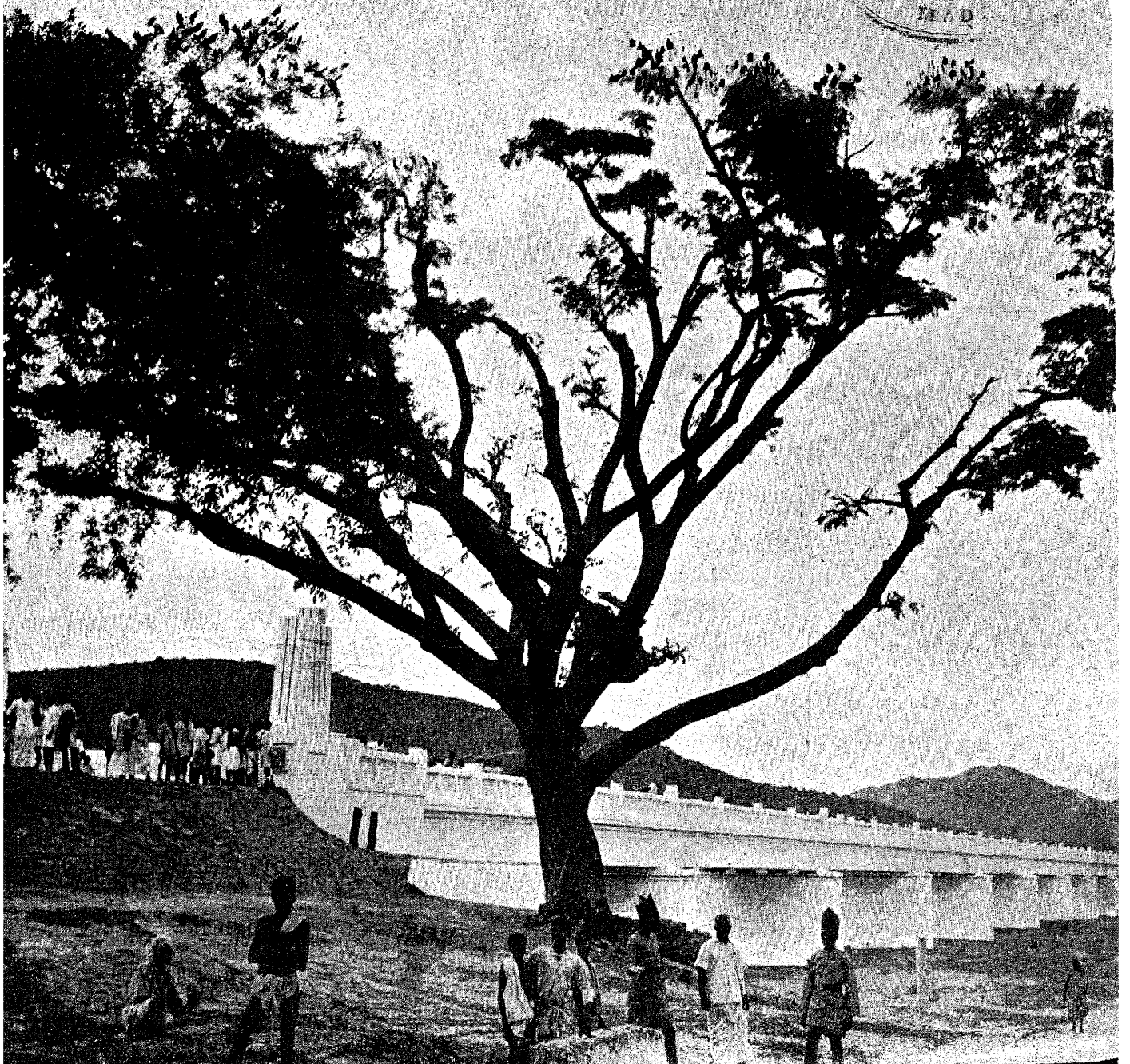




# MADRAS

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# Madras Information

Published every month by the Director of Information and Publicity  
Fort St. George

Vol. IX, No. 7

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

July 1955

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COVER PAGE: Colossal Poems can be written—in concrete! This is Palar Bridge in Chingleput District the first prestressed concrete bridge in India. Looking at it, you feel a sense of joy, the joy that comes to those who contemplate reconstruction in a by way.



Miss Florence Rose, Executive Secretary, Meals for Millions Foundation, California, visited the City recently. This photo was taken when the Guild of Service gave her a reception. The visitor was shown the type of meals supplied to the children studying in the Children's School attached to the School of Social Service conducted by the Guild of Service.

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## Agriculture

The Government have appointed a Special Committee of Officials with the Director of Agriculture as Chairman to report on how best, co-ordination of the various training programmes in Agriculture in public and private institutions could be effected.

The other members of the Committee are: (i) Director of Rural Welfare, (ii) Director of Animal Husbandry, (iii) Joint Director of Industries and Commerce, (iv) Director of Public Instruction, (v) Headquarters Deputy Director of Agriculture (Research) (Secretary and Convener).

This action follows the recommendation made at the fourth Session of the Permanent Agricultural Committee of the International Labour Organization, held in May 1953, about the need for co-ordination of the training programmes. The recommendation was as follows: "The work of the various public and private institutions in each country which deal with vocational training should be co-ordinated, while ensuring free-play to initiative and adaptability to the requirements of the different types of farming, regions and localities."

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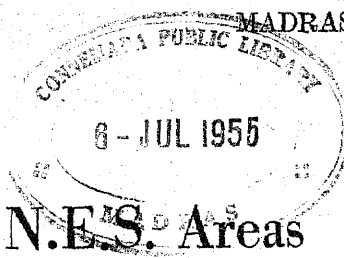
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## Progress in C.P. and N.E.S. Areas

### CHINGLEPUT

*Tirukalikundram Block*: About 50 students of the Madras School of Social Work camped at Tirukalikundram for about a week and did intensive social work in Kolpanthandalam and Poonjeri villages of Tirukalikundram Development Block. These villages were cleaned and some of the houses plastered by the students. This has roused much enthusiasm in the village-folk and has caused a special awakening in them.

*Kadambatur Block*: A cattle show was held in Kilacheri and two poultry units were formed, one at Kosavanpalayam and the other at Polivakkam in Kadambathur National Extension Service Block. A Co-operative Building Society and a milk supply co-operative society were also organised in this block during the month.

### NORTH ARCOT

*Mandakolathur Block*: A special meeting of more than 50 elementary school teachers was held on 12th March 1955 at Vedamadimangalam. The Block Development Officer and his

*The Progress reports from the various Community and National Extension Service Blocks in the State for a month alone would fill the whole pages of an issue of 'Madras Information'. They might look like dry statistical reports to superficial readers. But these are statistics with a difference. Behind those statistics are green fields, pure water supply, maternity hospitals, village roads, minor irrigation works, dispensaries and reading rooms—amenities for which our villages have been crying for generations. Immediately these facts and figures transform themselves into live reading material, excelling any of the hot stuff emanating from your favourite publishers. The reports below record the progress in certain selected spheres in the Community Project and National Extension Service Areas for the month of March 1955.*

staff took part in the proceedings. Various topics connected with Agri-

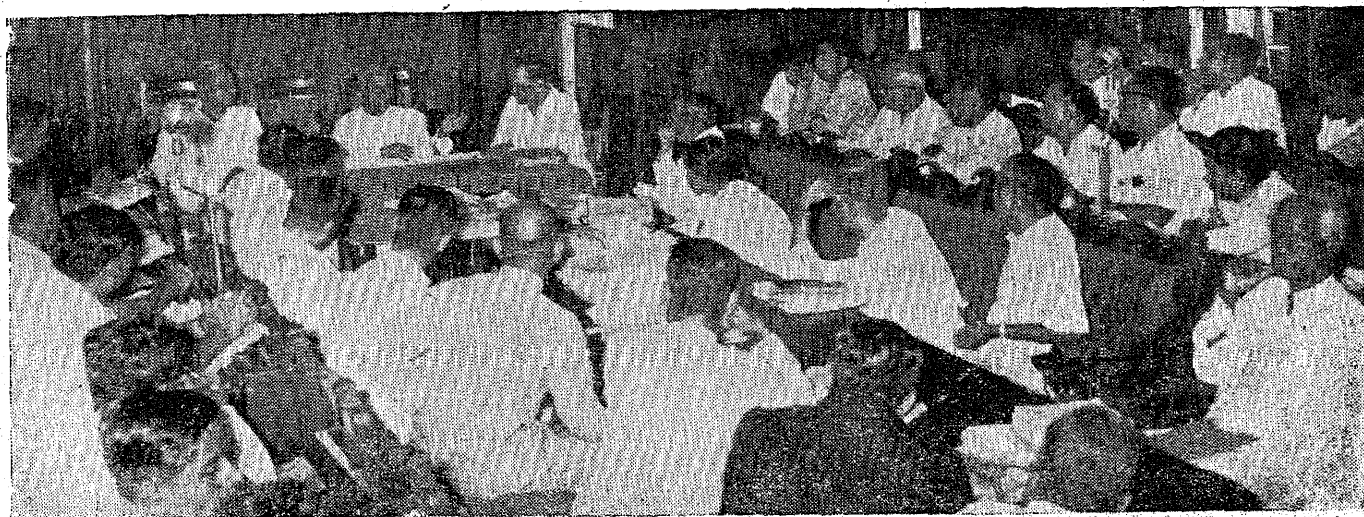
culture, Animal Husbandry, Co-operation, and Engineering were discussed.

Under the auspices of the Animal Husbandry Department a one day cattle show was held at Santhavasal on 14th March 1955. More than 300 good animals of various species were gathered in the show.

*Tiruvannamalai Block*: *Agriculture*: Planting of paddy as per modified Japanese method—8,305 acres; Experimental plots laid out 19; Green manure crops raised—3,102 acres; Sesbania for Green Manure—300.84 acres; Rural compost manufactured—109.5 tons; Oil Engines hired out and distributed—9; Cotton seeds distributed—406 lb.; Fruit trees seedlings and grafts distributed—600.

### SOUTH ARCOT

*Panruti Block*: A Katcha road to a length of four furlongs was constructed. Loans were granted up to Rs. 10,000 for purchase and installation of oil engines for agricultural purposes. On 18th March 1955, Sri W. R. S. Sathianathan, I.C.S., laid the foundation stone for the dispensary at Thirunnavalur.



A Conference of Project Executive Officers and Block Development Officers was held in the Secretariat on June 6, 1955. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, presided.

**Kurinjipadi Block:** A Cattle show and agricultural exhibition were conducted. About 5,000 ryots attended. A party of 20 ryots led by the Extension Officer for Agriculture went on excursion to Mettur dam and Coimbatore to study the improved Agricultural methods and cattle breeding carried on there.

**Chinnasalem Block:** Radio houses, Reading rooms and Community Halls were constructed in 18 villages within a period of six weeks. New buildings to house the leprosy clinics each at a cost of Rs. 1,000 have been constructed at Kachirapalayam and Chinnasalem.

#### TANJORE

**Tiruturaiyandi:** A sum of Rs. 3,081-8-0 was made as final payment in respect of the works relating to the metalling of Talanayar-Alangudi road. A sum of Rs. 545-13-3 was drawn towards the formation of road from Manakudi to Vadagoor. A sum of Rs. 314-15-6 was drawn towards the formation of road from Panangadi to Sooramangalam. A sum of Rs. 119-2-0 was drawn towards the formation of road in Manuneedhikandam village. A sum of Rs. 80 was drawn for fixing R.C. pipes in Pangal-Uthirangudi road. A sum of Rs. 319-7-0 was drawn for the formation of road from Kannupillaikattalai to Tiruvidamarudur. The execution of the well works relating to Tirumalam-Vellapallam and Mahimalai have been completed and payment made during the month. The execution of the Overhead tank work at Manekudi is nearing

completion. Thirty-six cheris were also cleaned during the month.

One hundred and five compost pits were dug during the month and 72 tons of compost were prepared. 8.50 acres were brought under P-2 16F Cotton in rice fallows.

**Vedaranyam Block:** Five acres of lands have been reclaimed by bulldozer. Thirty-one improved ploughs were distributed. 260 lb. of Sesbania seeds was distributed. During the month 25 villages were visited by the Extension Officer for Animal Husbandry and there were talks with the villagers on topics like improvements of livestock, backyard poultry, growing of fodder crops, etc. 99 cattle were treated, and 54 castrations performed. Four adult literacy schools were opened. Four Mathru Sanghams were organised and play materials worth Rs. 400 were distributed. Play materials worth Rs. 1,000 were distributed to 9 Recreation clubs. Books to the value of Rs. 400 were distributed to the library at Vadamalai Multi-purpose Co-operative Society.

#### TIRUCHIRAPPALLI

**Musiri Block:** Thirty road works were in progress and a sum of Rs. 11,570-4-0 was paid for in this month for the Government share of the work while the work turned up by labour amounts to Rs. 6,193. A sum of Rs. 7,748-8-0 was paid for Local Development (R.W.S.) works during this month. Six works were executed under Public Health and a sum of Rs. 1,264 was incurred.

Iron ploughing was done in 20 places and Mhote wheel demonstrations were done in 25 places. A sum of Rs. 42,570 under short term credit loans and a sum of Rs. 11,300 under Minor Irrigation were disbursed in the month.

**Perambalur Block:** Agricultural implements worth Rs. 1,566-8-0 were purchased for distribution to ryots at concessional grades. Pesticides worth Rs. 887-15-3 were purchased and supplied to the Co-operative Societies for distribution to the ryots at concessional rates. Books worth Rs. 1,294-14-0 were purchased and distributed to ten libraries. A sum of Rs. 1,611 was spent towards the supply of seven radio sets to 7 villages.

