the polytechnics. These are managed by the Industries Department and are catering for a higher standard than is contemplated in our technical high schools but lower than what are recognized by the Universities.

(3) The third category provides for technical education at the University

level in our Engineering Colleges. Before 1945 there was only one Engineering College in the Province. In 1945, the Arthur Hope College at Coimbatore was opened. In 1946, the Vizagapatnam College was established in Kakinada and the Anantapur Engineering College was opened at Madras. Early in this year the Anantapur Engineering College has been shifted to its own place in Anantapur.

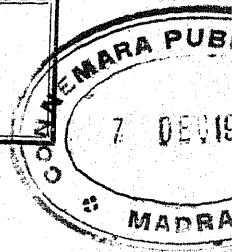
Originally there was provision only for the Basic Engineering courses of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical. In 1945-46, Highway Engineering and Electrical Communications were also introduced. It is proposed to provide for Textile Technology and Automotive Engineering in the Coimbatore College. The Government have also under consideration proposals to provide, Aeronautic, Naval and Public Health Engineering as courses of instruction in the Engineering Colleges.

With the increase in the number of colleges, the number of students in the Engineering Colleges has also been increased considerably. Before 1945, there was only one Government Engineering College and the number of students admitted each year was 125. In 1948-49, i.e., in the current year, the number of students admitted in the four Government Engineering Colleges are—

| Name of the college.                                       | Number of students. |
|--|---------------------|
| 1 College of Engineering, Guindy . . . . .                 | 125                 |
| 2 Arthur Hope College of Technology, Coimbatore . . . . .  | 75                  |
| 3 College of Engineering, Vizagapatnam, Kakinada . . . . . | 105                 |
| 4 College of Engineering, Anantapur . . . . .              | 75                  |

Thus, it will be seen that after this Government came to power both the number of colleges and the subjects provided in them have increased.

A suggestion has been made that the degree courses in the Engineering Colleges may be reduced from 4 years to



3 years. This matter was referred to the Technical Education Board. The Technical Education Board agreed that it is possible to reduce the period from 4 to 3 years without impairing efficiency and appointed a sub-committee to go into the matter in detail. The sub-committee reported on similar lines and the matter has now been referred to the various Universities. If this reduction in the period of the course is accepted, it is possible that we shall be able to admit nearly one-third more than we are admitting this year.

The matter of making our Engineering Colleges more efficient and up to date is also under consideration of the Government. A sub-committee of the Technical Education Board has been appointed to go into the matter and suggest ways and means for improving the efficiency of the colleges in various respects. On receipt of the report, the Government will take suitable steps in that direction.

### Adult Education

Now, coming to Adult Education, it is absolutely necessary that we should give attention to this aspect of education also. With adult suffrage as the basis of our Constitution, it is necessary to take up seriously the education of our masses. Till now, there has been no considered scheme of adult education in the Province. Originally, there were a few night schools in existence here and there but many of them were closed after some time. During the war, the Government actually discouraged these night schools.

Adult Education may be conceived in three parts—

- (1) *Adult literacy schools,*
- (2) *Institutions for adult education,*
- and
- (3) *The organization of a library system*

throughout the Province so that those who had already been educated may, through books, educate themselves further.

The Government have taken up all these three branches of adult education. The scheme of adult education adumbrated by Government provides for the opening of adult literacy schools throughout the Province. This is only the beginning. Numerous adult literacy schools are expected to be opened throughout the country through Government aid. Adult literacy work requires a different training from that given to teachers for teaching children in schools. And so, provision has been

made for the training of teachers for teaching in Adult Schools. Such training schools have been opened under the Adult Literacy programme chalked out by Government.

The Adult Education programme consists of two parts, one for youths and the other for adults. The direction of youths in proper channels is a very important aspect of work which also the Government must attend to. The citizenship training envisaged in the Adult Education programme seeks to give training not only to teachers on the new citizenship courses introduced in schools but also gives scope for young men and women through these courses, to learn to channelize the enthusiasm of young folk in social service and other beneficial activities. Provision has also been made for training workers in social service on Gandhian ideology. The syllabuses of these courses provide for a rural approach to the problems and give a basic grounding for such of those people as would like to take up service in the villages as a labour of love.

Provision has been made also for the starting of rural colleges throughout the Province. Syllabuses have been framed for these colleges in all the four regional languages. Two types of rural colleges have been evolved so that they may suit the needs of both men and women engaged in various activities. An examination will be held at the end of the two years' course when certificates of proficiency will be given. They have been put under grant-in-aid system so that as many institutions as may be needed may be started throughout the Province. It is expected that as time goes on, these rural colleges will supply the educational needs of various communities and professions throughout the Province.

Reference may be made here to the library legislation now pending before the Legislature. The library legislation provides for the establishment of well-organized libraries throughout the Province. Till now, the growth of the libraries has been haphazard. They have not been given proper direction. It is the intention of Government to develop a well-knit library organization throughout the Province as one of the main instruments of Adult Education. It is also the purpose of Government to develop a system of aided libraries so that scope for opening such libraries could be given wherever local people are forthcoming to start them. Local library authorities will be constituted under the Bill with statutory powers

enabling them to establish such libraries within their area and a central library will also be established at Madras under a Director of Public Libraries. This will also contemplate the bringing into existence of travelling libraries as well as using the libraries as far as may be possible for Adult Education purposes.

Provision has also been made for Visual Instruction under the Adult Education Scheme.

There are other schemes which are under the consideration of Government which have not been mentioned in the account given above. The most important of them are military training to be given to boys in schools and colleges; medical inspection in schools; provision for a film library so that the modern methods of instruction through films may be systematically developed in our schools, training of teachers for schools for defective children and starting of such schools, etc. These and other schemes are under the active consideration of Government and the Government expect to give their considered opinion in the matter in the near future. God willing, Government hope that by these measures they will be able to reorganize education on a sound basis so that the way may be paved for a great and glorious future for this great country.

### Locust Conference at Teheran

India's contribution to the control of desert locusts and its research in that line were emphasized at the seven-day Conference of locust experts from India, the Middle East, Pakistan and Iran, that has just ended at Teheran.

Dr. K. D. Baweja, India's representative at the Conference, outlined the activities of the desert locust in India between 1944 and 1948. He said that despite the serious infestation that occurred within Indian borders in 1944, 1945 and 1946, swarms of locusts were prevented from escaping beyond India and towards the West and Iran. Every year India had sent a locust mission to Oman territory.

Referring to the programme of work for the year 1948-49, Dr. Baweja indicated that it was intended to intensify vigilance in the desert area of Rajputana and to prevent an incipient swarm in that area.

## TOPICS OF THE DAY

### Waterways in the Province

"The Government are aware that schemes relating to Inland waterways though not directly productive are very important from the point of view of general development of the country and consider them as part of the schemes of economic development", observed Hon'ble Sri M. Bakthavatsalam in the course of a broadcast. He said :

"In South India, which has a long sea board of nearly 1,500 miles, water transport must certainly have preceded land transport for long distance trade and travel. Ancient Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam literature shows evidence of the existence of flourishing ports on the east and the west coasts and the existence of sea-faring craft. Vincent Smith says that Tamil States maintained powerful navies and were visited freely by ships from both east and west, which brought merchants of various places eager to buy the pearls, pepper, and other choice commodities of South India and to pay for them with gold, silver and hardware of Europe. The height of South Indian maritime power was reached during the time of Raja Raja the Great and his successor, Rajendra Chola, who was reputed to have reached the banks of the Ganges and hence known as Gangai-konda Chola. The famous Tamil works, Silapathikaram and Pattinappalai speak of the existence of boats built in the shape of a horse or an elephant. They were called Parimukambi or Kari-mukambi.

In one sense, the entire development of international navigation was based on the trade that South India was carrying on with Europe. It was the Venetians who carried on regular trade with the east and the west for some centuries. They bought spices, which were necessities and luxuries from the east and exchanged them against wool, cloth and metals of western Europe. How necessary were the spices may be seen from the fact that in Europe of those days, it was difficult, if not impossible, to maintain flocks and herds through winter and large numbers of them were killed and their flesh preserved by means of salt and spices for use in winter. Trouble came when in 1453, the Turks captured Constantinople and stood astride the land routes by which the spices of the east came to the Mediterranean and so the western nations started in search of a sea route to India and this led incidentally to the



discovery of America. The earliest ships built in Europe were known as "India Men." This illustrates how important waterways were in the ancient as well as the modern world.

Waterways are of two kinds, natural and artificial. The natural waterways are the oceans, the lakes and the navigable rivers. The artificial waterways are the canals built for purposes of trade as well as for irrigation.

#### Natural Waterways

South India enjoying a long sea board developed the sea routes to the east and the west to a great degree and carried on a flourishing maritime trade, till almost the advent of the British. Even now considerable coastal trade goes on the shores of the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. Apart from big steam ships, country coasters carry on transport of indigenous produce around our enormous coastline. Ours is a coastal province and this must be exploited to the best advantage. At present, we have three major ports and 35 minor ports in the province. The control of the major ports is with the Government of India while that of minor ports is in the hands of the

Government of Madras. The major ports are Vizagapatam and Madras on the east coast and Cochin on the west coast. Of the 35 minor ports, Kalingapatnam, Bimilipatam, Kakinada, Masulipatam, Cuddalore, Porto Novo, Tranquebar, Nagapattinam, Dhanushkodi, Tuticorin, Kulasekharapatnam on the east coast and Ponnani, Calicut, Tellicherry, Cannanore, Kasargode, Mangalore, Malpe and Kundapur on the west coast are of considerable importance. The conservancy of all the minor ports is vested in the Port department under the Presidency Port Officer. The bigger ports are in charge of Port Officers. The Port department which administers other minor ports is in charge of providing facilities for the safe entry and berth of vessels, for the levying and discharging of cargo, and for the embarkation and disembarkation of passengers and troops. For this purpose, they construct and maintain harbours and other accessories including the maintenance of lights and light houses.

#### Government Plans

There is a fund called Minor Port Fund and the Government have got a programme of post-war port works. The main items of this programme are the reconstruction of the wharf walls at the ports of Kakinada, Cuddalore and Nagapattinam; the construction or extension of the wharf walls at Adhirampatnam, Mangalore and Kundapur and the reconstruction of the dry dock and workshops at Kakinada, the strengthening of the existing piers at Calicut, the provision of modern lighting equipment at some ports and certain minor works at other ports. A sum of Rs. 4 lakhs has been sanctioned for the improvement of the port of Tuticorin. The Government have under consideration a scheme for the conversion of Tuticorin into a deep-sea port. The question of opening more minor ports in this province is under the active consideration of the Government. The object is to encourage coastal shipping which is by far the cheapest transport for indigenous coastal trade. Orders have already been issued for the improvement of the ancient ports of Nizampatnam in Guntur district and Narsapur in West Godavari district. The Government of India have been addressed for the opening of the port of Tranquebar in Tanjore district to foreign trade. The question of opening the port at Point Calimere for passenger traffic and trade with Ceylon is under the consideration of the Government. The proposal to cut a canal across

Rameswaram, so that steamers may not be put to the necessity of going round Ceylon has already been taken up with the Government of India. If this is accomplished, the coastal shipping of this country will be greatly benefited. The necessity for having another deep sea port between Cochin and Marmagao on the west coast is under the joint consideration of the Governments of Madras and India. It is likely that the Government of India will appoint another Technical Committee to examine the question of minor ports.

Among other natural waterways, South India has many rivers but few lakes of a navigable character. There is evidence in Tamil literature to show that the river Cauvery was navigable up to a point 100 miles above its mouth. Ancient Tamil ships were sailing up to Woraiyur, once capital of the Tamil kings, from the sea and carrying on national as well as international trade and transport. The Krishna and the Godavari rivers were also navigable and are even so to-day during flood seasons. The Krishna was navigable in ancient times up to Nagarjunakonda, which was once a great Buddhist centre of culture. When the Ramapadasagar project on the Godavari river is completed it will be possible to connect Vizagapatam harbour with Madras by canal.