**Karur Block:** A community hall constructed by the villagers at Karudayampalayam at a cost of Rs. 3,000 was opened at the Minister for Agriculture Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam on 20th March 1955. The building meant for the use of the leprosy relief work was also opened by the Minister on the occasion. A total sum of Rs. 40,701-13-9 was spent during this month on various items of work.

#### MADURAI

**Thirumangalam Block:** Forty-seven compost pits were dug and forty-eight unhealthy pits were rectified. 32 bags of cotton seeds were distributed. 1,468 cart loads of earth was used to level up the streets in the villages. Seven trench latrines, 6 urinal pits and 19 cess pools were constructed. 24 Harijan cheris were cleaned. First aid medicines were supplied to five



Sri V. T. Krishnamachari addressing a Conference of Secretaries to Government and Heads of Departments on matters relating to Planning at the Committee room of the Secretariat on June 14, 1955.

Co-operative Societies and eight other credit societies have also come forward to provide first aid facilities. Five societies issued loans to the value of Rs. 36,065 during the month. 18 well works were completed and a sum of Rs. 6,459 and Rs. 969 has been spent from the L.D. and R.W.S. funds respectively. Six miscellaneous works costing Rs. 12,980, three bath rooms, 3 latrines and 1,770 yards of drainage costing Rs. 10,204 have also been completed in the blocks during the month.

*Usilampatti Block*: Two hundred and eleven compost pits were dug and 303 unhealthy pits were rectified. 300 tons of manure was procured and 176½ lb. of seeds were distributed. 14 trench latrines were formed and 34 urinal pits were dug up. 74 Harijan cheris were cleaned. 20 well works were taken up during the month and 19 well works were completed. An amount of Rs. 21,844-8-0 was spent during the month.

*Periyar Community Project*: The expenditure on work during March 1955 was Rs. 47,019. A sum of Rs. 75,065 was spent by way of "Loans" and a sum of Rs. 60,642 was spent on other items.

*Estimate*: 42 estimates were prepared by the engineering personnel and 38 estimates were sanctioned. Four estimates were scrutinised and sent to other departments.

*General activities*: The Primary Health Centres at Vellalore and Kallandiri were opened during the month. The Minister for Agriculture visited Kattaimedu on 13th March 1955 and declared open the newly constructed school building and inaugurated the Veterinary First-Aid Centre Building at Alanganallur.

*Kallupatti Block*: During the month, 10 fertiliser demonstrations on ryots' field on cholam crop were laid out, and 124 demonstrations have been so far laid out. 96 compost and manure pits were dug and 127 unhealthy manure pits were rectified. 150 tons of compost were prepared. 22 spraying demonstrations were conducted. 250 lb. of MUI cotton seeds were arranged for distribution. 51 Rural water-supply works and 69 other works were paid for during the month. The number of works completed during this month alone is 36. A sum of Rs. 17,910-11-0 was paid for 51 well works during the month, out of which the Government of India allotment

spent is Rs. 12,598-2-0 and that of the State Government being Rs. 5,312-9-0. Under miscellaneous works, works such as reading rooms, Community Halls, Platforms, etc., a sum of Rs. 11,068-13-9 was spent during the month.

#### SALEM

*Attur Block—Seed Farms*: Village seed farms with C.O. 13 paddy is being successfully run at Nagiyampatti and Gengavalli villages.

*Compost pits*: Compost pits including Farm Yard Manure pits—232 to prepare 606 tons.

*Animal Husbandry*: 61 non-contagious cases were tried, 27 castrations were done, and 354 Ranikhet vaccinations were also carried out.

Two recreation clubs were started and 6 community entertainments organised. Three new libraries were also opened.

*Peddanaickanpalayam Block*: Two road works and improvements to one of the four schools have been completed during the month. The remaining works, viz., 5 roads, 4 community halls, 3 new schools and 3 improvement to schools are in progress.

#### COIMBATORE

*Kangayam Block*: Fifty acres of cotton crop was saved from rat damage by the use of Zinc Phosphate. Five fertiliser demonstration plots were laid out in irrigated cholam crop. The Extension Officer for Animal Husbandry toured for 20 days and visited 20 hamlets. The Officer visited 34 holdings, contacted the ryots, discussed with them the methods of improving the village cattle according to the conditions prevailing, the food schedules to be adopted for calves for early maturity and for other livestock in their farms, etc., and requested them to adopt such measures in their farms.

Under the head 'Village Communications' 42 works have been taken up for execution and 17 were completed. A sum of Rs. 61,933 was paid during this month. Total expenditure under this head is Rs. 69,342 for 1954-55. For these works Rs. 27,169 was received as contribution.

*Erode Community Project*: During the month, 5,072 maunds of fertilizers, 3,735 maunds of town compost and 160 maunds of green manure were distributed to the ryots. Fruits have

been cultivated on an extent of 10.24 acres and vegetables on an extent of 47.95 acres.

Orders were placed with the companies for the supply of 341 oil engines and pumpsets. Of this, 315 oil engines and pumpsets have so far been supplied. There is sufficient supply in the Lower Bhavani Project canal and channels and also in the wells.

Five Electricity Schemes—Savandapur, Edayankattuvalasu, Pudupalayam, Peria Agraharam and Thaluvampalayam—have been completed. The work relating to Unjalur-Kolathupalayam is in progress and a sum of Rs. 1,22,911 has been spent over this work. Besides the above, a sum of Rs. 3,01,972 has been spent on extension of Electricity in the Lower Bhavani Project area from the Pyakara systems.

*Lower Bhavani Project*: Five hundred and eighty-seven compost pits were dug in the month. 5,965 lb. of seeds and 26 implements were distributed. 64 acres of additional area were brought under cultivation. 117 soak pits, 3 rural latrines, 1,861 yards of drains, and 14 wells were constructed during the month. Twelve recreation centres were started and 3 community entertainments organised.

#### RAMANATHAPURAM

*Srivilliputhur, Rajapalayam and Sivakasi Blocks*: Sixty-seven sweeping campaigns were conducted in Srivilliputhur and Sivakasi Blocks. Drainage was constructed in Rajapalayam Block up to a total length of 1,897 feet. Rs. 8,200 was distributed in Rajapalayam Block and Rs. 7,230 in Srivilliputhur Block was disbursed to ryots for the purchase of manures.

Under Animal Husbandry, 461 cases were attended to, in the three Blocks.

Five road works are in progress in Srivilliputhur and Sivakasi Blocks. 15 Adult Literacy schools were started during the month.

#### MALABAR

*Tellicherry Block*: In Tellicherry National Extension Service Block, a Khadi exhibition was conducted during the period of the festival at the Jagannath Temple, Tellicherry, under the auspices of the National Extension Scheme. Another major exhibition demonstrating the activities of the National Extension Scheme on

(Continued on page 18)

## New House for old at Five Rupees

The Summer camps of students and scouts are about to begin. The Bharat Scouts and Guides expect there will be an assemblage of 1,200 to 1,500 scouts. The success of these camps depends on the contribution they make for the improvement of the village way of life and work. This contribution has not only to be useful but also visible to all. Its greatest value arises from the response it will excite in the villagers themselves. To this extent, the labour of the campers has to be in the nature of a catalytic agent starting a change for good in the trend of work and life in the village.

### *The Individual Benefit Approach*

The programme of work has to be accordingly drawn up. Various types of work have been tried so far, road making, deepening of tanks, construction of community buildings demand strenuous or skilled labour often too much for campers. While these works add to the amenities of the village, their catalytic effect is small, for reasons first, that these works are complete in themselves and second that since, their benefit is public, individual interest is weak and personal contribution unsustainable. In works which benefit the individual directly, and the community generally are different. Not only the individual benefited is more willing to contribute but more anxious to nurse the beginning made. This was demonstrated by the project undertaken by the students of Madras School of Social Service.

In the villages of Punjeri and Kulupanthandalam (as in all villages) they found that the majority of houses were of mud walls, which were not plastered, and of roofs, which had not been thatched. As soon as they began plastering, the owners and relations spontaneously joined with the result that 55 houses in the two villages were within four days transformed from hovels to houses, with whitewashed walls and roofs thatched with newly cut hay.

*Great Schemes of National reconstruction involve a lot more than precisely drawn up schemes and grants sanctioned. Imagination, an emotional awareness of the dreams and aspirations of the people, a psychological insight into the behaviour of men as groups and individuals are all required to make the new great schemes a success. Bearing this in mind, it would be of interest to read these two notes circulated by Sri J. M. Lobo Prabhu, I.C.S., Collector of Chingleput, to the concerned officers on certain aspects of village reconstruction. Summer camps of students and Scouts are of course about to close, but still the note would be of interest as guide for similar activities in the future.*

Apart from labour, the only contribution made was about Rs. 5 per house for the cost of lime, paint and thatching hay. The villagers have since proceeded to decorate and improve on the start made, some shopkeepers spending as much as Rs. 100 so that their shops and houses are now an example in brightness and cleanliness. A party of journalists organized by the Government of India stated that there had been a miraculous change, not only in the appearance of the houses, but in the appearance and spirit of the people. There was a sense of pride in existence, which contrasted sharply with the attitude of the inmates of the untouched houses. At the same time, applications have poured in from others that their houses also may be transformed.

### *Cleanliness and Beauty*

The reconstruction of houses has therefore to be a large part of the

programme of campers this year. The Development Officers should have precise plans and adequate materials ready in advance of the camps. They should also acquaint the villagers of what is proposed to be done, showing them, where possible, what has already been done in the Punjeri and Kulpanthandalam villages. On an average 50 campers should complete 50 houses in four days. Roadside houses may be preferred as they have greater demonstration value. Financial provision up to Rs. 5 per house may be made, which will far exceed the contribution in labour rendered by the campers and the villagers.

The aim should be to introduce a marked degree of cleanliness, orderliness and a touch of beauty in what is now squalid, neglected and disorderly. Campers with artistic capacities should be asked to decorate the inside, and even the outside of houses. Where the inmates desire and are prepared to find the materials, the walls may be raised, doors enlarged and windows introduced. After roadside houses, the preference should be given to the reconstruction of Harijan houses.

### *Mobilising the Invisible Instincts*

This scheme of house improvement has been found to mobilise the invisible instincts and resources of the people. It may start a general movement for better housing in villages, as the example, specially of Harijans in the proud possession of their houses, is likely to be in the nature of a challenge. The camps of 1955 therefore have a great promise, which the Development Officers should strive hard to realise. Copies of this note are being sent to all authorities in charge of camps so that they may prepare the campers in the work, and contribute any new features they consider useful. Better and brighter houses will not only symbolise the work of the campers, but also inspire people to a sense of new values in their work and life.



## Labour day in Community Development Areas

A feature of the Community Development has been the concourse of large numbers of people at public meetings. At Uthukottai, where some thousands had assembled, it was discussed and agreed that the enthusiasm natural to such large meetings could be turned to create something concrete. It was decided that villagers within a circle of three miles should be assembled once a week in every village of the circle, in turn, to carry out community and other projects. For a beginning it was decided that the existing houses with rough mud walls and decaying roofs are unsightly and unhygienic, and the villagers assembled will address themselves to the task of plastering the walls with mud, white-washing them and re-roofing with new straw. One day's labour of the assembled villagers was considered sufficient for the purpose. The response should be good, as individual interests, naturally more important are served by community efforts organized. The following scheme was, therefore, drawn up and will be tried in all the Community and National Extension Service Blocks:—

(1) The Block Development Officers will group villages within a circle of three miles into Labour Circle.

(2) They will draw up a programme, by which the labour forces of all the villages in the circle will

assemble once a week in different villages in turn.

(3) Lime for white-washing, Green Paint for painting doors and windows and thatch for roofing will be supplied to each village according to requirements as a grant-in-aid in return for the labour employed.

(4) One mid-day meal will be provided to the assembled workers, as an additional grant in aid for the work done.

(5) The Chairman of each village sanghams will be responsible for assembling the work force from his village for the Labour Day in the village selected for the week.

2. The success of this scheme will depend on the enthusiasm generated. This requires first complete preparation of a plan of works including assembling of materials for each Labour Day by the Block Development Officer and the Village Level Worker, second target-consciousness to finish the work of each village on the appointed Labour Day. To the extent this simple item of work of great material and psychological importance is completed and no unsightly houses left in any Community Development area, there will not only be a symbol of co-operative achievement, but a stimulus for other items, which can be completed with the enthusiasm and work of neighbouring villages.

## Government Transport News: April 1955

*Strength of Fleet:* Three Royal Leyland Tiger buses have been registered during the month under review to increase the strength of fleet from 407 to 410.

*Opening of new routes, extensions and diversions of the existing routes:* On a representation made by the residents of the Lattice Bridge area, the last service on Route 19 leaving Broadway at 21.00 hours via Tiruvanmiyur has been extended to Lattice Bridge.

*Specials and hires:* In connection with the Brahmotsavam festival at Mylapore, on 2nd April 1955, sixteen buses were operated from 20.00 hours till morning to clear the traffic.

Specials were operated from Parrys to Guindy on 3rd April 1955, 10th April 1955 and 17th April 1955 to provide transport facilities to the race-goers.

To cater to those attending the Kirthigai festival which fell on 24th April 1955, one special bus was operated between Vadapalani and Kodambakkam.

Buses were hired out to the Public as usual.

*General:* The fifth meeting of the City Transport Advisory Committee was held on 11th April 1955 when matters relating to traffic problems were discussed.

The Joint Transport Commissioner attended the meeting of the General Committee of the State Road Transport Undertakings at New Delhi on 13th and 14th April 1955. He also visited the Alywn Metal Works at Hyderabad on his way back from Delhi on 17th and 18th April 1955 in order to collect information in regard to the tender

## Sangeetha Nataka Sangam

The Government of Madras have appointed Srimathi Rukmini Devi Arundale as the Chairman of the Madras State Sangeetha Nataka Sangam for a term of three years and the Secretary to Government in the Finance Department as the ex-officio Treasurer of the Sangam for a period of three years from May 28, 1955.

The following persons have been appointed as the members of the General Council of the Madras State Sangeetha Nataka Sangam: (1) Sri V. C. Gopalratnam, B.A., B.L., (2) Sri M. P. Periaswamithoaran, (3) Sri S. Venkateswaran, I.C.S., (4) Sri T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, M.A., B.L., M.L.C., (5) Sri R. P. Sethu Pillai, (6) Sangeetha Kalanidhi Chittoor Subramaniam Pillai, (7) Sangeetha Kalanidhi Musiri Subramania Iyer, (8) Dr. V. Raghavan, M.A., Ph.D., (9) Rajah Muthiah Chettiar of Chettinad, (10) Sri Gopinath, (11) Sri E. Krishna Iyer, B.A., B.L., (12) Sri T. K. Shanmugam, (13) Sri P. Sambanda Mudaliar, (14) Sri S. S. Isaian, (15) Sri B. N. Reddi, (16) Isaiarasu M. M. Dandapani Desigar, (17) Sangeetha Bhupathi-Sangeetha Kalanidhi Maharajapuram Viswanatha Iyer, (18) Natya Kala Kesari Vazhuvoor V. B. Ramaiyya Pillai, (19) Srimathi Balasaraswati, (20) Nagaichuvai Selvan T. N. Sivathanu, (21) Kalaiavanar N. S. Krishnan, (22) Sri V. Nagiah, (23) Sri P. Sambamoorthy, B.A., B.L.

The Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 2,500 to the Madras State Sangeetha Nataka Sangam towards its initial expenditure for the year 1955-56.

made by that firm for bus body kits for 50 Leyland "World Master" Chasses.

The Ceylon Commerce Minister and party visited the Government Transport Central Workshop on 26th April 1955.

## Another Road is Laid

### *Students—the Earlier Type*

There was a time when our students in schools and Colleges were not quite unjustifiably accused of snobbery, their sense of superiority over others and their pretensions to vanity that erected a Chinese Wall as it were between them and their uneducated fellowmen. Indeed it was thought that the chasm that divided them from the people would be very difficult to remove for it was believed that they (the students) lived in their own world, unconnected with the harder facts of life and were hardly troubled by any sense of responsibility towards their less fortunate fellow beings, around. It was commonly believed that they built around them an unreal world of exclusiveness and were indifferent towards problems and activities which concerned ultimately their own future and rarely could they be expected to identify themselves with the interests of the common man. They looked down upon those who toiled for their life, whose only means of livelihood were their rugged and coarse hands and their hard sinews made harder by their toil. The spade that turned the sod and the plough that furrowed the earth

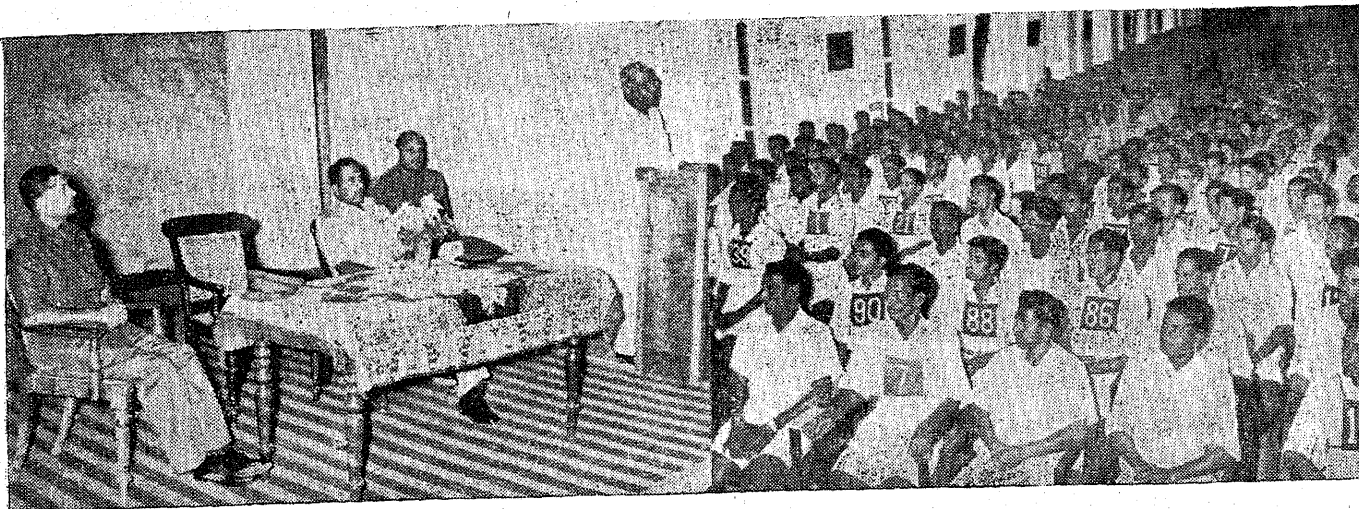
were not for them and who would dirty his hands with slime or mud—it was 'infra dig' to work like a common labourer—so thought the young aspiring mind browsing on the pages of the book.

### *The New Spirit*

With the dawn of Independence a new spirit came and a new outlook opened the eyes of the learned young, and the dignity of labour caught the imagination of young minds more than the books. With greater attention paid by Colleges to social work emphasising the need for the students to abandon their artificial aloofness from their downtrodden and neglected fellowmen, a profound transformation has taken place in the attitude of the students to the common man. The resounding success of the social service programmes involving manual labour on the part of the students is a clear evidence of the fact that students no longer suffer from unhealthy inhibitions from which previous generations had been suffering. There has been a slow eradication of prejudices based on false ideas of prestige and they have taken to social work with a zeal which is amazing.

### *The Dreamy-eyed Wields a Spade*

A decade back it would have been unthinkable that students would engage in activities like laying a road. But to-day it is no longer an impossibility but a reality. Witness for instance what the students of the Theagaraya School and College have achieved at Vaniachatram. A two-and-a-half mile road connecting a group of five villages with the main road leading to Red Hills has been laid entirely by the efforts of these youngsters. Against the background of the green fields and tall palmyra trees one could see young men armed with spades battling with a rugged soil and turning what was once a heap of mud, rock and thorns into a level stretch of road. A visit to the youth camp revealed what enthusiastic effort by young men could achieve. Meet Sri Chenniappan the leader of the whole group of 100 students who explained the activities of the camp. He is a slim, smart young man with dreamy eyes and a sun-burnt face. With the spade he was carrying, he demonstrated to us the work he was doing with a dexterity that showed that he knew his job thoroughly well. There was a look of determined



Auxiliary Cadet Corps—Training for the third batch of Teacher, Officers was inaugurated at College of Engineering, Guindy by Lt.-Col. Paul, Principal, on 27th May 1955.

1955

## Rural Electrification

The number of villages electrified during April 1955 in the various systems was as follows :—

Pykara System	..	..	..	..	11
Mettur System	..	..	..	..	8
Papanasam System	..	..	..	..	8
Madras System	..	..	..	..	5
Total ..					32

The names of villages and the particulars of taluks and districts are given below :—

### Pykara Electricity System.

	Taluk.	District.
Sindalangudu ..	Dindigul ..	Madurai.
Kuruduguli ..	Ootacamund ..	Nilgiris.
Begambur ..	Dindigul ..	Madurai.
Sirkarpudur ..	Udumalpet ..	Coimbatore.
Mallar ..	Udipi ..	South Kanara.
Padur ..	Do. ..	Do.
Narasingapuram ..	Dindigul ..	Madurai.
Vadipatti ..	Nilakottai ..	Do.
Velayudampalayam ..	Pollachi ..	Coimbatore.
Bembatti ..	Ootacamund ..	Nilgiris.
Belthal ..	Do. ..	Do.

### Mettur Electricity System.

Vengili ..	Vellore ..	North Arcot.
Turinapuram ..	Tiruvannamalai ..	Do.
Raipur ..	Do. ..	Do.
Savalpundi ..	Do. ..	Do.
Chengam ..	Chengam ..	Do.
Madianur ..	Tirukoilur ..	South Arcot.
Adikaripatti ..	Salem ..	Salem.
Kothakuppam ..	Vellore ..	North Arcot.

### Papanasam Electricity System.

Paravai ..	Madurai ..	Madurai.
Vallikulam ..	Ambasamudram ..	Tirunelveli.
Namasivayapuram ..	Do. ..	Do.
Watrap ..	Srivilliputtur ..	Ramanathapuram.
Pudupatti ..	Do. ..	Do.
Chatrapatti and Samsigapuram.	Do. ..	Do.
Murugalkurichi ..	Nanguneri ..	Tirunelveli.
Therku-Nanguneri ..	Do. ..	Do.

### Madras Electricity System (Distribution).

Koladi ..	Saidapet ..	Chingleput.
Devanur ..	Chingleput ..	Do.
Karunguli ..	Maduranthakam ..	Do.
Mathuranthakam Town ..	Do. ..	Do.
Kalembakkam ..	Tiruvallur ..	Do.

A large number of rural extension schemes were progressing. The following are the particulars of new lines constructed and energised during the month in the several systems :—

	Length in miles.	
	H.T.	L.T.
Pykara Electricity System	4.96	16.92
Mettur	2.89	23.97
Papanasam	14.0	43.0
Madras	6.71	6.39
Total ..	28.56	90.28

optimism and joy in his face when he asserted with self-confidence that the work he and his colleagues were doing will succeed, no matter what obstacles came their way. They had to contend, he explained against the vagaries of nature. A day's rain could spoil a week's work they had done. But with a tone at once resolute and firm he expressed his determination to carry on despite nature's merciless vagaries. This enthusiasm was reflected in the whole group and was not merely confined to the leader.

At each step the work was a test for their qualities, of discipline, agility, presence of mind and courage. But they have proved themselves equal to the task. The job certainly was not an easy affair—weeds and thorns had to be removed and trees uprooted. The road they were laying covered an area running through zig-zag devious paths. Further there was the question of the co-operation of the villagers. The response of the villagers was given readily, so we understood, and this is due, the leader explained, to the approach made to them which was one of equality and not one charged with the patronising air of benign charity.

### Training ground

Good use is made of the funds which run to the tune of Rs. 6,300, allotted by the Government to the camp. The students' mess at the camp site have all facilities including recreation. The adult literacy classes that they are holding will go a long way in acquainting the villagers with the traditional 3 R's. But far more important are the effects on the students themselves. It has provided an excellent training ground for them, to develop a keen sense of awareness to the nation's problems and a consciousness of responsibility for its progress. The experience has widened their vision and given them a golden opportunity to learn how to be good and useful citizens and how to be among the people, and help those who need it, in removing ignorance and poverty by their own efforts and work by their own willing hands.

The success of the camp is the happy consummation of a magnificent co-operative effort. It is a laudable venture that shows what students can do if they are properly organized. The road these young men lay is the road to prosperity through co-operative endeavour.

## Village Co-operatives and Development Work

### *The Scope of Assistance*

The extent to which co-operatives could assist in local development works in the National Extension Service and the Community Project Areas was discussed by the Registrar in December 1954, with the Commissioner for Land Revenue and Development, the Director of Community Projects and the Secretary to the Commissioner, Board of Revenue. The object in view was that co-operative Societies which have established themselves firmly in villages should play an important part in the promotion of rural welfare formulated by the Community Projects and the National Extension Service Administration.

It was generally agreed that in executing the several works under the local development schemes such as sinking and deepening of irrigation wells and tanks, construction of and repairs to roads, construction of community halls, excavation of canals, etc., the village co-operatives which are in a position to undertake such works should be persuaded to do so. For achieving this object, the Deputy Registrars were asked to select suitable village credit societies in their circles and see that they assisted in the execution of local Government works. The societies were instructed to adopt necessary amendments to their by-laws for enabling them to undertake the works and a set of model by-laws was also framed for the purpose. The Deputy Registrars have been making preliminary arrangements such as selection of societies, adoption of necessary by-laws, etc., but as the works during the financial year 1954-55 had already been sanctioned and entrusted to private contractors, the societies could not make much headway.

### *They Undertake Works*

Some of the societies have undertaken local development works such as sinking and deepening of wells, construction of community halls, roads, village atrines, culverts, maternity centres,

etc., as indicated in the concluding paragraph. So far, in 22 Deputy Registrars' circles, 62 societies have been selected for undertaking local development works. Some of them have already amended their by-laws making provision for enabling them to undertake the works and the rest are taking steps to amend the by-laws. The Registrar suggested to Government that village co-operative societies might be entrusted with the execution of works under the Community Project and the Community Development programmes in the same manner as the beneficiaries, their representatives, village development committees and local bodies when such works do not involve a high degree of professional and technical skill, are now entrusted. The Government have accepted the suggestion and directed that, other things being equal, and subject to their capacity, for executing works, the village co-operative societies be also entrusted with the execution of these works without calling for tenders.