#### Artificial waterways

Artificial inland water transport can be said to be almost unknown in South India until about 150 years. These were developed during British rule. The important waterways of this type in this presidency are the Vedaranniam canal in Tamil Nad, the west coast canals, the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal, the Buckingham canal and the canals in the Godavari and Krishna deltas. The Negapatam-Vedaranniam canal is the only inland waterway in the Tanjore district. Its total length is 35½ miles. The canal was largely used in the past both for goods and passenger traffic. But after the construction of the Tiruturaipundi-Agasthyampalli railway, the canal lost much of its importance as a means of communication. There is no passenger traffic now and only miscellaneous articles such as straw, cow dung, manure and firewood are transported by cargo boats plying in the canal. The lower reaches of the Harischandranadi, Adappar, the Chakkilamoikkal and the Nallar fall into the Vedaranniam canal and are open for navigation. There were small stretches of artificial canals on the west coast and these carried on inland trade and

transport of indigenous coconut and other produce.

By far the longest canal in the presidency with a romantic history is the Buckingham canal with a total length of 258 miles. This affords an easy and cheap mode of communication from the northernmost point of the Godavari canals to Madras and also to a point 62 miles further south. It is a coastal canal running through backwaters, depressions, low lying land and estuaries of all the rivers for this length. The construction of this canal took nearly 100 years and cost the then Government about Rs. 90 lakhs. It was completed in the later years of the 19th century. The canals in the Godavari delta extend to about 493 miles and those in the Krishna delta over 300 miles. All these, as I have already stated, are connected and thus place Madras City in direct communication by water with the deltas. The delta canals were primarily designed as irrigation works and are closed for from 1 to 3 months every year for repairs. The annual traffic carried by them amounts to some millions of tons. On some of these canals, the Government run small steamers for passenger traffic. The Cuddapah-Kurnool canal takes off from the right bank of the Tungabhadra river and passes through the towns of Kurnool, and Nandyal and ends at Cuddapah. Although the canal is nearly 190 miles long and was originally designed for navigation throughout its entire length, navigation had to be abandoned below the 73rd mile for want of traffic and only the first 73 miles are maintained for navigation. There is no passenger traffic in the canal. Even the goods traffic is very

limited and confined to fuel, cotton, groundnut and small quantities of foodstuffs.

The administration of these canals is carried on under an Act called the Canals and Public Ferries Act and the main provisions of it were adopted in 1890.

#### Conclusion

As a general rule, all the canals in the Presidency are in a somewhat primitive condition and cannot be maintained and worked efficiently as they are. Various improvements to these systems have been considered in the past to make the canals remunerative and to make the revenue realized from them at least equal to the working expenses. The canals received some attention during the war period when there was congestion on the railways. Some improvements were carried out and others were postponed for the post-war period and included in the 5-year plan. Some of these schemes are in the nature of improvements to the existing canals and these are quite necessary for their efficient working. With the growth of industries in the post-war period, there is bound to be a great demand for cheap transport particularly for certain commodities and Inland Waterways have an important role to play. The Government are aware that schemes relating to Inland Waterways, though not directly productive, are very important from the point of view of general development of the country and consider them as part of the schemes of economic development.

—By courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

## Our Life line—Railways

Recently Hon'ble Sri N. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar, Transport Member in the Dominion Government in the course of a broadcast, appealed to the public to appreciate the difficulties of the railway and pleaded for public co-operation. The following extract is taken from his talk :—

“The first railway in India was constructed about 100 years ago. To-day, the railways constitute the biggest nationalized industry in the country. Few, however, are conscious of how big it is. On the 1st of April this year there were 33,984 miles of railway in post-partition India including Indian States. An insignificant

length of 1,152 miles is still owned, and managed by private companies, which will also sooner or later be taken over by the State. But the rest is all owned by the nation and is administered by the Government of India, or by the Government of Indian States under the control, in essentials, of the Government of India. During the last year they carried across the country 969 million passengers and 66 million tons of goods. The total amount of capital invested in railways administered directly by the Government of India is of the order of Rs. 702 crores as on 31st March last. The total gross earnings



for the current year are estimated at Rs. 190 crores; and this estimate will not only be realized but, according to present indications, will probably be bettered by the end of the year. Railways pay to general revenues not only the full interest charges on the capital invested at the market rate, but for several years have paid a handsome share out of surplus profits.

There are available for service on the lines 7,565 locomotives, 15,500 passenger coaches of different kinds and 193,020 goods wagons of various descriptions. The number of persons employed, officers and men, is round about a million, which means that including their families, about five million persons depend directly on this vast, widely ramified industry.

Take passenger traffic. Compared to the year immediately preceding the war, the number of passengers which the railways now carry is 143.5 per cent more. Until more rolling stock, i.e., coaches as well as locomotives, is available to ensure that every passenger can get a seat at any time at any station on any train, some measure of overcrowding, I fear, will persist. Railways are proceeding as fast as resources permit in building coaches, and the recent decision of the Government to reduce the number of classes on trains from 4 to 3 is a step taken to ensure the maximum possible use made of the stock that is available. As an indication of the increase in passenger miles, I should like only to mention that, compared to 1938-39 which reported 13,456 million passenger miles, the figure for 1947-48 was 30,192 million miles, an increase of 124.4 per cent. The increase in the current year should be even greater.

Now let us turn to goods traffic. The tonnage of goods lifted in September 1948 was 5,052,000 representing an 18 per cent increase over the last twelve months."

In conclusion, the Hon'ble Member said: "I wish only to add in conclusion that the men who are labouring night and day to carry millions of men, women and children across the country and to transport millions of tons of goods from farm and factory to port, market and consuming area, deserve well of the country. What they have done during the last one year is an earnest of what they can accomplish in the future. If, therefore, on the railways, there is a slip here or a defect there, it is ordinary charity, if not justice, to remind yourself that similar

slips and defects abound elsewhere also. It is only right that we should

give each man, even a railway man, his due."

## Health Education

By health education we mean a system of training and instruction of pupils with a view to develop in them, the right attitudes and habits as well as a sound knowledge in the field of health. The educators of the present day have come to realize increasingly the importance of considering the welfare of the

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By SRI K. P. KUNCHU MENON,  
Headmaster, Government Secondary  
and Basic Training School for  
Women, Palghat.

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whole child, his physical and mental health, as well as his intellectual progress. Hence health has become all important in the present scheme of education.

Any plan of education should have a very important place for health education. Whatever objectives of education be accepted by society, we should remember that health maintenance aids individuals in the progress towards the realization of those aims. More than that, without health, the happiness of the individual, his economic value to society and the vitality and charm of his life may themselves be lost sight of.

### Objectives

The objective of the 'Nai Talim' (the new education) is the balanced and harmonious development of all the faculties of the child—the physical, the intellectual and the spiritual. It aims at a new way of life. The child has to be educated, self-dependent, self-supporting and at the same time a social being having strong faith in the efficiency of co-operative work. The very objectives of basic education are fundamentally based on the healthy upbringing of the child. Unless one is physically healthy there is no hope of improving his physical strength and capacity to do any productive work. Without a sound body there can be no sound mind. Unless one is mentally strong he will not be of any use to society even if he develops his intellect by literary education. Such an individual in his dilapidated temple of a body finds no scope for any spiritual advancement.

'Nai Talim' aims at building a society based on mutual help and co-operation. How can one be self-supporting if he is himself unhealthy in body and mind? He will not only be incapable of helping himself, but be a drag on society also. He will always need the help of his brothers and sisters to do his own work and to look after him. He will be doing a harm to society by himself becoming an agent in spreading disease. As the number of unhealthy persons in the world increases the number of diseases also increases day by day. As Bapuji himself has said "It is a great sin to be ill." The children of the new society we are going to build should help to eliminate disease from the face of the world.

The economic development of any society is affected by the health of its members. The progress of a society is proportional to the sum total of the amount of work its individual members turn out. Both the quality and quantity of work done by unhealthy members of a society will be very poor. Not only that, a good lot of finance spent on hospitals and their paraphernalia can be saved if the members of society become quite healthy. Economic, social and educational progress is impeded by ill-health. Illness worries the mind. Therefore the 'Nai Talim' should start with health education. Production of good literature, culture, and art all depend on a healthy mind working in a healthy body. A love of humanity, a life based on truth and non-violence, are impossible of attainment for one who is afflicted by poverty and ill-health.

Health education starts with cleanliness. A man is a man, only if he himself and his surroundings are kept clean. Cleanliness is next to Godliness. Dirt has no place in a human society. Dirt means anything out of place. Hence in an educated society everything should have its own place and orderliness and arrangement are essential in a healthy society. Cleanliness, orderliness and arrangement go side by side with any programme of health education. Bapuji himself was a great example for orderliness and arrangement in his physical, mental and spiritual environment.

As Sri Mashruwala says: "In the Segoan method, literacy (that is

information on various matters through reading and writing, and capacity to follow logical and Pseudological controversy) is not considered knowledge or even the medium of knowledge, but is regarded only as a symbolical representation of knowledge of accomplished ignorance".

It is not the study of health rules or the scientific or logical arguments as to why those rules are there, that is important in education, but it is the practice of such rules that is all important. Such learning from books without a lively attachment to the fact of healthy living is only symbolical representation of health knowledge and of accomplished ignorance of healthy life. Sri Mashruwala adds "The knowledge of these symbols is necessary and useful, if the source of knowledge are alive. It will be the aim of Segaoon Method to keep these sources alive. The means of doing so are observation experience, experiment, service and love. Without these, learning through book acts as a hindrance to the development of the spiritual and rational faculties of the students and also impairs their physique".

#### Conclusion

Let us therefore first help our children to see and observe the personal and environmental dirt all round and to study its dangers to society. Let them come into contact with the removal of the evil, in their daily life. Let them do work on cleanliness and nursing. Let them gain practical experience in handling the several articles of cleaning and nursing. Let them gain experience in such work day by day. Let their sources of health knowledge be kept alive by personal

contact with such experiences. Let them experiment on the ways and means of improving their present condition of the health of the members of their society. Let them find out by experiment how a balanced diet for an Indian villager ought to be prepared. Let them have practice in preparing that diet. Let them find out how clean meals can be prepared and served in villages. Let them practice it themselves. Let them do service to their village by village 'Safai' and village sanitation, village first aid and nursing. Let them by their service as such, learn to love humanity not in words, but in deeds. Let them not do lipservice, but do service by actual practice. This is sure to give them spiritual progress. This is what Basic Education should aim at. Children should first be taught by daily practice how to keep their body clean, how to keep their class room, school

and premises, the home and the village clean. They should be made to do village and school cleaning. They should be made to give first aid to actual sufferers and to nurse their brother students when they are in their sick-bed. They should investigate and find out the common ailments in their village and suggest prevention and cure. This is Health Education. Health Education without its co-existing 'safai', orderliness and arrangement and self-discipline these practices give, is useless and wasteful. Children should be taught in the classroom and outside the beauty and orderliness and arrangement in their work. They should be helped to appreciate nature and its infinite capacity in keeping its work orderly. This is true education and every institution for Basic Education should keep this aspect of Health Education quite alive.

NON-VIOLENCE in its dynamic condition means conscious suffering. It does not mean meek submission to the will of the evil-doer, but it means the putting of one's whole soul against the will of the tyrant. Working under this law of our being, it is possible for single individual to defy the whole might of an unjust empire to save his honour, his religion, his soul and lay the foundation for that empire's fall or its regeneration.

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I AM but a seeker after Truth. I claim to have found the way to it. I claim to be making a ceaseless effort to find it. But I admit that I have not yet found it. To find Truth completely is to realize oneself and one's destiny to become perfect. I am painfully conscious of my imperfections, and therein lies all the strength I possess because it is a rare thing for a man to know his own limitations.