### *The Progress So Far*

The progress so far achieved in this direction is indicated below :—

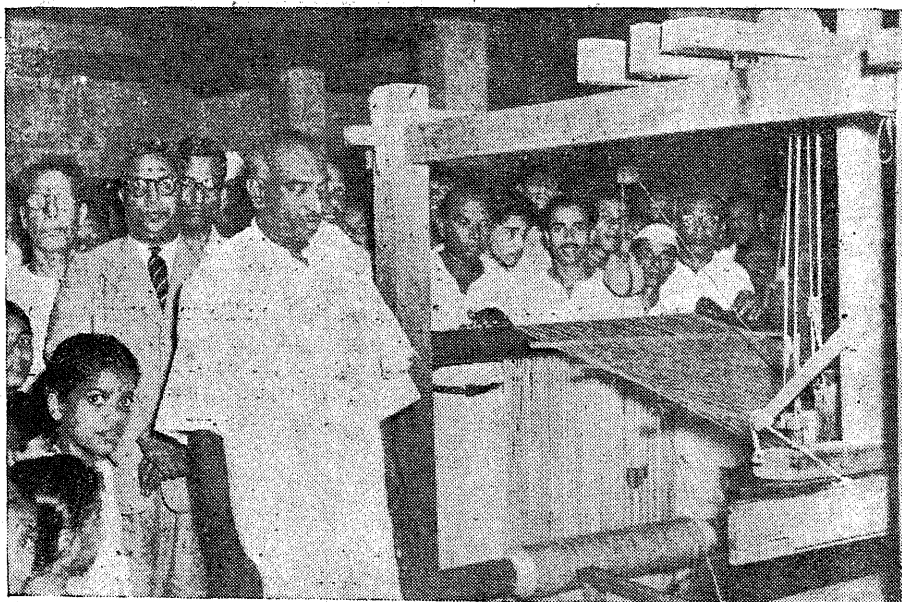
(1) *Vellore South Circle (North Arcot District)*: The Karpoondi Co-operative Society has undertaken the construction of a cheri road at an estimated cost of Rs. 720. It has completed works to the value of Rs. 491 and it is expected that the work will be finished by the end of May.

(2) *Kumbakonam Circle (Tanjore District)*: The Achalpuram Multi-purpose Co-operative Society is constructing a mud road about a mile and a half long at an estimated cost of Rs. 500. Besides, the following local development works have been undertaken by the societies in this circle :—

(a) Repairs to irrigation channels in Mannigramam.

(b) Construction of two culverts and bore well at Kalanivasal.

(Continued on page 15)



Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, inspecting the Thottada Weavers' Industrial Co-operative Society in Malabar during his recent tour of the district.

Our Legislature

## The Question Hour

By SRI A. J. SABESAN, M.A., Secretary to the Council

Question-time is one of the outstanding features of our Legislature when it exercises its function as a "grand inquest" of the nation "a Board of control over the Government" and as such the most attractive part of the daily sitting for the visitor. This hour has become very popular with the members also as it gives them an occasion to turn a searchlight upon every corner of the public service, to draw public attention to a grievance, in brief, to bring almost every Department of the Government under review and to make themselves felt by the Ministry of the day. The House ordinarily meets at 11 a.m. and unless it unanimously decides otherwise, the first hour of the sitting is spent on the asking and answering of questions except for preliminary business of a formal or ceremonial nature, which do not occur every day, e.g., swearing-in of new members, motions of condolences on the death of members, etc. The subjects covered range from proposals under the Five-Year Plan to the assignment of lands in a remote village.

Questions fall into three categories (1) *Starred Questions* or questions requiring an oral answer in the House on which supplementary questions might be put. (2) *Unstarred Questions* or questions requiring a written reply on which no supplementary questions are put; (3) *Short Notice Questions* or questions which, in view of their urgency or public importance, are answered within the prescribed period of notice under the orders of the Speaker/Chairman with the consent of the Member of the Government concerned.

*Method of asking Questions*

A member desiring to put a question gives notice of the same in writing to the Secretary. The period of notice prescribed by the rules is seven clear days before the date of the meeting

when he wishes the question to be answered. A member may give notice of a question even before he is sworn in. In so giving notice of the question, a member who desires an oral answer to his question distinguishes it by an asterisk. Questions requiring long statements or statistics are not to be starred. In the case of the Legislative Council the Chairman is further given power under the rules to direct that a question be treated as unstarred, if in his opinion, a written reply would be more appropriate.

*Scope and range of questions*

The questions are then examined as to whether they are in conformity with the rules summarised below as to what may be asked and the form in which they are to be asked and the decision of the Speaker/Chairman as to their admissibility is final.

Questions addressed to Ministers must relate to public affairs with which the Minister is officially connected or to a matter of administration for which he is responsible. It will not be in order to ask questions for instance, raising matters under the control of the Local Boards and Universities except in so far as they relate to public affairs with which the Minister is officially connected, or in regard to matters within the jurisdiction of the Union Government and other State Governments. Individual and private or purely parochial grievances not involving any public concern also cannot form the subject of questions in the Legislature.

Questions are not admissible which ask for information which the members might have obtained for themselves from published reports (e.g., Census Reports and Administration Reports), for such information is equally available to the member and is not a matter within the special cognisance of the Minister.

Questions are intended for obtaining information and must not for this reason supply it or ask for an expression of opinion. Statements of fact should be limited to what is necessary to make the question intelligible, and arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements must be avoided. A question may be put about the intentions of the Government either legislatively or administratively, but not about policy too large to be dealt with within the limits of an answer to a question or matters relating to the proceedings of the Council of Ministers.

The fact whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a specific article in a specific newspaper is not a matter of public concern. Where it is proposed to interpellate upon the allegations contained in a newspaper, the questioner should embody the allegations in his question so that he makes himself and not the newspaper responsible for the accuracy of the statement.

Questions which would prejudice the position of a person who was about to be brought to trial before a Court of Justice or relate to the conduct or character of a person except in his official capacity or reflect on the conduct or action of the Governor are not in order.

In the House of Commons a question may not refer to the debates or answers to questions in the current session. In our Legislature a question which has once been fully answered or anticipates a question of which notice has already been given will be inadmissible.

Questions dealing with matters within the jurisdiction of the Speaker/Chairman should be addressed to the Speaker/Chairman by private notice. No written or public notice of questions addressed to the Speaker/Chairman

is permissible. As a matter of convention questions about the Speaker/Chairman and his staff have not been encouraged.

The old rules contained a provision, as in the House of Commons, that a question addressed to a non-official member must relate to some Bill or Resolution or any other matter connected with the business of the House for which that member is responsible but it was omitted in the revision of the rules in 1937.

#### *List for the day*

Questions which are in order and for which an oral answer is required are arranged according to the Ministers to whom they are addressed and entered in the list of questions for the day. An endeavour is made to include in the list of questions for a day only so many such questions as judged by ordinary experience can be answered within the space of one hour. No limit has however been fixed as to the number of questions a member is entitled to ask on each day.

#### *Procedure in the House*

When the questions are taken up in the House, the Speaker/Chairman calls out the name of the member putting each question in the order in which the questions appear in the printed list and specifies the serial number of his question. Thereupon, the member stands in place and says "I put the question." Member giving notice of the question may authorise some other member to put the question on his behalf during his absence. The Minister to whom the question is addressed then makes his reply. After the answer has been given, the Speaker/Chairman makes a sufficient pause to give members a reasonable opportunity of putting supplementary questions. This supplementary may be asked by the member who put the original question on the order paper or by some other member interested in the topic under interrogation. If two or three members rise, the Speaker/Chairman usually calls the original questioner. He is entitled as Mr. Baldwin once put it "to wring the last drop out of the orange before any one else comes in."

Supplementary questions are intended for further elucidating any matter of fact regarding which an answer has been given. The rules relating to the subject-matter of questions apply also to supplementary

questions. A Minister to whom a supplementary question is addressed may ask for notice or decline to answer it on the ground that to answer it would be against public interest. No discussion is permitted in respect of a question or any answer given to a question.

Within these restrictions, one supplementary question is followed by another in quick succession. Often a question produces a barrage of supplementaries in an attempt to catch the Government off its guard, and the chase of the Minister continues until the interpellating member succeeds, in eliciting something more from the Government than the mere information which the rules concede or draws from the Government a pronouncement as to their intention to remedy the grievances placed before them or a statement of the reasons which preclude them from interfering. When the Speaker/Chairman finally decides that the hunt has gone on sufficiently long, he passes on to the next question.

Some supplementary questions and answers characteristic of this hour are given below:

*Minister*: When the time arises for such consideration, I shall decide what I should do.

*Member*: May I take it that the Minister has not made up his mind on that matter?

*Minister*: What I said does not imply that.

*Member*: May I know what it does imply?

*Minister*: The hon. Member knows the English language as well as I do.

*Minister*: I cannot answer that question. (Several voices: Why not? A voice: He dare not.)

*Member*: May I know whether the Minister is aware that the vote of this House is binding on him and the other Ministers?

*Minister*: I do not think the vote of the House means what the hon. Member says (Laughter and cries 'Oh Oh').

*Minister*: That is a matter of opinion, Sir. It is not a fact on which a supplementary question can be asked by an hon. Member.

*Member*: It is not a matter of opinion.

*Minister*: Mr. President, it is for you to rule on that point and not my hon. Friend.

*Hon. President*: I do not find any seeking for an opinion there. (Swara-jist cheers).

\* \* \*

*Member*: In view of the fact that the ordinary engineers are not familiar with the work connected with these temple buildings, may I know whether the Government will continue to appoint sthaphathis and put them in charge of renovation of these temples?

*Minister*: The Government will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member, Sir.

*Member*: Have the Government any proposal to establish a training school to train people in temple architecture, Sir?

*Minister*: No, Sir.

\* \* \*

*Member*: May I know whether the name of Kodaikanal is in the list?

*Minister*: When the hon. Deputy Leader of the Opposition resides there, I don't think Government's interference is necessary to develop that place.

\* \* \*

*Member*: Sir, Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to take active steps to solve the unemployment problem among the hon. Members of the Assembly? (Laughter.)

*Minister*: Sir, I knew that the hon. Member Sri when he rose would ask some such question. But I am not prepared with an answer. (Laughter.)

\* \* \*

*Member*: While even the natural law demands that both husband and wife should be together, why should the Government of Madras think of separating them in Government service? (Laughter.)

*Minister*: Sir, Government do not ever think of separating husband and wife. But I do not know whether the natural law demands that both husband and wife should be in service. (Renewed laughter.)

All starred questions which are not reached and all unstarred questions with the answers thereto are included in the printed proceedings of the House. Occasionally however questions are taken over to another day at the request of a Member or Minister.

(Continued on page 32)

# Sri Madheswaraswami Temple

By SRI K. R. VENKATACHALAM, Executive Officer

This holy shrine is situated in Madheswaranmalai Village in the heart of the Eastern Ghats on the southern border of Karnatakadesa. It is at a distance of 50 miles east of Kollegal and 33 miles west of Mettur Dam, in Salem District. The Temple is surrounded by a prakaram with Mantapams on all sides. The Sannidhi is facing towards west and the main Gopuram in the prakaram facing south. Towards north there is a gate by name Alambadi Basawan Gate. The main Temple consists of (a) Garbagraham, (b) Ardhamantapam, (c) Mahamantapam and (d) a front Mantapam consisting of 25 anganams. Besides this Temple, there are holy places here such as Salur Mutt, Seshan Udayar Temple, Anthara Ganga and Nagamalai, etc. The founder of Salur Mutt is reported to be one Samsara Sangappa who followed Sri Madheswarar to this place.

## Earlier Days of Sri Madheswar

It has been ascertained that Sri Madheswarar's Sanskrit name was Nirmaya Ganeshwara and that he was the 7th Jagathguru of the Great Basaweswara's Sunyasimhasana of Kalyan in Beedher District in Hyderabad State and that he came from northern Karnatakadesa about 650 years back. As far as we know Sri Madheswarar was residing during His youth at Suthoor Mutt, Suthoor Village on the bank of Kapini River, Nanjangud taluk, Mysore district. There are two memorials of Sri Madheswarar at Suthoor, one is Pooja Gathigai and the other is (Ragi Kallu). It is said that Sri Madheswarar as a disciple was entrusted with flouring Ragi for use in the Mutt and that the huge ragi stone used to turn round of its own accord due to the undisputed Mahimas of Sri Madheswarar. The same ragi stone is still available and is kept in Someshwara Temple in the same village.

The Gathigai mentioned above is in Suthoor Mutt. His Guru, Sri Siddhanjanja Desikaru noticed the Divine

Power in His disciple and began to worship Him. Sri Madheswarar never liked this, fell out and proceeded to Sri Prabhulinga Betta near Kunthur Village which is at a distance of about 7 miles from Kollegal. On the Betta is the Temple of Prabhudevaswami and at the foot of the hillock is a memorial, viz., Sri Madheswarar's Feet cut on a rock and on which a Mantapam has since been erected. Sri Jagathguru Adhiganeshwara was His Guru at this place. Here also Sri Madheswarar exhibited His Mahimas and the Divine Power in Him. He used to convert by His Mahimas, stones, rocks, rubbish, etc., into fragrant beautiful flowers and cured incurable diseases for several people merely by His Grace (authority—Prabhudevar Sahithya and Niranjana Vamsa Ratnakara—Kannarese Granthas).

## Divinity Recognised

History repeated itself at Prabhulinga Betta also. The Guru took cognisance of His Sishya's Mahimas and Divine Powers, honoured Him and advised Him that He should not serve him any longer. Thereupon Sri Madheswarar decided to go to a secluded place and accordingly chose Madheswaranmalai a remote and inaccessible forest, with one Samsari Sangappa, one of His Sishyas (authority—Sri Madheswarar's Sangithya). At Madheswaranmalai Sri Madheswarar constructed a hermitage now known as Salur Mutt and requested Samsari Sangappa to feed the visitors. In the site where the present Temple is, Sri Madheswarar used to sit on performance of Yoganishta and finally attained samadhi.

## Voluntary worship by the Cow

It is narrated that after a lapse of time, a cow owned by one Jungai Gowda of Alambadi (a village which was at a distance of about 10 miles from Madheswaranmalai and now become uninhabited), used to go to the spot where Madheswarar obtained samadhi and offer its milk voluntarily. This was noticed by Jungai Gowda who

ascertained the truth and also constructed the (present garbhagraha) Temple.