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FREEDOM received through the effort of others, however benevolent, cannot be retained when such effort is withdrawn. In other words, such freedom is not real freedom.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

#### Village life snaps



Vepagunta school built by villagers

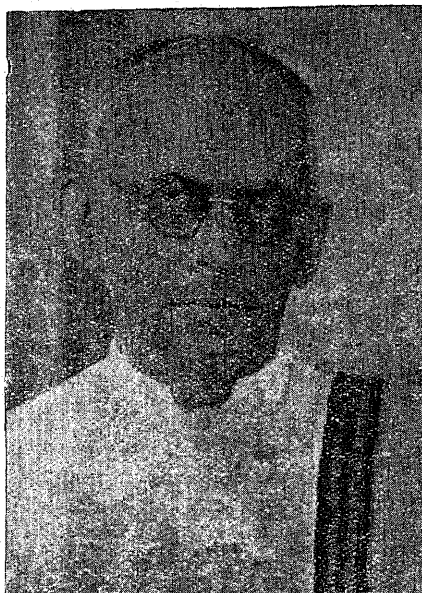
Fine Khadi spinners at Chitacole

Medical and Public Health Corner**Problems of the Future**

NOTE.—The position regarding medical and Public Health matters was surveyed by Hon'ble A. B. Shetty while speaking recently at the Conference of Health Officers and that under the Provincial Medical Association. As regards Public Health Problems he said among other things :

" Much of the sickness in our country is preventable. Here, as elsewhere an overwhelming majority of the diseases are due directly or indirectly to the lack of the elementary requirements of health, namely, proper food, safe water supplies, suitable housing and efficient sanitation. These essential conditions of healthy living are wanting in our villages and towns. There is nothing surprising if epidemics frequently occur among ill-nourished people living in unhygienic conditions. The first-world war was followed, as you know, by a great epidemic of influenza with all its respiratory complications. The second world-war has brought many major social disasters and among these the rise in the incidence of tuberculosis in Europe stands out prominently. The evil effects of this source of infection in the midst of the under-nourished, ill-clad and badly housed population of Central Europe and the steps needed to meet this disaster have become matters for anxious consideration to the United Nations Health Organization. With food deficit and the present overcrowding of dwellings due to the increased population in our towns we too are faced at present with new dangers to the health of our people. We are a century behind the times in our public health outlook and sanitary arrangements. Problems of housing, of food, of water-supply and drainage and of conservancy are awaiting to be tackled on modern lines. These public health services have to be built almost from their foundations in our country. Though the Public Health organisation is better developed in this province compared with the other provinces the health staff we have been able to provide is too inadequate to meet the needs of the situation. We have yet to start a public health engineering service for dealing with water supply and drainage schemes which have to be put in the forefront of our health programme."

The Honourable Minister then referred among other things to the importance of providing pure drinking water in rural parts and maternity and Child Welfare work. Continuing he said : " The health staff must take every opportunity to impress upon the



people that their physical welfare depends above all upon the houses and surroundings in which they live, the food they eat and the water they drink. Your attention must be directed primarily to these pre-requisites of healthy living. You must see that at least a few people in a village build model cottages with sufficient light and air, keep their surroundings in a sanitary condition, put up good latrines and keep their drinking water wells free from contamination. Examples of this sort will have much better effect than mere exhortation and advice. It is necessary that your health staff should acquire the newer knowledge of nutrition so that they may educate the people in the choice of food and in the safeguarding of articles of food and drink from adulteration and contamination.

**A Few Details**

It is a common sight to see people answering the calls of nature on the side of roads and lanes and the banks of streams and rivers. The sales of eatables on the roadside exposed to dust and flies are also frequently seen. You will have to put down such unhealthy habits and practices by enforcing the legal provisions in the Public Health Act. Provision of sanitary conveniences in sufficient number is very essential. Septic tank or water

borne types of latrines are not found at present even in many of the Government and public buildings, theatres, schools, hospitals and travellers' bungalows. I am interested to know that the District Health Officer of Salem will put before you a simple and cheap design of latrine which does not require daily attention. The Food Minister of the Central Government has drawn attention at the Agmark Ghee Conference at New Delhi last month to the wide practice of the adulteration of ghee and the inadequacy of the steps taken at present to put down this evil. It is proposed to amend our Food Adulteration Act with a view to raise the penalty for offences against its provisions. The proposal to set up regional laboratories with a view to extend facilities for water and food analysis and for diagnostic investigation and control of communicable diseases is awaiting implementation. If our bigger municipalities could follow the examples of Madras and Madura and establish their own public health laboratories it would be a great help. By exercising proper control over contamination of water supplies and the adulteration of foodstuffs, valuable preventive work can be done. Stricter supervision over hotels, sweetmeat shops, bakeries and aerated water factories, more frequent inspection of rice mills and closer watch over the quality of milk, ghee and oil supplied to the people has been enjoined on you by the Director of Public Health in a recent circular. These instructions should be faithfully carried out by the Health staff to the extent possible.

A considerable amount of ill-health is due to sheer ignorance. Vastly extended and improved education in matters of health is one of the most important tasks facing those concerned with preventive medicine. This education in health should be given not only to the children in schools but to all age groups and by every vehicle available to us at present such as the press, the radio, the movies, etc. The celebration of "Health Weeks" will help to develop the health consciousness and promote formation of health habits. Exhibitions should be arranged as frequently as possible at fairs and festivals. Let people see



models of sanitary wells, improved types of latrines and demonstrations in spraying for destruction of mosquitoes.

The Health Officers have been told that they should not confine themselves to routine work, that each officer should study the health problems peculiar to his area and interest himself in some particular kind of work which would be of most benefit to the people of the locality. It may be anti-malarial work in one place, the eradication of guinea worm disease in another, the prevention of the spread of leprosy in a third place and so on. The Health Officers are required to send periodical reports of the progress made in

carrying out such work and to leave notes on the matter to their successors when they go on transfer. Government propose to help local bodies who carry on anti-mosquito work, for combating filariasis, by giving one-third grant in endemic area and one-fourth grant in other places. In combating epidemics and in your campaign for the improvement of public health, you must attempt to get the co-operation of the medical men in your area and you must also secure wider public support.

#### Conclusion

The battle against disease is not to be fought solely by medicines and

preventive inoculations. The improvement of environmental conditions and the raising of nutritional standards are the principal factors in preventing disease and maintaining the national health. There must be a simultaneous advance in several nation-building activities if you are to improve the living standards of the people and raise the level of national health in this country. Improvement of agriculture, development of industries, spread of education, extension of communications, building up of the economic life of the people—this is the wider problem which has a bearing on the health of the individual and the community.

## II

“The problem we have to tackle . . . . is how to improve the quality as well as the distribution of medical care in the Province” observed the Hon’ble Minister speaking at the Provincial Medical Conference. He said *inter alia* :

“The doctor of the future will be called upon not only to diagnose and cure disease but to deal with all the health needs of human beings. The public still think of doctor as some one to consult in times of sickness only. The present system of calling in a doctor when a person is ill and paying him for attending on the patient has been condemned on the ground that it is likely to create in doctors a vested interest in disease. The more rational thing to do is to employ doctors as whole-time servants of the State and make them responsible for the health of the people living in their area.

Medicine and surgery have made greater advance during the last 40 years than in all the preceding centuries. To-day medical science has placed in your possession well-attested remedies for the radical treatment of several diseases. You have a host of scientific aids to help you in correct diagnosis. It is said that the British and American Armed Forces have never been so well looked after and medicine has never made such a contribution to victory as during the last war. Typhoid, typhus and tetanus were practically eliminated from the fighting areas. Vast numbers of the badly wounded were made fit for civilian life and often sent to fight again by employing new treatments and improved surgical techniques with the aid of chemotherapy, blood transfusion, etc. Plastic surgery has achieved wonderful results in correcting deformities, getting crippled persons on to their feet, removing disfigurements and

restoring beauty. The use of mepacrine, paludrine and D.D.T. has been of great help in combating malaria. The mental disorders caused in soldiers by fear, fatigue and injuries have been treated with considerable success by medical psychologists. The health record in the British as well as the American Armed Forces was so good in World War No. 2 that it must be considered as an outstanding achievement. Even apart from the results seen during war time, the labours of health and medical workers in Britain and America have great achievements to their credit. A review of the last 100 years shows that they have brought about a gradual decline in the major epidemic diseases. Motherhood has become safer, childhood healthier, mortality rates have been reduced and people live longer and healthier lives. The health and medical services in our country cannot boast of any such accomplishment. We have to grapple with the problems created by poverty and ignorance. There is so much of sickness in the country that we cannot hope to provide for the medical care of more than a small fraction of the people who require hospital treatment. A reduction in the demand for curative treatment can only be secured by neutralizing the adverse effects of the social, economic and environmental factors which are the main causes of the low level of health in our country. The medical outlook is changing and broadening. The increasing emphasis on the preventive aspects of medicine, the development conception of social medicine, the greater attention paid

to psychological factors in medicine and the emergence of the idea of ‘positive health’ are but symbols of this changing outlook.

The major causes of preventable disease in our country are bad housing, insanitary surroundings, lack of safe water-supply, malnutrition and ignorance. Most of our troubles may in the last analysis be traced to the economically backward condition of the majority of the people in this country. The masses are chronically undernourished. They live huddled together in overcrowded dwellings. Their habits are unhealthy. What these poor debilitated people primarily need is a reasonable house and good feeding rather than a bottle of medicine. Till we are able to provide for them these essential and minimum needs of life, our towns and villages will continue to be factories for supplying cases to our hospitals and dispensaries. We must attack the problem of ill-health at the root instead of trying to cure and patch up after the damage has been done.

#### Preventive medicine

In the development of preventive medicine in the west the first phase was the improvement of the environment with a view to provide the basic conditions of healthy living. The second phase was immunisation by the use of sera and vaccines to give protection against certain infectious diseases. What may be regarded as the third stage has come now. It seeks to prevent deviations from health from

whatever cause and keep human beings at their best. The term 'constructive medicine' as against remedial or preventive medicine has come into vogue. This type of medicine has for its objective the active construction of greater health. The Peckham Health Centre in England has done pioneering work in this new field. No individual is wholly 'normal', much less can anyone be said to be in the fullest possible health. Ninety per cent of the people who came in first to this centre were found at the first overhaul to have some physiological defect or aberration. They were people who were going about their daily work either unaware of anything being wrong or they didn't mind it. Many conditions easily curable in their initial stages are, by delay in obtaining treatment, converted into chronic and incurable diseases. The Peckham Centre experiment has demonstrated the importance of the earliest possible detection of slight departures from normal health and of the prompt initiation of measures for their arrest. Periodic health examination is necessary for this purpose. Such examination makes it possible to detect illness at an incipient stage and prevent it from establishing itself and becoming intractable at a later stage. It also gives an opportunity to teach the patient how he should live and how he should regulate his diet, work and rest. Medical men as well as the lay public have been slow to recognize in practice the need for a periodic health overhaul like the one they have at the Peckham Health Centre. The attention of doctors has hitherto been directed much more to the diagnosis and treatment of established diseases rather than to the detection and correction of early and slight departures from health. Periodic health examination done in a thorough way will come to be regarded as the number one task in the future strategy of personal preventive medicine.

Chronic diseases are often due to neglect or ineffective treatment in early stages. They are the cause of a tremendous amount of illness and invalidity. The chronically sick occupy a large proportion of the beds in our hospitals. They are a drain on the resources of the family and of the State. We have yet to provide homes for the convalescent and hospitals for incurables. Many poor patients are discharged from our hospitals even though they may still require medical care. When they return home and resume work a relapse takes place and the illness assumes a worse form. Patients who recover

from serious illness or from infectious fevers are often in a run down condition. They are hardly in a fit state to resume their normal occupation. It is a sad mistake to ignore the need for after-care work for such discharged patients. In the case of T.B. patients, for instance, it often happens that patients restored to health by proper treatment are compelled by force of circumstances to return to the same work and the same conditions which led to their breakdown in health.