## Offerings Pour-in

In 1774 A.D. Hyder Ali Khan of Srirangapatam granted a Thambara Sasana for the management of the Temple. On 31st October 1812, the East India Company granted a Sanad in Tamil for the management of this Temple. Sri Madheswarar has been a favourite Deity for the Royal Family of Mysore. In 1814 Mummadi Krishna Raja Wadiyar, the then ruler of Mysore offered a gold Kolagam to the Deity and Her Highness (Ranivasa) offered silver vessels, etc. In 1935 late Nalmudi Krishnaraja Wadiyar, who also visited this Temple offered a big Car and several gold jewels. The present Rajpramukh Sri Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.B., is a great devotee of Lord Madheswara. He has been graciously pleased to visit this Temple five times within a period of three years. His first visit was on 26th November 1951, on which he worshipped the Deity and laid foundation for a free Choultry at Madheswaranmalai. He visited second on 18th February 1953 and also performed the opening ceremony of the newly formed Ghat road from the foot of the hill. This road was recently formed by the Temple Authorities by securing the aid of the Madras Government.

The Rajpramukh was pleased to visit this Temple with his Family and the child prince, on 4th December 1953, and arranged to have the Choultry declared open by his mother, Her Highness The Yuvarani of Mysore and handed over the same to the Temple Authorities. The fourth and the fifth visit of His Highness and the Royal family to the Temple were on 22nd November 1954 and 20th February 1955 respectively. Besides the above, he has offered some costly gem set, gold jewels, etc., and also arranged for the performance of regular sevass throughout the year.

(Continued on page 32)

## B.C.G. Vaccination

The attention of the Government has been drawn to certain correspondence in the Press regarding the Mass B.C.G. Vaccination programme in the State. A careful study of the recent literature on the subject and the considered opinion of the technical experts leave no room for doubt regarding the wisdom of the inoculation drive. The following extracts provide a definitely affirmative answer to the question—“Does the attenuated bovine tubercle bacillus create an immunity against the normal human infection?”—

### *Experiment by Nature*

(1) One of the most convincing proofs is from an experiment carried out by nature unaided by man. Hyge (School Medical Officer in Denmark) in 1947, has reported in a school, of age group 12—18, an unsuspected case of open Tuberculosis in one of the teachers who remained in contact with her pupils for about two months. Of the exposed girls, 106 had been B.C.G. vaccinated and 94 were unvaccinated. Of the vaccinated group, two acquired Tuberculosis and of the unvaccinated, 41 developed Tuberculosis.

(2) Aronson (Professor of Micro Biology, Phip's Institute, Philadelphia) and Palmer (Medical Statistician of the United States Public Health Service), in the U.S.A. (1935—38), showed that the incidence of Tuberculosis among about 1,500 vaccinated was 40, and among 1,500 unvaccinated, was 185.

(3) Ferguson of Saskatchewan, Canada, reported in 1946, in the Canadian Journal of Public Health, that among 1,005 B.C.G. vaccinated nurses 0.9 per cent acquired Tuberculosis, whereas, of 759 unvaccinated Tuberculin negative nurses, 3.8 per cent acquired Tuberculosis, i.e., about four times as many. He concludes—“The serious situation that had been developing with regard to excessive incidence of Tuberculosis among nurses and Sanatoria employees, who did not react to Tuberculosis on entering the environment, during the period 1930—38, has not been present, since vaccination

of negative reactors was begun in September 1938. The nursing schools in Saskatchewan no longer have anxiety and worry with regard to excessive Tuberculosis developing among their negatively reacting staff.”

(4) R. Stevenson Doig (School Medical Officer, Stornoway, Lewis, England) reports in the Lancet of 2nd April 1955, that 3,000 persons were vaccinated in 1950, and by September 1954, none had been notified as tuberculous, whereas of 1,188 positive reactors in 1949, 29 had been notified and of 2,814 negatives, 9 had been likewise notified. In view of this, he states that he is convinced that B.C.G. confers immunity of a High degree.

(5) Observations in different countries indicate that unvaccinated tuberculin negative subjects are more likely to develop active tuberculosis than comparable vaccinated people, in the ratio of about 6 : 1. Irvine (B.C.G. Adviser to the Oxford Regional Board) in 1954 arrived at this figure, by studying results of ten surveys in the different parts of the world during the years 1940 and 1953. Heaf, Professor of Tuberculosis in the University of Wales, reports in the Lancet of 12th February 1955, that the surveys done so far indicate quite definitely that B.C.G. vaccination does offer considerable protection against the development of primary tuberculosis.

The most important argument in favour of B.C.G. vaccination is, that primary infection with active human bacilli may result in progressive disease ending in death, in an appreciable number of cases. That is why, primary infection with human bacilli should be avoided at all costs and a certain preliminary immunity should be produced with the attenuated B.C.G. vaccine.

It has been suggested that there is really no need for the vaccination programme as 80 per cent of the population of India gave a positive reaction to the tuberculin test. That such a statement is totally incorrect, is shown by the following sample figures based

on the testing of several lakhs of people in our own State :—

Place.	Percentage positive in age groups.	
	0—6	6—14
Coimbatore—Urban.	14.4	44.5
Rural.	10.5	25.2
Udipi—Urban ..	16.4	39.6
Rural ..	17.7	33.3
Salem—Urban ..	16.3	37.7
Rural ..	12.0	29.8

It will be seen from the above tabular statement that well over 50 per cent of the individuals under the age of 14 are in need of the protection offered by B.C.G.

Mass X-ray examination of the population has shown that among the persons naturally infected, no less than 2—3 or even 4 per cent in certain localities, shows evidence of active disease. It is from this group that more than 500,000 deaths from Tuberculosis per year occur in India. Of the remaining, many are potential subjects of Tuberculosis.

The following facts give a definitely negative answer to the question—“Is there danger in mass inoculation by live B.C.G.?”

### *No danger*

(1) Repeated attempts by many workers have been made to try to restore virulence to the organisms in B.C.G. vaccine. None of these attempts have so far succeeded and the organisms have remained in attenuated condition.

(2) In Europe, between 1951—53 more than 16 million persons were vaccinated in the Mass vaccination campaigns of the WHO with no untoward results—(Bulletin of the WHO, 1955—Volume XII).



(3) In India, since the campaign started in 1949, 16,725,175 persons have been vaccinated and no untoward results have been reported among them also.

(4) In Madras City and the mufassal, a follow-up of random samples among the vaccinated children has shown no harmful effects.

Preliminary enquiries regarding the case of a child from Coimbatore Municipality, reported in the papers, suggest that her illness had no relation to B.C.G. or small-pox vaccination. However, Government is deputing a panel of senior specialists to study the case in detail and submit a report.

#### Latest Information from England

The Government have received the following latest information from the Government of India in respect of the progress of B.C.G. Vaccination in England and it is released for the information of the public.

There has been a national movement throughout England and Wales during the last few years under the auspices of the Ministry of Health and all school children between the ages of 13—14 are being inoculated against tuberculosis. It is considered by the experts in England that the first five years after leaving school constitute the most important period during which the boys and girls need some extra protection against tuberculosis and this protection is afforded through B.C.G. Vaccination. As most casualties in the young occur in early adult life, the inoculation helps them to get an early immunity. The B.C.G. Vaccination service is being given in all the Ministry of Education Establishments as part of their service. Many cities in the north of England and cities like Colchester in the south have already been completed and the inoculation is now going on in the London schools, apart from the work that has been completed in parts of London.

It is the considered opinion of the Public Health Department of the London County Council that B.C.G. Vaccination is in no way harmful at any age. On the other hand, it is considered to be the best way known to medical science, at present, of protecting anyone against any but the most severe exposure to tuberculosis. Accordingly, the London County Council has offered this safeguard free of charge to all children in its schools before they complete 14 years of age.

## Nearly Three Lakhs of Automobiles in India

That 155,234 privately-owned automobiles, 38,728 buses and 91,425 trucks are plying in the various States of India was revealed in a written reply by Sri O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister for Railways and Transport, to a question by Pt. D. N. Tiwary in the Lok Sabha on March 22, 1955.

The following statement was laid on the table of the House showing the number of private cars, buses and goods vehicles taxed in the various States during the last quarter of the financial year 1952-53 :—

State.	Private cars.	Buses.	Goods vehicles.
Assam .. .. .	4,728	1,317	4,577
Bihar .. .. .	6,783	1,417	3,978
Bombay .. .. .	37,315	4,511	15,061
Madhya Pradesh .. .. .	4,500	1,277	3,460
Madras .. .. .	23,227	6,128	9,319
Orissa .. .. .	2,097	656	2,110
Punjab .. .. .	2,865	1,413	3,004
Uttar Pradesh .. .. .	10,112	3,975	6,119
West Bengal .. .. .	27,278	8,425	25,918
Hyderabad .. .. .	7,090	1,343	3,110
Jammu and Kashmir .. .. .	260	496	1,212
Madhya Bharat .. .. .	2,081	541	903
Mysore .. .. .	5,590	1,063	1,630
Pepsu .. .. .	1,500	802	763
Rajasthan .. .. .	4,959	2,112	2,916
Saurashtra .. .. .	1,966	445	1,530
Travancore-Cochin .. .. .	3,438	1,612	2,131
Ajmer .. .. .	1,040	126	198
Bhopal .. .. .	321	80	347
Bilaspur .. .. .	3	6	4
Coorg .. .. .	232	86	293
Delhi .. .. .	7,135	490	1,586
Himachal Pradesh .. .. .	55	..	30
Kutch .. .. .	270	70	260
Manipur .. .. .	96	12	423
Tripura .. .. .	40	71	142
Vindhya Pradesh .. .. .	230	241	368
Andamans and Nicobar Islands.	14	6	15

(Continued from page 10)

(c) Repairs to road at Sarabojirajapuram.

(d) Excavation of channels in Keerambiar.

(3) *Erode Circle (Coimbatore District)*.—The Kavandampalayam Multi-purpose Co-operative Society has undertaken three small well works and the works are in progress.

(4) *Malabar South Circle*.—Two drinking water wells were sunk by the Kuthanur and Kannanur Multi-purpose Co-operative societies in the Palghat Community Project area.

(5) *Tuticorin Circle (Tirunelveli District)*.—The Valampatti Multi-purpose Co-operative Society has undertaken the construction of the Valampatti-Arunachalapuram road and the voluntary labour valued at Rs. 50 has been contributed by the members of the society.

(6) *Tiruchirappalli North Circle*.—

The Thaluthalai Co-operative Society has undertaken construction of a community hall at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,500 and has completed the work except plastering and roofing.

(7) *Tirukkoyilur Circle (South Arcot District)*.—The Dagantheerthapuram and Thottapadi Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies have undertaken works connected with the construction of a radio house and a reading room respectively at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,200 each and the works are in progress.

The enthusiasm with which some of the village co-operatives come forward to undertake local development works is indicative of their desire for village development, and given the necessary facilities, they will be able to play a vital role in the promotion of rural welfare in social and economic spheres.

## Geriatrics—The care of the Aged

By DR. VISHNU SARMA, M.A. (Cantab), M.B., B.CHIR., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (London),  
Civil Assistant Surgeon, The Government Raja Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar Lying-in Hospital, Madras

"Old age, a second child, by nature curst with more and greater evils than the first weak, sickly, full of pains, in every breath; railing at life, and yet afraid of death."

—Churchill Gotham,

Bk. 1. Line 215

From Western standards we die quite young. Many of us never reach the British standard of old age—namely, 65 years for a man and 60 for a woman. That is the time when they become entitled to their old age pensions.

### *Old Age, a Serious Problem*

While it is true that most of us die young, times will come when we shall linger to a ripe old age. Better standards of medical care, newer drugs to combat disease, public health measures to wipe out killers such as malaria, typhoid and kalaazar, better economic and housing conditions which will eliminate anæmia and other deficiency diseases—all these will mean that we shall live longer and there will be more of us. This will take some time and immediately we are bothered about more pressing problems. Yet, old age is a very serious problem causing great anxiety to the British people. In Britain to-day one in seven is an old person, a pensioner. It will not be long before, that those over 60 will outnumber those below 20 years of age. If old people remain non-productive living as parasites on the State, a very unfair burden will be placed on the younger members. Economic stability will suffer. It is not that the old people are infirm or unable to work properly or that they are happy to remain idle. Far from it, they are keen to carry on, but the State has to draw a line somewhere and at these arbitrary age limits people have to retire.

Every person when he becomes old (reaches pensionable age) should be

submitted to a test of both his mental and physical powers. One should seek to discover whether or not he is suited to continue his occupation. It is important that those who are eminently fit to do so, should be encouraged to carry on, because the sudden cessation of activity precipitates and quickens the process of 'ageing'. The person used to intense activity finding himself with nothing to do becomes discontented and restless. Technical and professional men find other types of work unsuitable and disagreeable. A human being must have something to do, something he or she enjoys doing. Unless the aged can be kept occupied they soon become a burden to themselves and to society.

Many deformities and disabilities afflict the aged. Two vitally important conclusions have been reached by scientific investigations. One is that one-third of all old people admitted to a hospital die within a month, mainly because of the serious diseases which strike at this period of life. Of the others more than a one-third may be completely rehabilitated with appropriate medical care and exercises so that they can return to their previous occupation.

### *Growing old—Can it be arrested?*

Our modern concept of old age is not just the passage of years but the efficiency with which a person's mind and body works. Many who are old are young in spirit and capable of more intense and useful activity than many who are in their bloom of youth. What makes a person old? Can the process be delayed? By devising ingenious experiments it is possible to estimate the acuity of a person's senses, his power of movement and his capacity to co-ordinate mental and physical activity.

By a detailed study of the tissues of the aged, scientists are trying to discover the bio-chemical basis underlying the process of growing old. The secret

is probably contained in the intricate molecular activity which goes on within tissues such as muscle. It appears that these molecules become in-elastic after prolonged use and lose the resilience of youth. Can such a process be prevented or at least delayed?

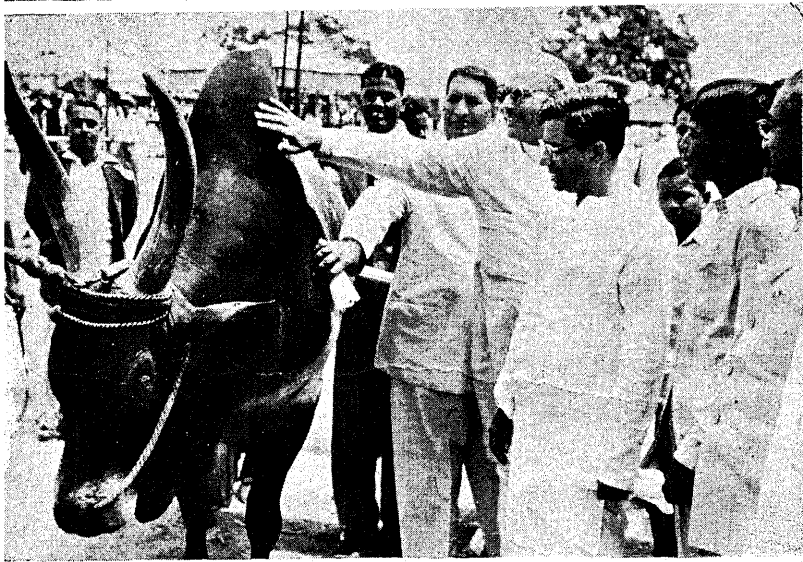
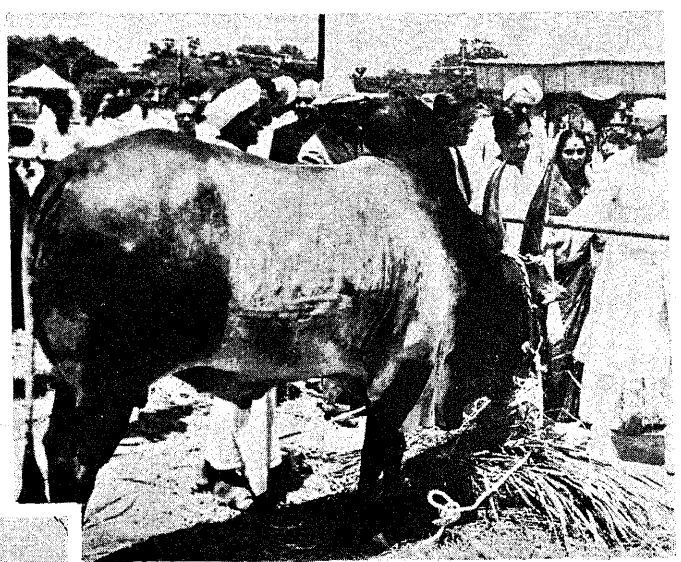
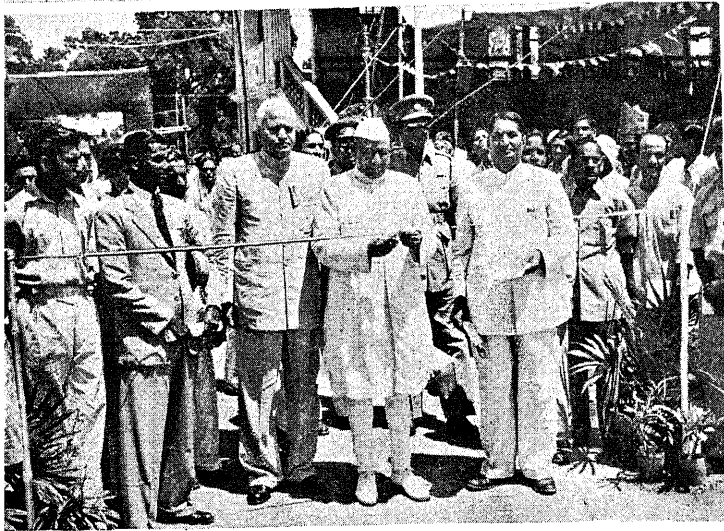
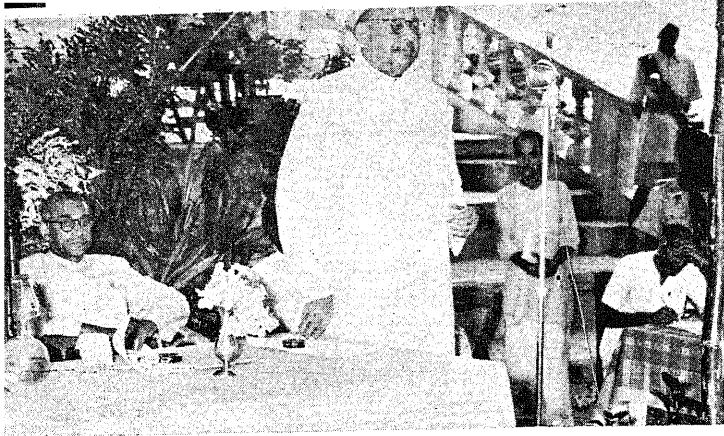
The last war showed that with encouragement the old and the infirm can also contribute richly to national advancement. Why should they not do so in times of peace as well?

The second thing is this. To confine an old person to bed perpetually is to despatch him quickly to the grave. Prolonged bed rest in old age is lethal. Contrary to the widely accepted belief, it is better to allow a person to be up and about than be passively in a bed.

### *The Will to Live*

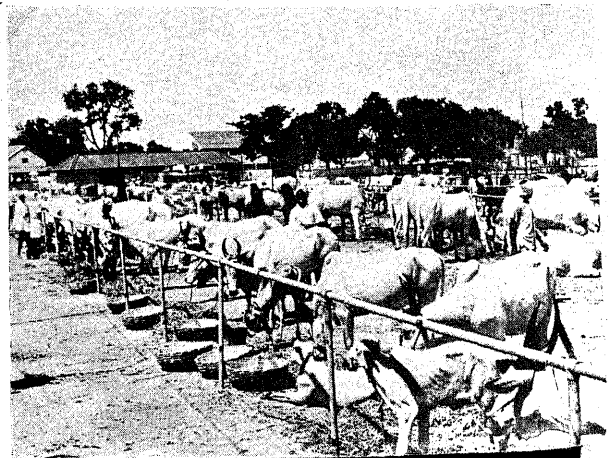
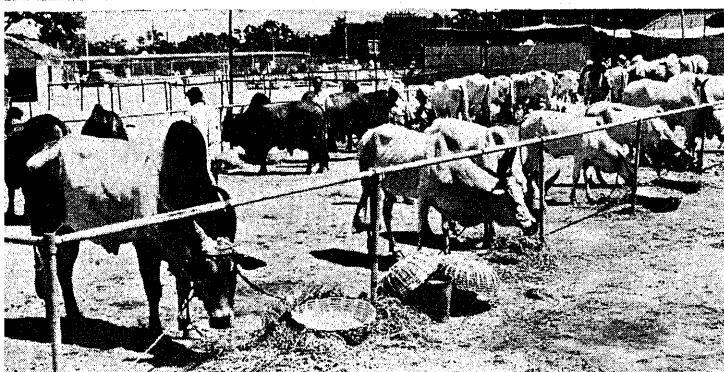
Old people are prone to fall and break their bones. The wrist and thigh bones are the commonest ones to be injured. Breaking a thigh bone is a serious matter because it usually means a prolonged confinement to bed in a plaster-of-paris cast. With modern medical care and skilled nursing it is a bit difficult to die in a hospital bed. So they linger in their beds as cripples and soon deteriorate, losing the will to live. An interesting experiment is being tried at the Accident Hospital in Birmingham, the foremost centre in the world for treatment and early rehabilitation of the injured. The old people provided they stand the slightest chance of pulling through, are operated upon and their broken hip and thigh bones are repaired by internal mechanical fixation using specialised orthopaedic techniques. I have seen this done to a lady of 99. Usually most of them pull through and are made to be up and about on crutches within ten days driven by a team of enthusiastic physiotherapists. The old

(Continued on page 30)



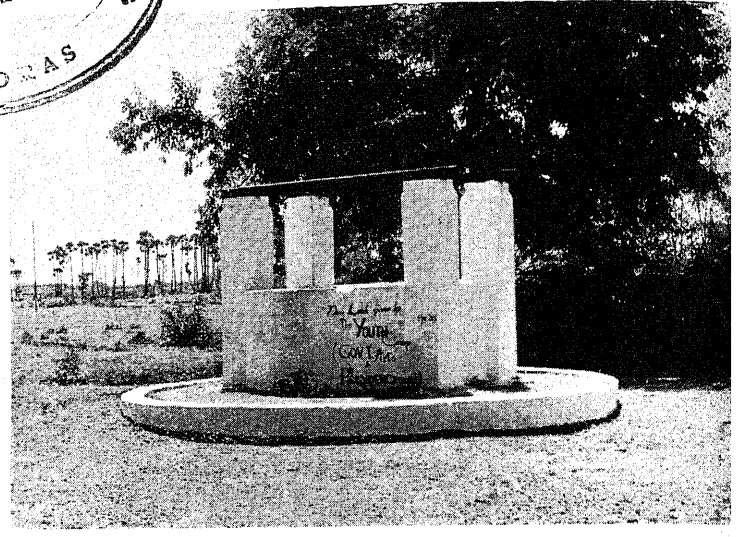
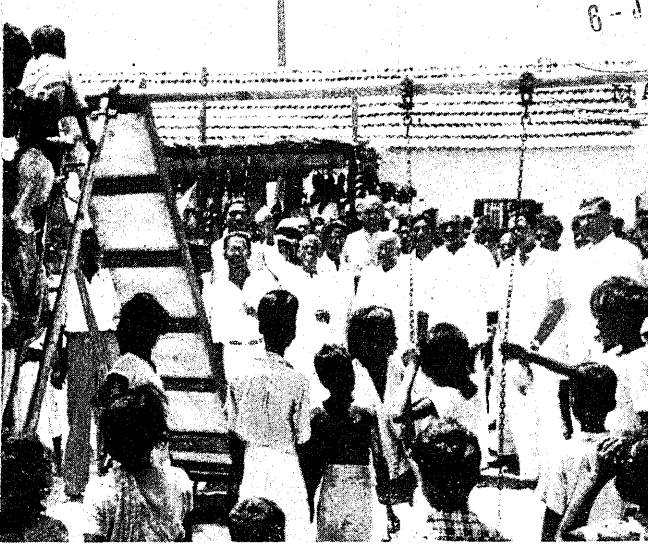
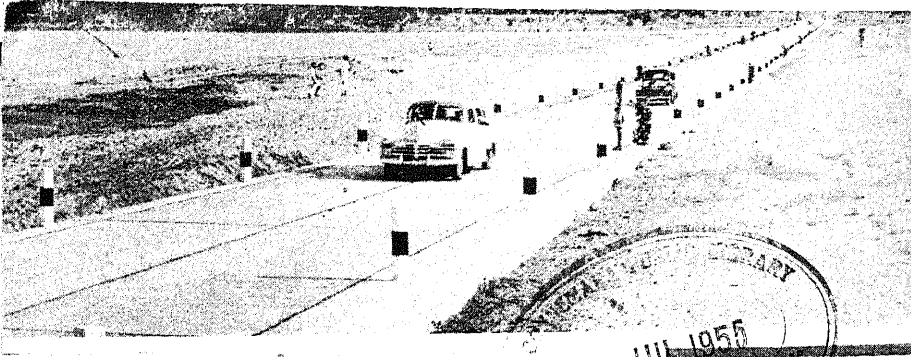
## A NEW DEAL FOR OUR CATTLE