Rehabilitation has long been neglected. In war time it became a military necessity and it was demonstrated that the physical and emotional rehabilitation of persons disabled by disease, accident or maladjustment is possible. The provision of a useful satisfying occupation suitable to disabled conditions is a psychological factor of great value in regaining and maintaining health. The development of rehabilitation will, therefore, become an essential part of preventive medicine in future.

#### Outstanding problems

Medical science has still many worlds to conquer. The outstanding problems which contemporary medicine has to tackle are the insidious, degenerative diseases which are common in the later years of life. These have been called Fifth Column diseases because they arise from within and remain hidden until they have done irreparable damage. Cancer and group of cardiovascularrenal diseases have become the major killing affections. They take a heavy toll of the age-groups beyond 45 or 50. Medicine will have to find ways and means of stemming the ravages of these progressive disorders, which make old age a tragedy. Treatment of cancer by the best available methods of modern medicine has made little progress in our country. The study of the diseases of old age will have to receive greater attention and become a speciality of medicine in future as pediatrics is to-day.

By eliminating preventable illness and arresting the progress of other diseases in their early stages we can reduce the burden of national sickness. The problem we have to tackle in regard to medical relief is how to improve the quality as well as the distribution of medical care in the Province. It is the people in cities that benefit most by medical progress. The people in rural areas are medically under-privileged. Medical practice of a high standard requires facilities for

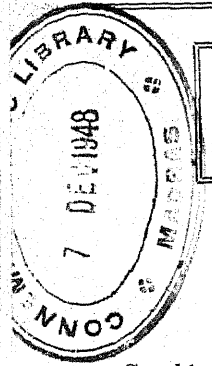
diagnosis and therapy which are available only in urban areas. Good doctors are, therefore, unwilling to settle down in rural areas which are unattractive also on account of low income and the lack of amenities of civilized life. The paucity of scientific medical aid in rural areas is not a feature peculiar to this country. Even in Britain and America they are said to be experiencing a similar difficulty.

#### Conclusion

Medical science has revealed many of the causes of disease and it has opened the way for a more rational therapy. Medicine is now in a phase of rapid advance. Unless medical practitioners remain students throughout life, eager to learn and improve their art, their practice will fall behind the times and they will become back numbers. Many of the medical men in mufussal places stagnate and get into a groove. They must read books and journals, visit hospitals where they can observe the latest technique and seek opportunities to come into contact with the best men of the profession. Those who have an aptitude for higher studies should undergo post-graduate training and specialize in some branch of medicine or other. Occasionally they must go abroad to get into touch with the new development in medicine and surgery. In a free India, medical men will have to play a large part in the work of preserving and improving national health. Administrative measures of vast magnitude will be required to raise the level of public health in this country. A National Health Service like the one just established in Britain providing comprehensive medical care for all members of the community will no doubt be the goal towards which we should strive to go. The cost of such an undertaking will be prohibitive for us at the present time; but when we can afford it, it will be an investment which is sure to yield high dividends in health, happiness and efficiency in work.

#### Eighth All-India Cattle Show

The Executive Committee of the All-India Cattle Show Committee has decided to hold at Delhi the Eighth All-India Cattle Show from February 28th to March 5, and the Fifth All-India Poultry Show on March 3-5, 1949.



## FLASHLIGHTS

### Co-operation in Daily Life

#### Sri Chandramouli's Exhortation

Speaking on the occasion of the International Co-operators' Day Hon'ble Sri Chandramouli dealt with the manifold advantages of Co-operation and said :

"I am glad to be able to give you today an example of how this principle of self-help and mutual help has been put into force during the last one year between our Province and Ceylon, in spite of the Gulf of Mannar which separates us. People in Ceylon needed our onions and our turmeric for their consumption and we on this side of the Gulf were in need of a good market for these products. Consumers there and producers here agreed to help one another and the Government of India gave their blessings to such a co-operative enterprise by issuing the necessary permits. Five hundred tons of onions have been supplied already by the Dindigul Co-operative Sale Society to the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment in Ceylon and 1,100 tons more are being shipped to the Co-operatives in Ceylon by that society and the sale societies at Proddatur and Tadpatri. The Gobichettipalayam Sale Society shipped 35 tons of turmeric to the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment in Ceylon valued at over half a lakh of rupees. The Provincial Handloom Weavers' Society has exported 13 lakhs of yards of handloom goods to Burma, Malaya, Singapore and Ceylon, and nearly 12 lakhs of yards to Pakistan and East Bengal, although only a small number of the importers of handloom cloth in these other countries were co-operative institutions.

It is gratifying to observe that consumers of our handloom goods are organizing themselves into co-operatives in most of these countries and that our own Provincial society seeks to aid such organizations.

It is my fond hope that co-operative institutions of this Province will develop more and more business with other countries and establish the fact that co-operation is international not only in concept but also in practice.



#### Caste and Co-operation

Coming to our own country, the cosmopolitan character of co-operation has to be emphasized a great deal more than is generally being done now. There is no reason why the Scheduled Castes and the Backward Classes should be segregated into co-operative societies of their own. Although efforts are being made here and there to merge them in co-operative societies open to all communities, the progress in this direction is still meagre. It seems to me that there are few people of the higher castes who are opposed to accommodating the lower castes in one and the same co-operative institution. The difficulty seems rather to lie with the people of the lower castes themselves who in several cases appear to be anxious to preserve their separate identity. To both the upper and the lower castes, I would make an appeal in the name of Co-operation to seek their common welfare in common co-operative societies.

#### Rural Credit Societies

A step in this direction would probably be the multi-purpose co-operative society in each village.

Although every one of our rural co-operative credit societies is a multi-purpose society according to its constitution, very few of them have adopted other functions than credit. The distribution of foodstuffs, cloth and groundnut cakes through these rural credit societies has been a great help in making these societies take to other activities besides credit. But if more and more rural credit societies are to assist the rural population in more directions than credit, the control orders which have helped in this transformation alone will not suffice. Co-operators in rural credit societies themselves should make up their minds to assist their fellowmen in more directions than one and toil for this object.

It is gratifying to observe that wherever the controlled credit scheme has been adopted, marketing panchayatdars in rural credit societies have helped their members in collecting their produce, in transporting them to the nearest sale society and in disposing them off there at favourable prices. During the year 1947-48, 578 rural credit societies collected and disposed off agricultural produce in this manner. Although control orders which regulated prices of foodgrains were an obstacle to the promotion of this activity, the volume of business done, which largely relates to commercial crops, is a pointer to the possibilities of this line of activity. With a view to aid non-credit activities of this variety in rural credit societies, it was decided at a conference of co-operators held in September 1947 that the strength of the supervising staff should be increased from one supervisor for every 25 or 30 societies to one supervisor for every 15 societies. I am glad to inform you that this recommendation is actively under the consideration of Government and a decision will be reached very soon.

A more elaborate form of multi-purpose co-operative societies in villages has been recommended by the Registrar and the by-laws relating to them are now under the consideration of Government. It has been decided that these societies should be established in three of the firkas under the Firka Development Scheme, viz., Tirumangalam Firka (Madura district), Dondalur Firka (West Godavari district) and Kumbha Firka (South Kanara district). The experience gained by the working of these societies, it is hoped, will lead the way for people in other areas adopting similar types of societies.

### Land Colonization

The rural credit societies situated in the Pattukottai taluk of the Tanjore district served by the Cauvery-Mettur Project and the land colonization societies scattered all over the Province are two remarkable examples of how more activities than credit could be discharged by co-operatives situated in villages. Twenty rural credit societies have reclaimed 2,768 acres of land and brought them under cultivation. They have erected 8 godowns into which are gathered the produce on these lands and in which articles in domestic need are also distributed to the members. One of them has introduced even Khadi spinning. Thirty-six land colonization societies have settled 3,725

people on land. They have brought 10,082 acres of land under cultivation. Some of them have introduced mat-weaving, sheep-breeding and poultry farming. The success obtained with these societies has given rise to the evolution of a new form of land colonization society which is intended not exclusively for poor landless labourers but jointly for Pattadars and field labourers. The registration of one such society at Marudur in Trichinopoly district is under the active consideration of Government and I hope that when it is approved many more such societies will be registered in the Province. They are expected not only to improve agricultural production but also to promote happy relations between landholders and field-labourers.

### Libraries

"I visualize the library of the future not as a collection of books but as a live and vigorous cultural centre which would not be content with the issuing of books but will also try to organize various kinds of literary and cultural activities suited to the needs and psychology of the people. It should be a centre where lectures are organized, informal talks are given, discussion groups are held and, whenever possible, the media of mass education like films, various types of graphic illustrations and the radio are utilized for the education of the people," observed the Premier of Bombay, while laying the foundation stone of the Bandra National Library Building, recently.

### Weaving and Occupational Therapy

It would interest the readers to know what an eminent American author, Mr. Ralph Borsodi, who is a critical student of modern movements, has to say about weaving :—

"Weaving is one of the favoured methods of 'Occupational Therapy' in the ever-increasing number of institutions for nervous and mental disorders which we are erecting all over the country. The strain of repetitive

work in factories and offices, and the absence of creative and productive work in our homes, particularly for women, children and the aged, is turning us into a race of neurotics. Weaving is being revived after a fashion, as a therapeutic measure to restore these unfortunates to health. What a ghastly commentary upon what we have called 'progress'. Having taken the looms out of homes during the

past century and transferred them to factories, we now find that the absence of the creative work they used to furnish is producing an ever-increasing number of neurotic men and women, and an endless number of 'problem' children. So our physicians are putting the loom into their institutions in order to make the victims of this deprivation well again.

Shall we learn wisdom from such experiences or choose to learn it only when we face the wall?

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*Agricultural Notes***Soil Mechanics in India**

From times immemorial soil has been used as a material of construction. Its complex behaviour has not been properly understood in the past. It was Russia that first established that to anticipate soil behaviour properly, it is necessary to study soils in the laboratory as well as in the field. In India, soil laboratories are rapidly being set up in different places. This is a good augury at a time when the country is embarking on large scale projects in roads, airfields, dams, canals and buildings.

The Central Board of Irrigation under the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power, Government of India, have recently brought out a new publication entitled "Standards For Testing Soils (Tentative)" which aims at bringing about uniformity of practice in the study of soil mechanics throughout the country.

The publication is the result of the labours of a Committee appointed by the Board with representatives of the Railway Board, the Roads Organization and the Army on it. The publication will prove useful to all research workers and engineers who are engaged on large projects of roads, dams, canals and buildings where local soils have to be used extensively.

**Research in America and Russia**

The complex behaviour of soil in structures and under foundations has not been properly understood in the past. Important failures due to the presence of unsuitable soil in structures and subgrades have, for want of a scientific approach to the subject, been time and again erroneously attributed to bad workmanship.

America was the first country to attempt a scientific study of soils in the laboratory. It was in Russia, however, where it was first established that to understand and anticipate properly soil behaviour, it was absolutely necessary to study the soils in the laboratory as well as in the field. America recognized this very important side of soil research and from 1926 onwards, launched a drive for the development of the subject of soil mechanics on a scientific basis.

Since then, other countries have also concentrated on the scientific study of soil and the subject has now reached such a state of progress that the use

of soil as a cheap substitute for more expensive materials of construction is practicable. It is also possible to allocate correct bearing values to different soils, instead of having to depend on orthodox empirical values, which in most cases allow a wasteful factor of safety.

India is embarking on large-scale projects in roads, airfields, dams, canals, buildings, etc., and in most of these projects it should be possible to economize greatly by an intelligent use of local soils. This calls for a scientific study of soils. With this object in view, soil laboratories are rapidly being set up in all parts of India. The literature on soil analysis is scarce and different systems being followed in different laboratories. The few existing laboratories in India are being asked constantly by authorities wanting to start new soil laboratories, for advice regarding tests to be carried out and apparatus to be employed.