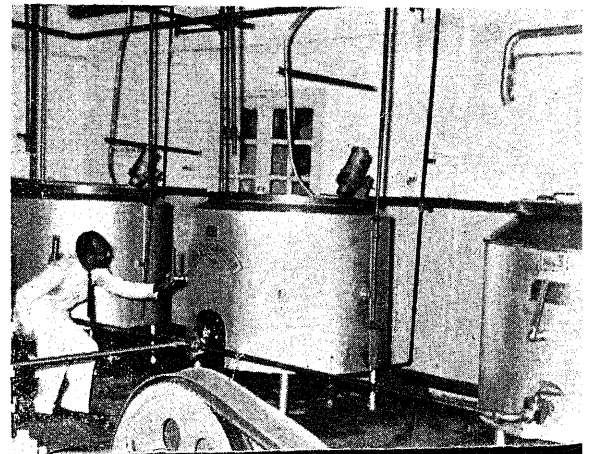
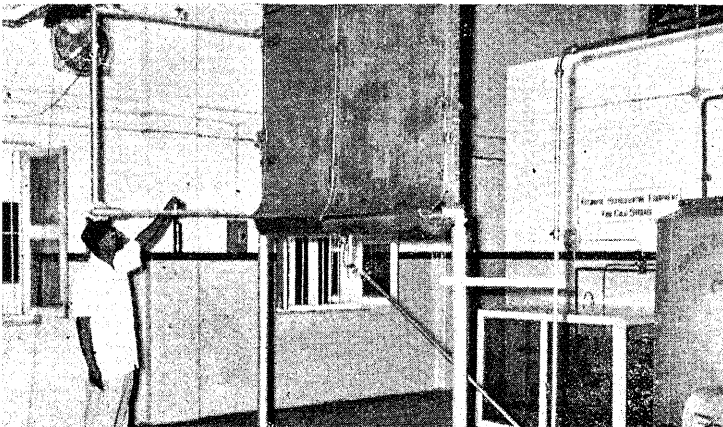
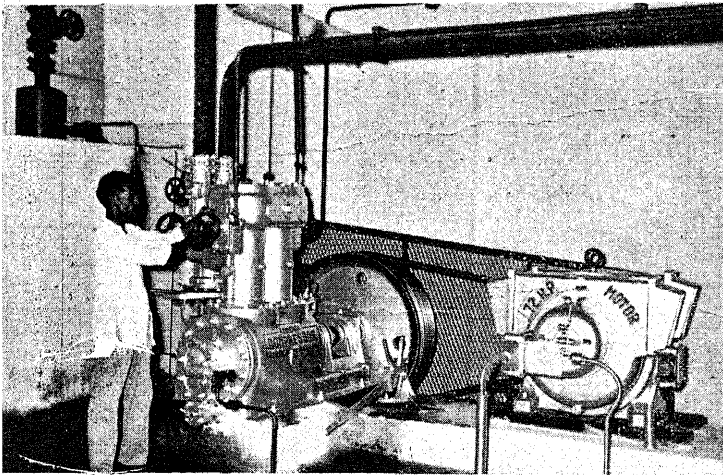
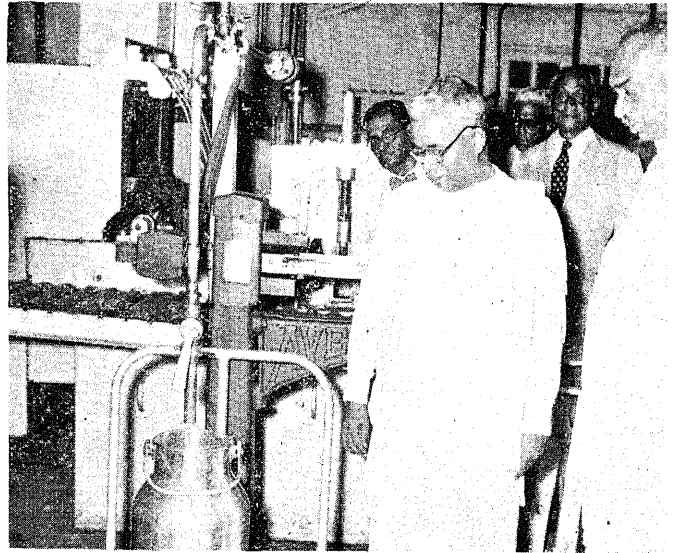
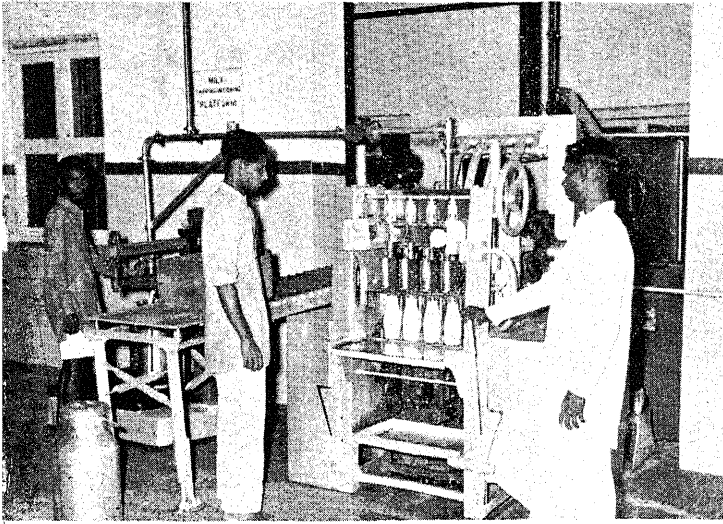
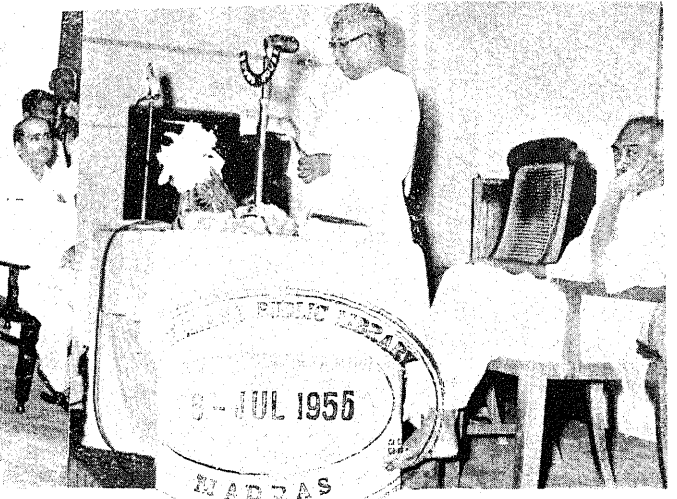
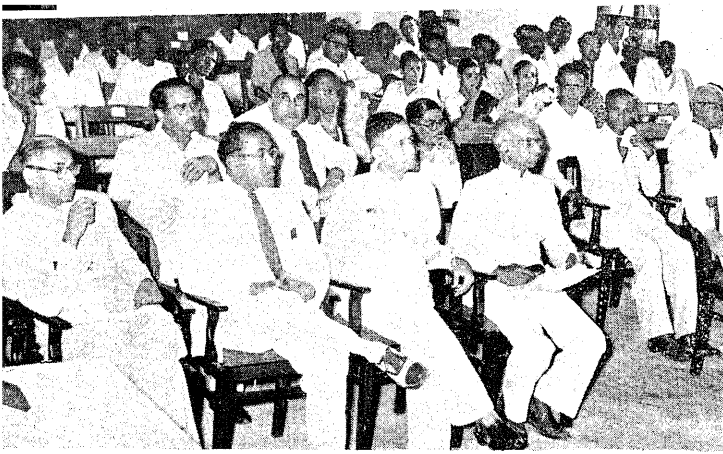
Though Indians worship the cow, the thin and hungriest cows are to be found in India, so remarked the unfriendly critics of earlier days. But now a new deal has been made for our cattle too. All aspects of Animal Husbandry are receiving the closest attention of our Governments. The Southern Regional Cattle Show was recently opened by Shri Sri Pralhad Keshav Khairnar, Governor of Madras, at Coimbatore.



## THIRUKALIKUNDRAM BLOCK

Thirukalikundram Block in Chingleput district was visited by Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, in the first week of June 1955. He opened the Vallipuram Causeway (top left) and visited other spots of activities in this block.

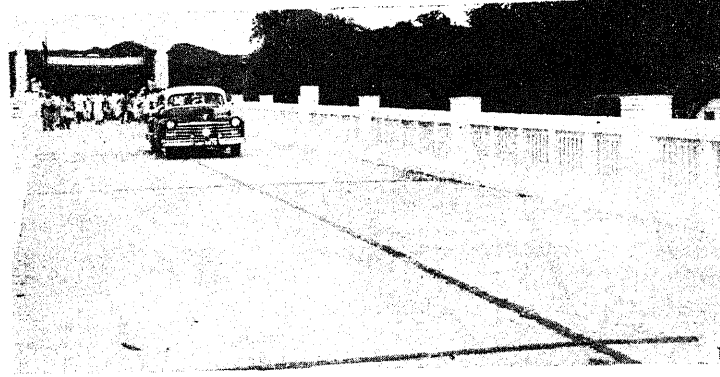




## TONED MILK

The manufacture of toned milk was inaugurated at Government Milk Factory, Saidapet, by Sri M. Bhavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture on 13th June 1955. Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister presided. The toned milk is made by toning buffalces' milk with an addition of an equal quantity of water and proper proportion of skimmed milk powder to the standard and quality fresh cow's milk.

## DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHWAYS



In the first and second weeks of June 1955, the people of Chingleput district participated in a number of pleasant functions. Each function meant a landmark—either a bridge or a causeway opened, or work on a new road inaugurated. Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, Sri O. V. Alagesan, Union Deputy Minister for Railways and Transport, Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, Sri M. A. Manickavelu, Minister for Revenue and Sri R. Shanmuga Rajeswara Sethupathi, Minister for Works were all participants in these joyous functions.



# Mass Communication in Madras State

By SRI M. N. PARTHASARATHY, Radio Engineer, Madras State Broadcasting Department

Communication may be defined as anything that conveys a meaning, that carries a message from one person to another. The message exchanged may be an idea, a feeling, an attitude, a philosophy of life, a skill in fact anything which one person believes is important to another. People communicate when they feel the need to secure a new adjustment to other people or when they wish to influence other people. Communication is successful to the degree that it effects the desired adjustment or influences other people. It is thus the very essence of education, of religion and of all other institutions basic to society. The group, the community, the nation, the civilization exists only by virtue of the means of communication.

Fifty or sixty years ago verbal language was almost the only means of conveying messages to any large group of people. The use of printed material or travel were the only way that space could be overcome for the masses of people. But times have changed. There is no longer a single way of conveying the subject-matter. The advent of the motion picture, the radio and the television have given us a wide choice of the media of conveying message or of communicating.

## *A complex world*

It is a truism to say that those of us who are alive today live in a world that is enormously and increasingly (and alarmingly too) complex. Development and invention in recent decades have introduced problems into the life of the average citizen that were totally absent a generation ago. Rapid transportation and communication especially have created new domestic and international social problems. People nowadays are brought into contact with citizens and other people far removed from the communities in which they were born or they live. Even those who do not move out of the routine of the simple life of their own small communities have now essentially the same

experiences through the use of the motion picture, the radio and the television as their fellow citizens who travel. Consequently all of us are now subject to the impact of new ideas and attitudes and views which differ from our own and hence require a type of rapid intellectual and emotional adjustment which was beyond imagining 25 or 30 years ago.

The maze in which the average citizen lives today has created a greater need for fuller understanding of the world in which he lives and of his human beings. Such an understanding can be gained only through education in its broadest terms. But the swiftness with which life changes now makes it impossible for any school or college, however good, to prepare our people fully for the responsibilities of later life. Nothing less than continuing education through mass media can provide the type of understanding among our people that will be needed if they are to live effectively in the evolving social life of our times. It is in this connection that the mass media of communication like motion pictures, the radio, television, have their maximum usefulness. These mass media can literally turn every living room in every occupied building into a class-room.

By education no formal education is meant. Education seems to be synonymous in many minds with courses, curricula, texts, etc. Broadcasting can do a job of educating without any of these conditions. When the emphasis is taken from these and placed where it belongs, on the subject-matter, the materials, the information given out, then the entire field of broadcasting will take on a more intimate character and become more meaningful. Adult education can be carried on by other means of communication than the spoken word in the class-room.

## *Influence of the mass media*

Here in India, the two truly modern mass media of communication have had a very powerful influence. The printed

word has a very limited range on account of the widespread illiteracy in the country. Television as such has not developed yet on a large scale. The radio has run a highway to everybody's door. The motion picture and the radio have penetrated to the remotest of our villages and have become a part of their daily individual as well as social life.

Radio and film exert a peculiar hold over the mind and the imagination of their audiences. What this hold is and how it obtains its effect has never been satisfactorily explained. The disembodied voice of the radio exerts a peculiar fascination and a degree of identification that is quite unusual. It is perhaps so because listening to the radio is in a sense intellectual rather than emotional. The crowd psychology prevailing in a public meeting or theatre is missing. Its reach, its power to dispose in large measure, of the disadvantage of physical isolation, its convenience, the easy circumstance under which listening is possible; its resources of technique, the power of its variant modes of firing our imagination and exciting our interest; its human resources, the experts, the public figures, the celebrities it can summon, the stimulus of a new voice and the growing fascination of a personality conveyed by a present voice and an absent person; its conquest not only of space, but of time too, its power to bring us a verbal picture of events and ceremonies as they occur, all these are unique and unrivalled resources which qualify it for being the ideal medium for mass communication in this country not only for education, but for entertainment also. The influence of radio in the field of entertainment is too well-known to need more than passing reference. Radio broadcasting is probably the most revolutionary factor that has ever been brought into the field of entertainment.

## *Community listening*

The radio receiving set has necessarily to be located in a home or a community centre. It therefore becomes the

entre where the family group and their friends and neighbours gather at leisure to listen to the radio. The Government of Madras as early as 1938, started the experiment of providing such radio receivers in the villages. The villager by the very nature of things could not afford to have a radio of his own and it became necessary for the State to provide this means of modern communication by which the adult villager could become educated. The installation of radio receivers in villages for community listening formed part of the programme of social reform inaugurated by the Madras Government in 1938. When alcoholic drinking was prohibited in this State, the addict had to be provided a counter attraction. What could be better than the radio as a counter attraction to the confirmed addict? It started on a small scale with the installation of a hundred radio receivers in the districts in which Prohibition was enforced. Since then, the villagers of Madras have greatly cultivated the habit of listening to community receivers so that there has been a continuous demand from the villages for such receivers.

In course of time, it was found uneconomical to install in the villages the commercial type of receivers selling in the market. A community receiver specially suited for the needs of the villages in Madras was designed and developed by the State Broadcasting Department after continuous research and experimentation. These receivers were assembled in the laboratory and workshop of the department and sent out for installation in the villages. It was possible to economise considerably on the cost of installation by this means. Where villages were not electrified, sets operated by the six volt storage battery were installed. Field service stations were opened, depending on the concentration of the sets, to attend to the periodical charging of the batteries and also to the servicing of the receivers when they become defective in the course of their working. The aim was to see that even the remotest and most inaccessible of places were provided with community radio receivers as they are the places which require them most. No labour or expenditure is spared in maintaining the community receivers even in such places as remote islands in the Arabian sea, a hundred miles off the mainland or in the higher altitudes of the Nilgiris and Kodaikanal which can be reached only by walking as long as 15 miles.

In order to make the villager have an abiding interest in the set installed in his village and also to lessen the financial burden on the State, it was decided to make the villager share along with the State the cost of installation and maintenance of the sets. He has to pay in full the initial cost of installation and a portion of the annual expenditure on the maintenance of the set. Perhaps, Madras is the only State in India which is imposing this financial burden on the village listener. Yet, this is the State which has the largest number of community receivers in India. There are nearly 2,200 such receivers in this State today. It has now been felt that still greater facilities should be provided for community listening and the Government of India have volunteered to subsidise to the extent of 50 per cent of the cost of installation of community receivers. The Government of Madras have decided to avail themselves of the subsidy offered by the Government of India and are taking active steps to implement their decision.