It has been recognized that if full advantage is to be obtained of research carried out in different laboratories,

there should be uniformity of practice, so that results can be compared and collaborated. With this object in view, the Central Board of Irrigation got together all the organizations in India engaged on soil research and set up a permanent committee for the standardization of soil testing methods and apparatus. The Committee appointed by the Board includes representatives of the Central Board of Irrigation, the Indian Roads Congress, the Railway Board, the Indian Army and the Ministry of Transport, Government of India.

The Committee decided that the need for uniform standards for the whole country was so urgent that a directive should be issued as quickly as possible after studying whatever information, on the various standard tests and apparatus in vogue, was readily available. It was recognized, however, that amendments to the directive would have to be issued from time to time, in the light of experience to be gained in India and abroad.

In the publication are included methods for the testing of soils, as required for different engineering works as recommended by the Committee. It has been recommended that these methods should be followed, as far as possible, in soil laboratories throughout the country so that full benefit can be derived from comparison of results. The publication is divided into six chapters and includes 24 different tests, some of which are based on American practice and some evolved in India. It is illustrated with drawings, photographs of the apparatus recommended and gives worked-out examples and tables. The standards and methods recommended are only tentative and are proposed to be amended from time to time on the basis of further research and experience gained in future.

**Manures and Manuring**

To maintain the productive capacity of a soil, addition to it of manure in one form or another has been recognised as essential in all countries.

By DR. J. A. DAJI

One of the best known methods to do it is the age-old use of farmyard manure. Practical experiment has

demonstrated that this is, generally speaking, the most valuable manure for maintaining the fertility of the soil. Composed as it is of vegetable substances mixed with animal excreta, it contains all the elements required by the growing plant.

Another method for maintaining solid productivity is the practice of green manuring. It consists in the incorporation into the soil of vegetation, of various kinds. It was in use in



China thousands of years ago. From there it seems to have spread to other countries, and is, at present, very widely employed. The Chinese, however, compost the material with nightsoil before applying it to the land.

### Artificial Fertilizers

These two manures, in addition to bones, were almost exclusively employed in Europe until about the beginning of the nineteenth century. The application of the science of chemistry, which was making great strides there at that time, to the study of the problems of plant nutrition led to the use of artificial fertilizers. It was shown by means of chemical analysis that plants absorbed certain mineral substances like soda, potash, phosphorus and lime from the soil for their nourishment and growth. Liebig, the great German Chemist, argued that in order to maintain the fertility of the soil, these mineral substances should be returned to it in the form of manure. He showed that almost all the soils contained these mineral substances in sufficient quantities for the requirement of the crop; only the elements of nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid were lacking. Accordingly, he advocated the use of chemicals containing these three elements and showed by field experimentation that large increases in crop yields could be obtained by application to the soil of suitable doses of certain chemicals.

### Prosperity for West

The chemical fertilizers were at first looked upon with suspicion. Some of the progressive farmers in Europe, however, took to them and were convinced, before long, of their potentialities. As years rolled by, the use of artificial fertilizers became firmly established. Several factories were started in Europe and in America for their manufacture. This brought in a period of prosperity to agriculture and to the farmers.

It took some time, however, to realize that these artificials were not an unmixed blessing. In some cases they were found to spoil the land. In others it was noticed that the quality of the crop had deteriorated to some extent by their continuous use. More recent researches have, however, shown that there is no cause for apprehension if these fertilizers are used judiciously.

In India, too, the importance of manures and manuring was recognized

from time immemorial. Mention has been made in old scripts of the use of animal excreta and animal and vegetable products of various types like bones, fish, etc., for obtaining higher yields. Owing to various reasons, the animal products fell into disuse, and the only manure that is in general use in this country to-day is the farmyard manure. The wasteful methods of preserving animal excreta and the increasing use of cattle dung as fuel soon limited the scope and utilization of this manure. The result was that the fertility of the soil fell to a low level. The Indian cultivator was by no means ignorant of the value of manures; yet he was slow in adopting improved methods of preparing and conserving this most valuable manure and to use it to the best advantage. This was the state of affairs in which Dr. J. A. Voelcher found Indian agriculture as a result of his survey during 1890-93, when he was deputed by the Government of India to make an inquiry into and give advice on the possible means of improving agriculture in the country.

### Experiments

Encouraged by the progress made by the farmers in Europe and America through the use of artificial fertilizers and application of scientific knowledge to the practice of preserving and utilizing manures, experiments were conducted by the Agricultural Departments in India to demonstrate the practicability of obtaining increased yields by similar means. Some of the first experiments were made in Bombay Province as far as 1896. These were laid out on various types of soil and tried on different crops. The results were published in the annual reports of the Agricultural Department. They succeeded to a certain extent in showing how increased yields of some of the important crops of the Province could be obtained by the application of certain manures, or of combinations of manures. But the full import of these experiments was not brought out till some years later, when the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, on the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India, deputed a special scientist to collect, study and correlate the results of these experiments.

As a result of this inquiry, which covered a period of 35 years (1896-1931) some very important and interesting information was brought to light. All possible information, such as the yield of the crop and the price obtained for it,

the amount and cost of manure or manures applied, the type of soil on which the experiment was carried out, the duration of the experiment, climatic factors, net profit or loss, etc., was collected. Finally, the results were subjected to statistical analysis to find out how much of the increased yield was due to chance variation or variation due to soil heterogeneity.

When these experiments were first laid out, the science of field experimentation was not well developed. In fact, the modern technique of field experimentation was unknown in the Province until about the year 1928, when randomized replicated plots, according to Fisher's technique, were laid out for the first time. In spite of this great drawback, the data of some of the experiments conducted for several years gave consistently the same trend of results. The data presented in the report are too numerous and exhaustive to be included in this short article. For details one must refer to the original publication. A brief summary giving some of the salient features of the conclusions arrived at is given below.

### Effective Manures

Farmyard manure was found to be the most important manure. It proved to be beneficial to almost every crop on which it was tried. Jowar, rice, maize, groundnut, cotton, chillies and sugarcane were all benefited immensely by the addition of two to ten tons of this manure an acre.

Poudrette and nightsoil proved better than farmyard manure at certain places. Sugarcane at Arbhavi, cotton-jowar rotation at Surat, bananas at Poona and jowar-cotton rotation at Dharwar responded well to this manure. It, however, failed with rice at Ratnagiri. About five to ten tons of this manure an acre is a suitable dose.

Green manuring with sunn-hemp was found useful for increasing the yield of rice at Dohad, of sugarcane at Baramati, Manjri and Kopergaon and of tobacco at Nadiad. In the case of tobacco, not only did it increase the yield, but gave a much higher net profit for the two years it was tried. Green manuring with the leaves of trees like *karanj*, *rui*, etc., also gave encouraging results with rice at Karjat, Ratnagiri, Alibag and Kumta.

Oil-cake was used as manure at a number of places. They are quick-acting concentrated manures, and so are generally used as top-dressing.

Sugarcane at Arbhavi, Varamati, Manjri, Kumta and Kopergaon, rice at Ratnagiri, cotton at Dhulia, jowar at Kopergaon, maize at Arbhavi, tobacco at Nadiad and bananas at Poona have all been benefited by oil-cake.

Animal products like bone-meal and fish gave good results whenever these were tried. Bone-meal seems to be beneficial to rice in the Konkan and to bananas and figs at Poona. Fish manure also gave increased yields of rice at Alibag and Ratnagiri, and of sugarcane at Arbhavi, Kumta and Manjri.

Sewage effluent from septic tanks was tried at Poona on a number of crops like sugarcane, lucerne, guinea grass, jowar, turmeric, groundnut, etc. In almost all cases, it increased the yield even more than what farmyard manure or poudrette did. It also gave very high net profits for almost every crop.

#### The Best Artificial Fertilisers

Amongst the artificial fertilizers, none has given as good results as sulphate of ammonia. Rice and sugarcane have been benefited by this manure at almost every place. Like all other concentrated fertilizers, this manure can only be used as a top-dressing. The beneficial effect of this fertilizer was, however, fully shown when it was used in conjunction with organic manures. A proper dose for sugarcane was worked out at many places, and it was found that, under the Deccan conditions, a mixture of oil-cake and sulphate of ammonia, supplying 150 lb. nitrogen in equal amounts, was the most suitable and economical top-dressing. For rice, it was found that it was better to give sulphate of ammonia in two or three doses at suitable stages of crop growth than to give the whole quantity at a time. Recent experiments have shown that crops like cotton, jowar, wheat, etc., also respond well to this fertilizer. Next to sulphate of ammonia amongst other nitrogenous fertilizers, nitrate of soda has been found useful for sugarcane and rice.

Phosphatic manures, like superphosphate and rock phosphate, sometimes showed advantage for rice. Other crops, like jowar, chillies and sugarcane, did not respond at all. Sulphate of potash has benefited crops like chillies, and tobacco in particular.

#### How they should be used

From a study of these experiments, it seems that organic manures like farmyard manure, poudrette, green

manure, etc., are very useful. They not only increase crop yields but also maintain the fertility of the soil at a high level and keep it in good "heart" when applied regularly. Among the artificial fertilizers, sulphate of ammonia has been found to be very useful for a variety of crops. One great lesson that these experiments have taught is that artificial fertilizers should always be given to a soil that has been well supplied with organic matter. They also require sufficient quantities of water to show their best effects.

As bone-meal is very costly, experiments were made in order to evolve a method whereby this material or bone-powder could be prepared locally and at a low cost. After many trials, a simple method was evolved which facilitated the breaking and powdering of bones with perfect ease. It consisted in half-charring the bones so as to make them brittle. Bones are put in alternate layers with material like cotton stalks, tree-loppings, *kadbi* refuse, or any other farm waste that can burn easily. A small heap is thus prepared which is then lighted. When the bones have charred sufficiently not completely, they are allowed to cool, and then put in a country *chunam ghani* in which they are crushed and powdered easily. The price of the finished product thus obtained is much less than that of bone-meal available in the market. This method has been well received throughout the

Province. When it is moistened with cattle urine, bone-powder forms an excellent manure for fruit trees and for crops like sugarcane, rice, etc.

Another development that has taken place in the Province during the last few years is the preparation of synthetic farmyard manure and compost. It has been shown that both these manures can be prepared very successfully from ordinary materials available in a cultivator's field. Waste farm refuse like straw, stalks, leaves, etc., could be converted into a useful manure, very much like the ordinary farmyard manure, if they are mixed with cattle urine or sulphate of ammonia or any other material containing soluble nitrogen and then allowed to rot. The manure so prepared is equally effective as any farmyard manure. This opens up the possibility of preparing organic manures by the cultivator right on his very field without the aid of cattle dung. Not only farm waste but also town sweepings and refuse, when mixed with nightsoil, could be turned into useful manures.

The use of manures is slowly increasing, especially in the tracts where intensively cultivated crop like sugarcane and vegetables are grown. Nevertheless much remains to be done to bring home to the cultivator the more modern methods of preparation, conservation and use of manures.

—Farmer.

HAVING flung aside the sword, there is nothing except the cup of love which I can offer to those who oppose me. It is by offering that cup that I accept to draw them close to me. I cannot think of permanent enmity between man and man, and believing as I do in the theory of rebirth, I live in the hope that, if not in this birth, in some other birth, I shall be able to hug all humanity in friendly embrace.

\* \* \*

IN any event, India free cannot deny freedom to any son of the soil. It gives one both pain and surprise when I find people feeling anxious about their future under a free India. For me, an India which does not guarantee freedom to the lowliest of those born not merely within an artificial boundary but within its natural boundary is not free India.

\* \* \*

IF I want freedom for my country, believe me, if I can possibly help it, I do not want that freedom in order that I, belonging to a nation which counts one-fifth of the human race, may exploit any other race upon earth, or any single individual.

—MAHATMA GANDHIJI.



## STUDENTS' COLUMN

### Library Science

[This feature is for the giving of information and guidance to the students regarding courses, careers and other matters of interest to them. For further guidance, the students may write to the Secretary, The Madras University Information Bureau, University of Madras.]

The career as a librarian offers good scope with the proposed enlargement of the country's library system. Regarding the facilities for obtaining the qualifications necessary for such posts, there exists a degree course at Delhi University which is of two years' duration and for which a degree in arts or science is necessary. The cost of tuition comes to approximately Rs. 200 a year. There are also diploma courses at Delhi and Madras Universities.

To make a success of a career in librarianship it is wiser to study some other foreign language besides English. Further the student may profitably learn as many languages of his own country as he can. It is enough if he has a working knowledge of these languages.

Regarding practical training, we have the offer from the principal librarian of the Public Library of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia who has kindly consented to offer library training to Indian students. There is the age limit up to thirty and usually only graduates are taken for this training. The fees for the year are approximately Rs. 300. Application forms may be had directly from the principal librarian at Macquarie street, Sydney.

#### UNESCO

In this connection it is of interest for the librarians in India to know that the UNESCO has now arranged a clearing house for the free supply of books for public libraries in need of development. The bulletin of the UNESCO has tabulated a list of libraries from different countries which are prepared to present the books. Such of those librarians in India who are interested in the offer may write to the UNESCO at Hotel Majestic, Paris.

#### Specialization

As the library science has developed in its scope, there are a number of

branches for specialization. For example the Carnegie Institute of Technology, U.S.A., offers one year course in the following branches:—Library work with children, High School library work and advanced library work. As some knowledge of a foreign language besides English is required for admission to this course, the intending student may take the certificate course in French and German of the University of Madras.

#### Professional

Regarding professional qualifications like the associateship or fellowship of the library association, these are obtained only after approved practical experience of three years and five years respectively and passing of the examinations of the association. The address of the library association is Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C. 1. Students who pass the final examination and complete their five years' experience are entitled for the title F.L.A.

#### The Career

A word about the career as a librarian will not be out of place here. The position of the librarian is one of real responsibility and variety. In U.S.A. the librarian is one of the principal officers of the college, university, state departments and established firms for the supplying of lists of books and references. In India the provincial acts of legislature on libraries have their aim to enhance and co-ordinate the various existing library services. In U.K. one has the idea of the variety of the library science in such institutions as St. Daniel's library at Hawarden which is a residential library for writers and students. Such special institutions as National Archives, Museums, National standard laboratories and other institutions are in requirement of qualified library officers from time to time. Besides, there is scope in the armed forces as library officers in the navy, army and the air force, the hospitals and the mobile library services.

#### Private Libraries

Apart from library work as a career, young undergraduates may profitably take to the building of a small private library of their own as a hobby. For such students the various book-clubs in London, New York, and Bombay will be found very useful. The building up of a small library of tools and engineering pamphlets will be useful for the student of technology.

#### American Associations

Those who are already in the profession and who like to keep informed of the new developments in the field may be interested in the activities of the American Library Association of the American Council of Education at Washington, D.C. to whom they can write. Educational films, stereoscope cards, film slides and film strips are increasingly coming into the field of the librarian. Information on modern techniques like the microphotography for economizing space and for better preservation may also be had from the association. We give below the list of such associations:—

The American Association of Law Libraries, Baltimore Law Library, Court House, Baltimore.

The Catholic Library Association, Cardinal Hays Library, Manhattan College, New York City.

Music Library Association, Library Association, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Association of Research Libraries, New York Public Library, New York-18.

Special Libraries Association, 31-E, 10th street, New York City.

Theatre Library Association, New York Public Library.

#### University Training

Library training at University level could be obtained at the institutions mentioned below:—

University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, U.S.A.

University of Denever, Colorado, U.S.A.

University of Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.

University of Kentucky, Kentucky, U.S.A.

Simmonds College, Massachusettes U.S.A.

Columbia University, New York, U.S.A.

Carnegie Institute, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

(Continued on page 31)

## OTHER PROVINCES—NEWS ROUND-UP

### Training in tractor driving in Bombay

A two months' training course in tractor driving has been started at Poona.

In all 40 candidates will be trained in five months.

\* \* \*

### Development of Coir Industry in Bombay

With a view to developing the coir industry, three coir extraction and spinning institutions and one coir factory-cum-training institution are being organized in Bombay Province. The Government have sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 1,50,880 for two years, in the first instance, to execute the scheme. It has also been decided to train 30 persons in extraction and spinning of coir fabric at each of the coir extracting and spinning institutions.

\* \* \*

### Tractor Organization in U.P.

The Tractor Organization of the Agriculture Department of the U.P. Government is now in a position to undertake reclamation work in areas other than those covered by the Colonization and Kans-eradication schemes of Government. Four units consisting of 12 tractors each will be utilized for this purpose and, to begin with, will work in those districts where there are extensive areas of culturable waste to be reclaimed.

\* \* \*

### Model Villages in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have decided to place at the disposal of each District Rural Development Board in the Province a sum of Rs. 500 to be given as contribution to the improvement of a single village into a model one. Originally, a sum of Rs. 250 was intended for the purpose. The limit of the grant was raised when it was discovered that Rs. 250 was too low a sum for any substantial work to be done.

Every year one village will be selected in each taluka or peta for being made into a model village. The amount

necessary for improving the village will depend on local conditions. The villagers should be prepared to do all the manual labour, particularly the unskilled labour, free of cost and also to contribute at least one half of the estimated cash expenditure. It may not be possible to select only such villages as could be made into "model" villages by spending only Rs. 1,000 excluding the cost of manual labour. Where the cash expenditure is estimated to exceed Rs. 1,000 either the programme will be suitably curtailed or the villagers asked to collect the additional amount locally. But in no case will the District Rural Development Board's contribution exceed the limit of Rs. 500 a village.

\* \* \*

### Water-supply in villages

The Government of Bombay intends to construct at least one well in every village with a population of 200 and above, according to the census of 1941. A scheme, called the Village Water-Supply Scheme, has already been undertaken covering all normal cases, i.e., cases where well water may become available at a reasonable distance from the village and at a reasonable depth. In other cases, resort will have to be taken to piped water-supply schemes.

\* \* \*

### Co-operative Cottage Industries Association in Assam

With a view to develop the spirit of co-operation among people, a series of short talks will be given in Shillong on the "Co-operative Movement", its principles and practice. The talks are being arranged by the Assam Co-operative Cottage Industries Association, Ltd., and will be given at four different centres of Shillong.

\* \* \*

### Basic Education in Assam

Assam's first Academic High School under the Government's Basic Education Plan was formally opened recently. Speaking on the occasion the Premier pointed out that the first essential of the Basic Education scheme envisaged by Mahatma Gandhi

was the 'application of man's mind to learning through the medium of crafts'. Gandhiji's method, he said, provides us with a system wherewith we can impart an education which, besides being basic in value, has the virtue of being easily assimilable even in the earliest stage, through practical and corporate life amongst students.

\* \* \*

### Handicrafts in United Province

A meeting of the expert committee appointed by the U.P. Government to suggest measures for reorganization and expansion of the Government handicrafts and production centres was held recently. The committee examined various aspects of organization, working, supervision and control of these institutions and considered measures for effecting improvements and making them more effective agencies for assisting the cottage workers as well as the consumers.

The measures suggested include opening of first class show-rooms in Bombay Calcutta and Delhi, deputing of experienced officers of the department abroad to study foreign markets for the cottage products, establishment of show-rooms in important countries in co-ordination with other Provinces, posting of staff to maintain the show-rooms and to secure orders and setting up of production centres for other handicrafts like those existing for handloom.

\* \* \*

### Tree-planting prizes in Bombay

The Government of Bombay had announced that a prize of Rs. 2,000 would be awarded to a village or an institution in each of the three Divisions of the Province and also to an institution in Bombay City, which plants the largest number of trees and rears them for one year. The Government have now prescribed the procedure for awarding the prizes, which would be done at the end of the year, after inspection of the number of trees planted this year and which have survived.

### Nutrition Advisory Committee in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has appointed a Committee to deal with all questions pertaining to nutrition, including those referred to it by the Civil Supplies Department, known as the Permanent Nutrition Advisory Committee. It replaces the existing Nutrition Advisory Committee under the Civil Supplies Department.

\* \* \*

### Tagai loans to potato cultivators in Bombay

Tagai loans to the extent of just over two million rupees will be given to poor cultivators of the five districts of Poona, Nasik, Ahmednagar, Satara and Belgaum to enable them to purchase seed potatoes and manure mixture from the Agricultural Department for the rabi season of 1948-49.

\* \* \*

### Social Education training course in C.P.

"The main aim of Social Education is to build up national character which will stand the country in good stead in its hour of need and raise the standard of national efficiency through a properly organized system of social education," observed Dr. V. S. Jha, Director of Public Instruction, inaugurating one-week training course in Social Education recently.

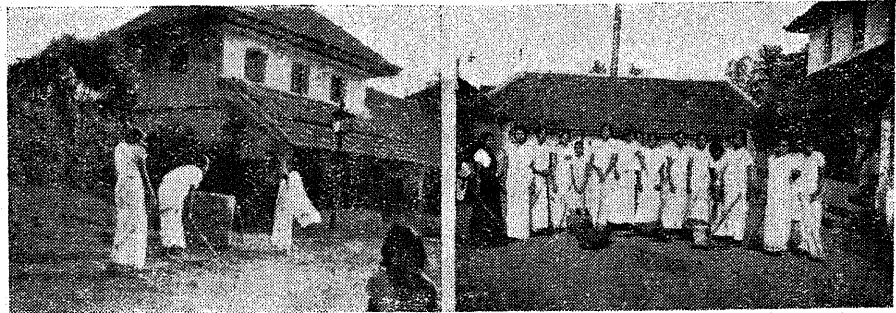
\* \* \*

### Co-operative Societies in West Bengal

In West Bengal, the Ministry has decided to organize multi-purpose societies to tackle rural problems such as irrigation, drainage and distribution of goods in short supply. According to the Minister in charge of the Co-operative portfolio, 323 such societies have been formed in the past six weeks. In order to guard against the domination of a few individuals each society will comprise at least 80 per cent of the residents of the locality concerned. Government have appointed 100 officers to organize and supervise the working of the societies. Giving an instance of the useful work these bodies can do the Minister said that 3,000 *bighas* of land had been lying fallow for eight years in Midnapore district and these have now been brought under cultivation by the local people through a society aided by a bank and Government.

## Village Cleaning on 'Gandhi Jayanti' Day

Basic School Trainees in Malabar set an example



Right—Teachers and trainees before commencing work Left—Removing the grass from the road-side



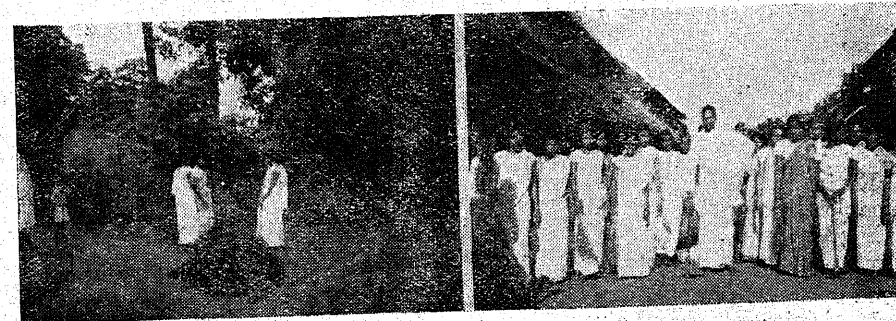
Trainees sweeping the streets—Calves help in wobbling up the grass

A girl intent on work—Village boys watching and finally joining work



A brief respite while posing

There is no dance



Surprised at the heap they have made in so short a time

Satisfaction of good work done—Happy group at the end of the hour

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## CLIPPINGS FROM GANDHIJI'S WRITINGS

### Village Industries

The importance of Village Industries in the rural economy of the country cannot be over-emphasised. The absence of properly organized Cottage Industries is one of the major causes for the economic backwardness of the villager. And Mahatmaji had repeated times without number the need to devote sustained attention to Cottage Industries. The following extract from his writings is of special interest as throwing considerable light on the subject.

As the author of the Congress resolution on village industries and as the sole guide of the Association that is being formed for their promotion, it is but meet that I should, as far as possible, share with the public ideas that are uppermost in my mind regarding these industries and the moral and hygienic uplift that is intimately associated with them.

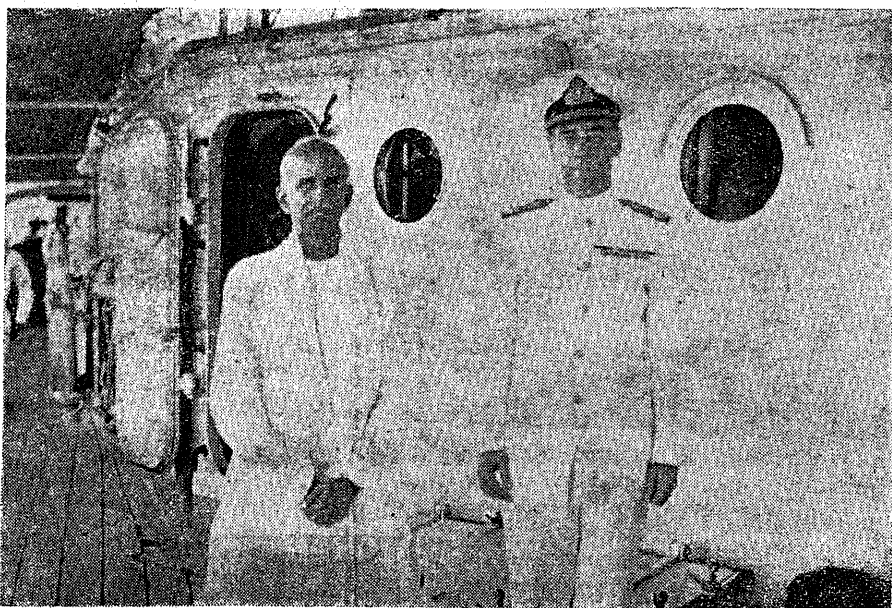
The idea of forming the Association took definite shape during the Harijan tour as early as when I entered Malabar. A casual talk with a Khadi worker showed to me how necessary it was to have a body that would make an honest attempt to return to the villagers what has been cruelly and thoughtlessly snatched away from them by the city-dwellers. The hardest hit among the villagers are the Harijans. They have but a limited choice of the industries that are open to the villagers in general. Therefore, when their industries slip away from their hands, they become like the beasts of burden with whom their lot is cast.

But the villagers in general are not much better off to-day. Bit by bit they are being confined only to the hand-to-mouth business of scratching the earth. Few know to-day that agriculture in the small and irregular holdings of India is not a paying proposition. The villagers live a lifeless life. Their life is a process of slow starvation. They are burdened with debts. The money-lender lends, because he can do no otherwise. He will lose all if he does not. This system of village lending baffles investigation. Our knowledge of it is superficial in spite of elaborate inquiries.

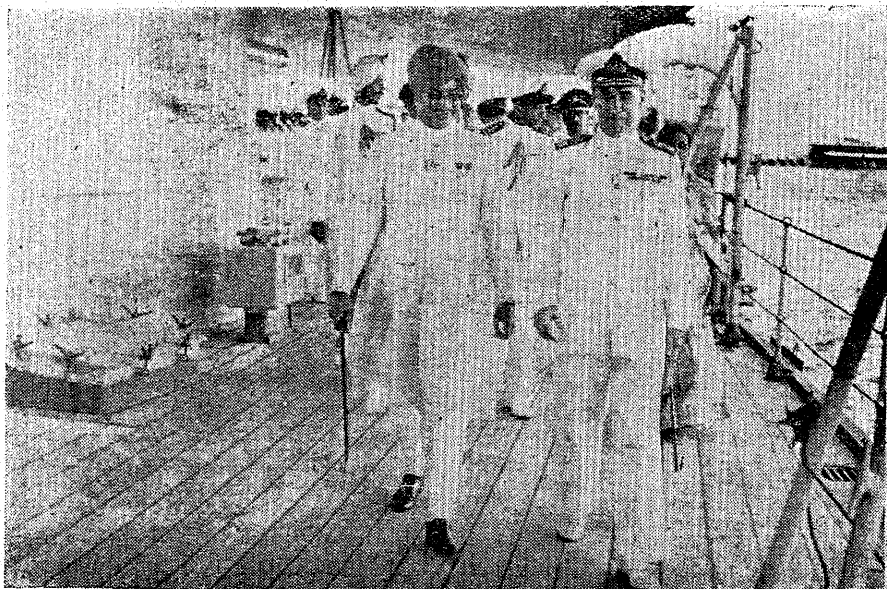
Extinction of village industries would complete the ruin of the 700,000 villages in India.

I have seen in the daily Press criticism of the proposals I have adumbrated. Advice has been given to me that I must look for salvation in the direction of using the powers of nature

that the inventive brain of man has brought under subjection. The critics say that water, air, oil and electricity should be fully utilized as they are being utilized in the go-ahead West. They say that control over these hidden powers of nature enables every American to have thirty-three slaves.



*The Premier of Madras with the Rear Admiral in H.M.I.S. "Delhi"*



*H.E. the Governor of Madras visited the H.M.I.S. "Delhi"*

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Repeat the process in India and I dare say that it will thirty-three times enslave every inhabitant of this land, instead of giving everyone thirty-three slaves.

Mechanization is good when the hands are too few for the work intended to be accomplished. It is an evil when there are more hands than required for the work, as in the case in India. I may not use a plough for digging a few square yards of a plot of land. The problem with us is not how to find leisure for the teeming millions inhabiting our villages. The problem

is how to utilize their idle hours, which are equal to the working days of six months in the year. Strange as it may appear, every mill generally is a menace to the villagers. I have not worked out the figures, but I am quite safe in saying that every mill-hand does the work of at least ten labourers doing the same work in their villages. In other words, he earns more than he did in his village at the expense of ten fellow villagers. Thus spinning and weaving mills have deprived the villagers of a substantial means of livelihood. It is no answer in reply to say that

they turn out cheaper, better cloth, if they do so at all. For, if they have displaced thousands of workers the cheapest mill cloth is dearer than the dearest *khadi* woven in the villages. Coal is not dear for the coal miner who, can use it there and then nor is the *khadi* dear for the villager who manufactures his own *khadi*. But if cloth manufactured in mills displaces village hands, rice mills and flour mills not only displace thousands of poor women workers, but damage the health of the whole population in the bargain. Where people have no objection to taking flesh diet and can afford it, white flour and polished rice may do no harm, but in India, where millions can get no flesh diet even where they have no objection to eating it if they can get it, it is sinful to deprive them of nutritious and vital elements contained in whole wheat meal and unpolished rice. It is time medical men and others combined to instruct the people on the danger attendant upon the use of white flour and polished rice.

I have drawn attention to some broad glaring facts to show that the way to take work to the villagers is not through mechanization but that it lies through revival of the industries they have hitherto followed.

Hence the function of the All-India Village Industries Association must, in my opinion, be to encourage the existing industries and to revive, where it is possible and desirable, the dying or dead industries of villages according to the village methods, i.e., the villagers working in their own cottages as they have done from times immemorial. These simple methods can be considerably improved as they have been in hand-ginning, hand-spinning and hand-weaving.

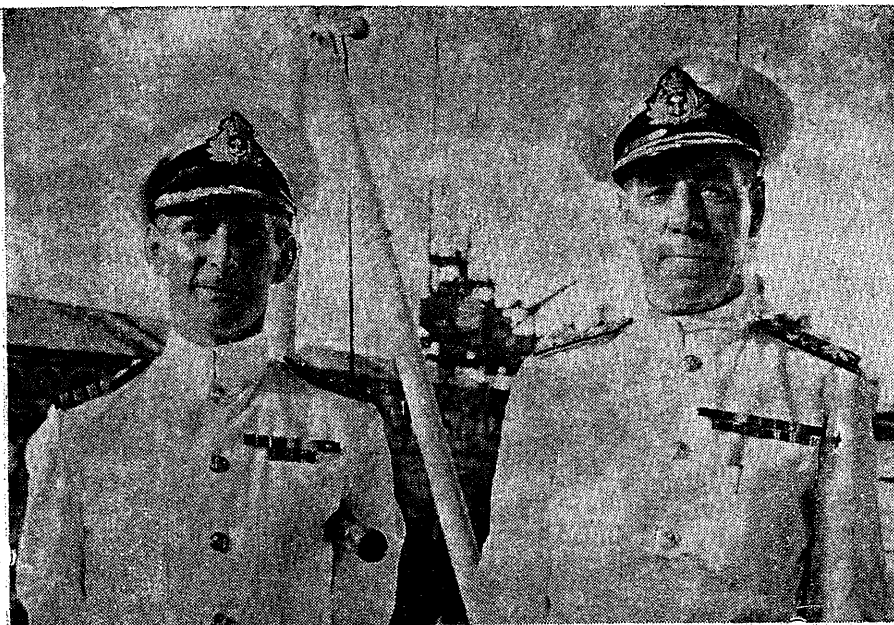
A critic objects that the ancient plan is purely individualistic and can never bring about corporate effort. This view appears to me to be very superficial. Though articles may be manufactured by villagers in their cottages, they can be pooled together and profits divided. The villagers may work under supervision and according to plan. The raw material may be supplied from common stock. If the will to co-operative effort is created, there is surely ample opportunity for co-operation, division of labour, saving of time, and efficiency of work. All these things are to-day being done by the All-India Spinners' Association in over 5,000 villages.

But *khadi* is the sun of the village solar system. The planets are the various industries which can support

(Continued on page 31)

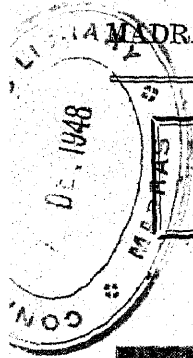


Deck of H.M.S. "Delhi" awaiting to receive H.E. the Governor



The Rear Admiral and the captain of H.M.S. "Delhi"

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# ODDS AND ENDS

## Mobile Homes—Trailers in America



*This American family vacationing in the wilderness of one of the many National Parks in the United States enjoy all the comforts of home in their trailer*

Although the trailer is comparatively new to the road, it has, within its short span of life, established itself as a flourishing industry in the United States. Early in its development (toward the 1930's), construction men, oil men and carnival folk were quick to recognize its advantages as a home on wheels and a solution to the many problems of packing, transportation and housing. By 1935, there were 34 builders in Elkhart, Indiana, (birthplace of the trailer), and plants had also sprung up in Alma and Kalamazoo, Michigan, and in Chicago and Los Angeles. As America pulled out of the depression and times improved strong competition developed and bigger and more luxurious trailer models were put on the road. Engineers were called in to create new designs for greater comfort, and assembly-line methods were employed to speed production.

It was during the war that trailer manufacturers discovered new ways of providing extra space without increasing weight and new methods for stepped-up production. They also learned from America's trailer population what accommodations a family expected in its trailer. Consequently, engineers learned to squeeze into 200 or so square feet all the necessities and many of the luxuries of the modern American home.

By the end of the war, the trailer industry was producing 75,000 units a year. In 1946, almost 90 percent of those sold went to permanent trailer dwellers.

There are many types and designs for trailers, but to-day's 150 manufacturers all produce at least two general types: the big Caravan model, which, in spite of its name, is best suited for permanent housing; and the

so-called conventional model, which is streamlined for travel.

The typical trailer is about 25 feet long; eight feet wide and weighs between 3,000 and 3,500 pounds. Most of this weight is carried on tandem wheels with about 11 per cent distributed over the chassis of the tow car through a ball-and-socket hitch, which allows easy control of the trailer on the road.

Within the 200 square feet of the average trailer, there is a surprising amount of space. The combined living room and dinette, 8 feet by 11 feet, usually contains a convertible davenport, sleeping two people, a full-length wardrobe, mirrored cabinets, built-in table ends, a radio nook, and book and knickknack shelves. Carpentry, curtains, fluorescent lights and overhead cabinets add extra comfort.

The bedroom, usually at the rear, is large enough for a double bed, stowage cabinets and a small vanity. Extra storage space is provided under the beds, and sliding doors, using a minimum of space, offer privacy. The lower-priced models are less roomy, with fewer novelties, and less expensive trimmings.

### Backward Class Board in Bombay

The Backward Class Board has been reconstituted for a period of two years, with the Minister in charge of the Backward Class Department as its President. . . .

The Backward Class Officer will act as Secretary of the Board.



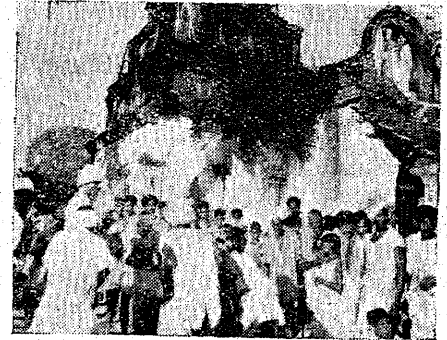
*A new arrival is checked in at a trailer camp. This is one of the many modern parks now being established throughout the United States*



The interior of one of America's modern trailers showing the galley and dining areas



Hon'ble Dr. S. Gurupatham, Minister for Firka Development, opened a school at Tepagunta in Pendurti Firka.



On the occasion of Hon'ble Minister's visit to Pendurti Firka, the school at Garapath located in a building constructed by the villagers was opened by Sri D. V. Ramaswami, B.A., B.L., M.L.A. The picture shows the section of villagers engaged in rural recreation

(Continued from page 29)

khadi in turn for the heat and the sustenance they derive from it. Without it, the other industries cannot grow. But during my last tour I discovered that, without the revival of the other industries, khadi could not make further progress. For villagers to be able to occupy their spare time profitably, the village life must be touched at all points. That is what the two Associations are expected to do.

Naturally they can have nothing to do with politics or political parties. The Congress, in my opinion, did well in making both the Associations autonomous and wholly non-political. All parties and all communities can combine to uplift the villages economically, morally and hygienically.

I know that there is a school of thought that does not regard khadi as an economic proposition at all. I hope that they will not be scared by my having mentioned khadi as the centre of village activities. I could not complete the picture of my mind without showing the inter-relation between khadi and the other village industries. Those who do not see it are welcome only to concentrate their effort on the other industries. But this too, they will be able to do through the new Association, if they appreciate the background I have endeavoured to give in this article.

### Reclamation of Waste Lands in Bihar

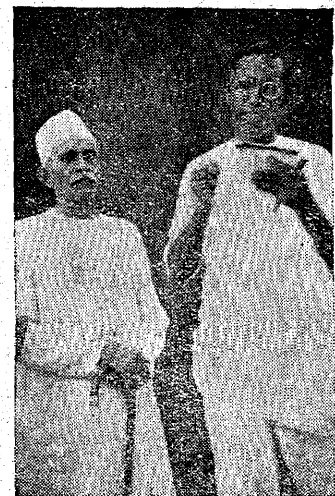
The first operation of waste lands reclamation scheme, was launched in Saharsa sub-district in 1947, but in that year only 1,200 acres could be reclaimed. This year (1948), however, up to June last, lands reclaimed totalled 14,700 acres or nearly 15,000 acres. The entire land was not only cultivated, but crops were also raised on them. Government further propose to reclaim 10,000 acres in that district and 5,000 acres in Darbhanga district by manual labour from this month (November 1948). There is also a programme of reclaiming 15,000 acres of waste lands in Saharsa sub-district and in Darbhanga by means of tractors. Negotiations are also going on for reclaiming 12,000 acres.

(Continued from page 25)

- McGill University, Canada.
- Toronto University, Canada.
- University College, Dublin, U.K.
- University College, London, U.K.
- University of Delhi, India.
- University of Madras, India (Diploma).

### Correspondence Training

Those who wish to take up correspondence courses in library science



Hon'ble Minister writing his blessings in the visitors' book after opening the school

may write to the Association of Assistant Librarians, Carnegie library, Herne Hill Road, London, S.E. 24.

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## BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

### “BAGHI HINDUSTAN”

By MOULANA MUHAMMAD ABDUL SHAHID KHAN SHERWANI, Published by Madina Book Agency, Bijnur, U.P., Price Rs. 5-8-0—(Urdu).

The author of this nicely got-up book has to be congratulated for having translated the famous ‘Risalah-e-Gaderiya,’ written ‘on bits of paper and cloth with charcoal’ by Allama Fazi Haq Kherabadi during his imprisonment at Andaman Islands. The articles thus written were sent by the Allama to his son Moulana Abdul Haq Kherabadi who compiled them in the form of a ‘Risalah.’ Moulana Abdul Shahid Sherwani toiled hard to translate this Risalah in a lucid style and named it ‘Baghi Hindustan’ at the suggestion of Moulana Abul Kalam Azad. The first part of the book is a biography of the Allama Fazi Haq. The other part deals in detail with the causes and effects of the historic insurrection which British called ‘the Great Mutiny of 1857’—that shook the foundation of the newly established British Empire. It further relates the horrors, atrocities and heart-rending tragedies of the fateful year of 1857. The upheaval was short lived because of its inorganized character. The British came down upon the soldiers of freedom with unprecedented savagery. Allama Fazi Haq Kherabadi was one of the undaunted and enthusiastic sponsors of the Movement. His courage and bravery was a source of inspiration for the later patriots of

India. He was arrested and transported to Andaman Islands where he died. The book under review gives an outline of the activities of the All-India National Congress and the Jamiatul Ullema-e-Hind and their sacrifices towards the cause of Independence.

The book under review is a mine of information on the progress of the Independence Movement from 1857 to 1947. The preface of the book is written by Moulana Abul Kalam Azad. — S.A.H.

### “SWATANTRA ANNUAL, 1948”

Published in Madras, Price Rs. 1-8-0

This annual provides a varied fare to the reader, who has by now become accustomed to the rich quality of the journal. Journalists will sympathetically echo the sentiments expressed by the distinguished editor of ‘Swatantra’ in the following lines:—

“If compromises are made for the sake of survival, to that extent they represent a diminution of faithfulness to the public interest. If they are not made, the very basis of service through work is cut off, and what is the public interest that can be served at all thereafter? This is, here and everywhere, the eternal dilemma of the conscientious journalist.” One feels, however, that the editor need not despair of the future, for, if Indian journalism had withstood, during a foreign rule, the many onslaughts on it by vested interests that felt embarrassed

by the terrific but well-meant criticism of the press, there is a brighter future for it during a national Government, which cannot but be responsive to press criticism, so long as it is healthy.

Next to the editorial is published what may be termed a humorous skit entitled “My Plan” by ‘Vigneshwara’, which for its sheer flights of fancy and novelty of suggestions seems to be unsurpassed. ‘If every man, woman and child, living and breathing at this moment, could be brought together in one reasonably compact locality, put under one authority, made to observe one code of laws and taught to practice self-sufficiency in the liberal sense, there would be no room for grumbling against God or man.’ In the new ‘City State’ that the writer seeks to create “the adult citizen will grow his food on his own terrace by soilless cultivation stimulated by radio activity.”

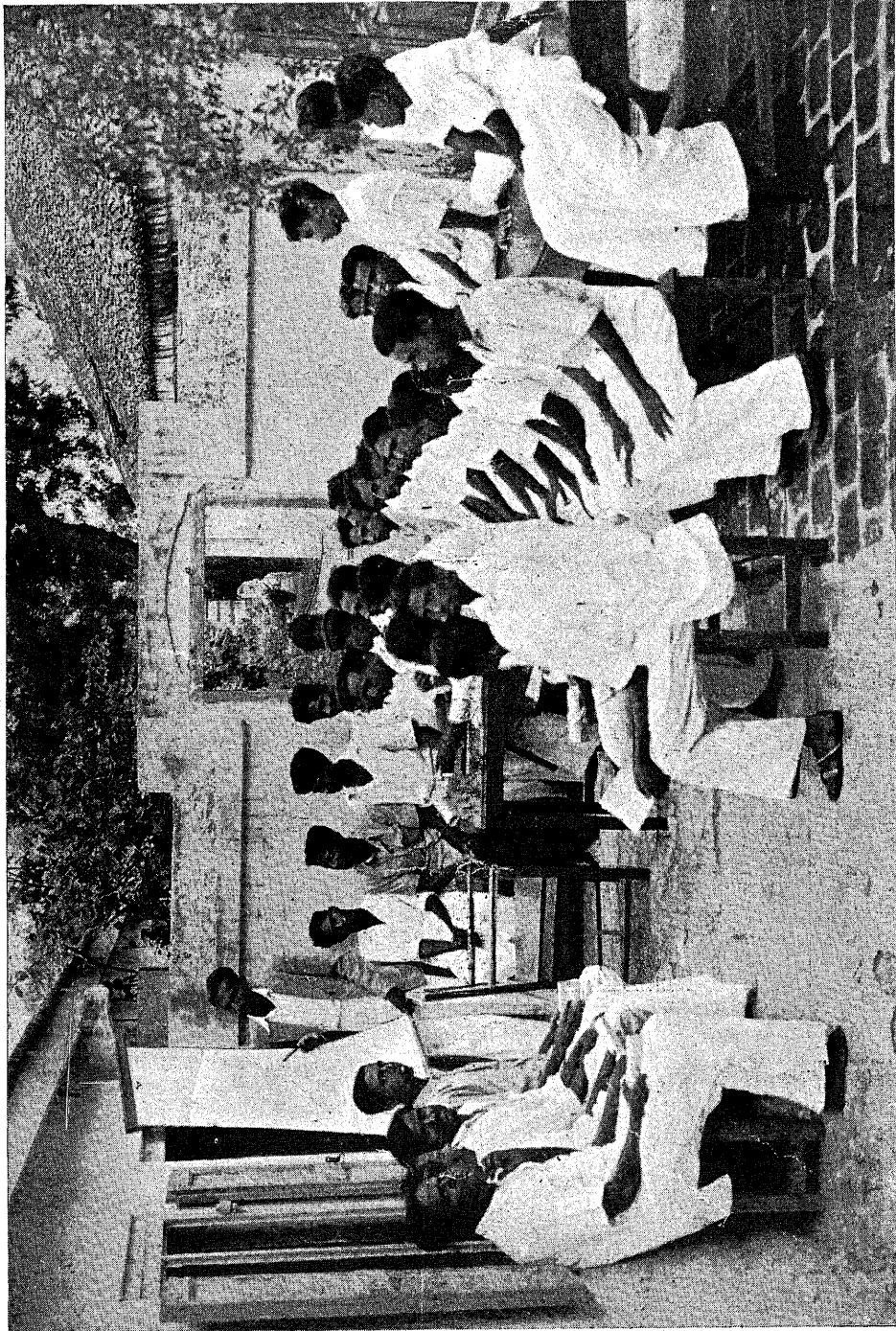
The annual number also contains other interesting contributions such as beautiful pen-pictures of Sarojini Devi’s career by her brother Harindranath Chattopadhyaya, Lenin by Philip Spratt, Rajen Babu by Dr. Pattabhi, M. S. Subbulakshmi by T.V.R. and Veena Dhanam by Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari. Besides two short stories, there is an informative article entitled “Reigning in Hell” by Mr. Pothan Joseph.

The annual is enriched by some art plates and a fine get-up.

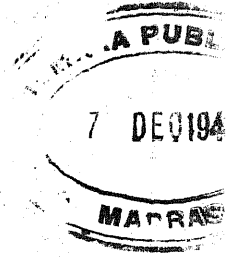
—A.R.



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