Besides community receivers in the villages the Government of Madras have also provided a number of mobile vans with audio-visual equipment. The vans which are equipped with a 16 mm. sound film projector, an amplifier, a radio receiver and a magic lantern tour the countryside constantly. Films, educative and entertaining, are exhibited in the villages. Special publicity for specific items of importance is given. Instruction is provided on infectious and contagious diseases and the means to combat them. For this purpose, special films are produced by the State Government.

These media of communication have been utilised for the education and entertainment of the masses within the past 15 to 20 years. It is worthwhile to take stock now in order to plan for the future. Listeners are the backbone of the radio. But the listening audience is highly heterogeneous. Rural audiences have different preferences from metropolitan audience; old people have different preferences from the young; men from women, the illiterates from the literates, etc. The radio has therefore to cater to a variety of tastes in varying measures. Besides, the listeners though appreciative are largely indifferent. The listener must finally be free from his work and be in a mood to listen to the radio. All these contradictory facts have to be compromised while putting up programmes of instruction and education to the radio listener. It is a

matter of great difficulty to assess what is the type of programme that is particularly required for any specific purpose. There is vast scope for research in this direction to make the utility of the radio as a medium of mass communication more effective.

With all its utility and potentialities, the radio, as a medium of mass communication, has also its shortcomings and hazards. The one-way traffic of radio communication, the listener's unequal status, his incapacity to interrupt or answer back, his subservience to the speaker are its greatest shortcomings as well as the greatest hazards. We adapt ourselves so readily to our environment that we tend to lose the sense of wonder in a context that is familiar. But for this fact, we might well stand aghast at one distinctive phenomenon of mass communication especially characteristic of radio, viz., that the minds and wills of men unknown to us and far removed in space are seeking to play on our emotions and direct our thinking.

*(Continued from page 5)*

culture, Cottage Industry, Women's Welfare, Social education, etc., was also conducted at the Jagannath Temple for a period of 10 days and the same attracted many people.

In the Palghat Community Project area, an agricultural exhibition and a cattle show were conducted at Kannambra on 20th March 1955. The Kalamandir Troupe, Madras, under the leadership of Sri K. P. G. Panicker staged a drama called "Nammude Nattapuram" in the selected villages of the Project Areas.

#### SOUTH KANARA

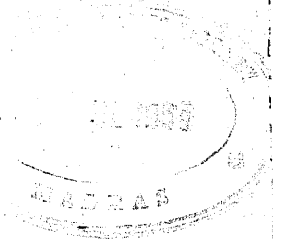
*Manjeswar Block:* Twenty-three compost pits were dug, 10 maunds of Chemical fertilisers were distributed, 11 demonstration farms were started, and 37 acres were brought under vegetables. Seventeen Agricultural Committees were formed. Under Village Communications, 3 miles of Pucca road,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of Katcha road,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  furlongs of foot path, 5 culverts and 13 foot bridges were completed during the month.

*Byndoor Block:* During the month, 124 compost pits were dug, 45 maunds of fertilisers were distributed, 124 maunds of seeds were supplied to the ryots, and one demonstration farm was started. A sum of Rs. 10,860 was disbursed to 94 ryots as loans under short term credit facilities for the purchase of seeds and manure.



# Municipalities and Public Health

By SRI A. B. SHETTY, Minister for Health



The Chairmen and councillors of municipalities have very important duties and responsibilities to discharge in regard to the development of their towns and the promotion of the welfare of the citizens there. You have been given a definite voice in the formulation of planned programmes for the next Five-Year Plan and a greater responsibility in executing the Plan in co-operation with the local people.

A city or a town is an important factor in the associated lives of its citizens. It indicates a country's development. The layout of its roads, its residential quarters and industrial areas, its various institutions and places of recreation reflect fairly accurately the ideas and ideals of its inhabitants, their culture, social status and economic condition and the kind of local Government they have—in short, the achievement of their civilization. Though men may make cities, it is equally true that cities make men. Cities and towns play a great part in the national life of a country. They are the centres of education, trade and industry and most of the leadership is drawn from the ranks of men

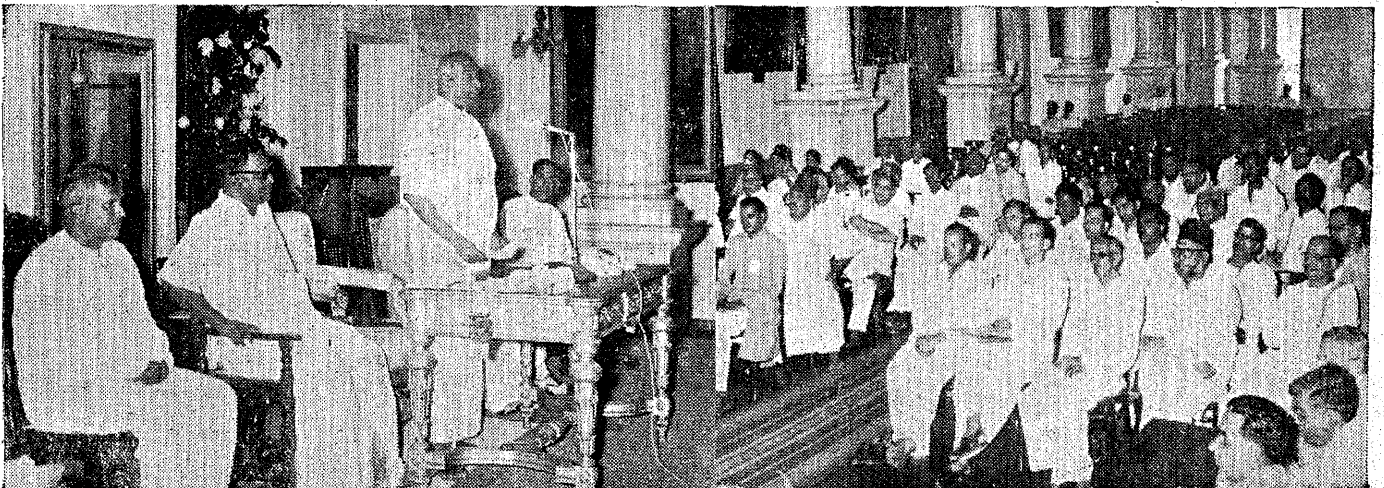
of education and wealth who make their abode in big towns.

## *Town Planning*

All over the world towns are growing in size and population. People come to towns in search of education, employment and the amenities of civilized life. India is predominantly rural. Yet we too are taking to town life to a steadily increasing extent. The conditions created by the world war have accelerated the drift to towns. Housing shortage has become a great problem. Overcrowding, congestion and squalor have become prominent evils even in places where the middle class people live. The growth of towns in the past has been unplanned and uncontrolled. They have become ugly, insanitary and almost unfit for human habitation in most places. The task of town improvement by replanning of insanitary and congested areas, construction of hygienic dwellings in healthy surroundings, provision of parks, playgrounds and open spaces and in such other ways are problems of major importance which municipal authorities have to tackle. A town

should be built with as much care as a house is built, because it is the dwelling place of a community as the house is that of a family. The art and science of Town Planning has greatly developed in recent years.

Town Planning has been made a statutory function of our municipalities. Out of 62 municipalities in this State, 51 have taken up Town Planning schemes for certain local areas and effected considerable improvement in sanitation, health and beauty in those places. But such schemes have so far covered only about 8 per cent of the total area under municipal control. The second Five-Year Plan will provide for housing and improvement of slums on a much larger scale than at present. Improvement of slums is a great problem in most municipal towns. The Government of India have formulated a scheme for dealing with slums and all municipal councils should take such assistance as will be available for this purpose in the Plan. In relieving congestion in urban areas the co-operative house-building societies can be of service to municipalities. Under the Industrial Housing Scheme



Sri K. KAMARAJ, Chief Minister, inaugurating the Fifth Annual Conference of the Chamber of Municipal Chairmen at Rajaji Hall on June 3, 1955.

interest-free loans are issued by the Central Government. The municipal councils can avail themselves of the help which will be given by the Centre under their schemes of housing including also schemes for the lower income group housing. It is quite necessary to prepare a general Town Planning Scheme for the entire area of the municipality and its vicinity. This "Master Plan" must provide a broad-based frame work on which the future improvement and extension of the town can be based.

#### *Water Supply and Drainage*

In Western Europe and North America spectacular results have been achieved in bringing down mortality rates and raising health standards during the last few decades. This is to a great extent due to the purification of water supplies and the sanitary disposal of human wastes. Cholera, typhoid, dysentery and other water-borne diseases as well as certain insect-borne diseases are commonly occurring as epidemics in our country. There is increasing awakening among our people regarding the need for safe water supplies, proper drainage and sanitary disposal of sewage and human wastes. The Planning Commission have said that the provision of a safe and adequate water-supply is a basic requirement and it should receive the highest priority. Drainage is necessarily complementary to water-supply schemes. The installation of a water-supply and drainage scheme in any town will effect a definite improvement in public health and reduce the expenditure now incurred on health services in that area.

We have now eight water-supply schemes under execution and six under investigation or design. Twelve of the existing water-supply schemes are having improvements in progress. Seven drainage schemes are under execution and six under design or investigation. The approximate cost of the work ahead on all municipal schemes is:—

Rupees 12 crores for water-supply works.

Rupees 24 crores for drainage schemes.

The Government of India have offered to our State financial assistance by way of loans to the extent of Rs. 2,396 crores for the execution of water-supply and drainage schemes during 1954-55 and 1955-56. This

Government have therefore undertaken an accelerated programme for the execution of the scheme included in the first Five-Year Plan. That sanitary Engineering staff has been strengthened to cope with the additional work involved in the accelerated programme. A few new water-supply schemes have been sanctioned. The Madras Corporation also is availing itself of this assistance from the Centre for accelerating some schemes. It is expected that by the end of the second Five-Year Plan period about 75 to 80 per cent of the municipalities will be able to have water-supply schemes and 20 per cent of them will be provided with drainage schemes. The sanitary engineering department will have to be further expanded and the financing of each scheme as between the local body concerned and the Government will have to be examined to see how the existing difficulties can be overcome.

#### *Other Health Problems*

There are many other public health problems to be attended to in municipal areas. The efficient disposal of human excreta by the provision of modern sanitary conveniences is a matter of considerable importance for health. Only 57 per cent of the houses in municipalities are said to be provided with latrine accommodation. The number of public latrines is inadequate and most of them are not of approved sanitary type. The Government sanction one-third or one-fourth grant to municipalities which conduct anti-mosquito or anti-filaria schemes. Thirty-six municipalities have undertaken such schemes. It is very necessary that the other 26 municipalities should avail themselves of the grant and carry out anti-mosquito measures. Under the National Malaria Control Scheme, intensive anti-malaria work is being taken up in the municipal areas of Madras, Erode, Salem, Tiruppur and Namakkal. Filaria control units will start work in and around Kozhikode and Mangalore municipalities as soon as necessary vehicles, equipment and drugs are received from the Centre.

#### *Maternity and Child Welfare*

This service must be kept in the forefront in planning a health programme. The municipal councils are maintaining 122 maternity and child welfare centres and 48 maternity homes. More centres will have to be opened so as to provide maternity

services for all mothers and better health care for children. Malnutrition occupies a prominent position in the causation of high maternal and infantile mortality and morbidity rates in our country. The low amount of protein in the diets of most people is the most serious nutritional problem we have. In Britain the National Milk Scheme started in 1940 has been extended and put on a permanent basis as the Welfare Foods Service in 1946 to satisfy the special nutritional needs of expectant and nursing mothers and young children by providing milk and vitamin supplements at a low cost or free of charge. Administration of skimmed milk is said to be particularly useful in cases of protein deficiency.

The gifts from the UNICEF and other foreign agencies are enabling us to make free distribution of skimmed milk and other food supplements at maternity and child welfare centres. A large percentage of children are in a poor state of nutrition which impairs their physical and mental growth. In the United Kingdom they have expanded their School Meals Service with a view to improve the nutrition of their school children. Two schemes have been suggested by our Public Health Department for implementation in the second Five-Year Plan period—one for the provision of mid-day meals to elementary school children and another for a balanced meal to expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children who are in need of it through maternity and child welfare centres. If our food catering establishments can be persuaded to prepare and supply balanced food at a reasonable price, it will be a great step in raising nutrition levels in a large section of the population who resort to hotels.

The Family Planning Committee of the Central Ministry of Health have recommended that the work of family planning clinics should be integrated with that of maternity and child welfare centres and that short courses of training should be given to doctors, nurses, health visitors and midwives who are to be employed at these centres. It is considered necessary that a large scale programme of education for family planning should be undertaken so that it may produce an adequate effect on the problem of population. Local bodies should co-operate with Government in the work that is being undertaken in regard to family planning.

### Medical Relief

The municipalities are having ten hospitals and 49 dispensaries of modern medicine and 44 institutions of indigenous medicine. It is proposed to provincialize all medical institutions run by local bodies with a view to improving their accommodation, equipment and staff. Communicable diseases are a great problem in our country. The control of such diseases requires isolation of infected persons. Very few municipalities have provided infectious diseases hospitals. There are proposals for subsidising the construction of such hospitals by local bodies.

### B.C.G. Vaccination

The incidence of tuberculosis is fairly high in industrial and urban areas. The conditions are favourable in our country for the spread of infection and high mortality on account of the low standard of living, poor housing conditions and malnutrition. The measures needed to combat tuberculosis are improvement of the general standard of living, isolation and treatment of sufferers and preventive measures. Isolation of infected cases in hospitals and sanatoria is not possible except to a very limited extent. Improvement of living standards is a long term objective.

It is generally conceded in medical circles that B.C.G. vaccine is harmless,

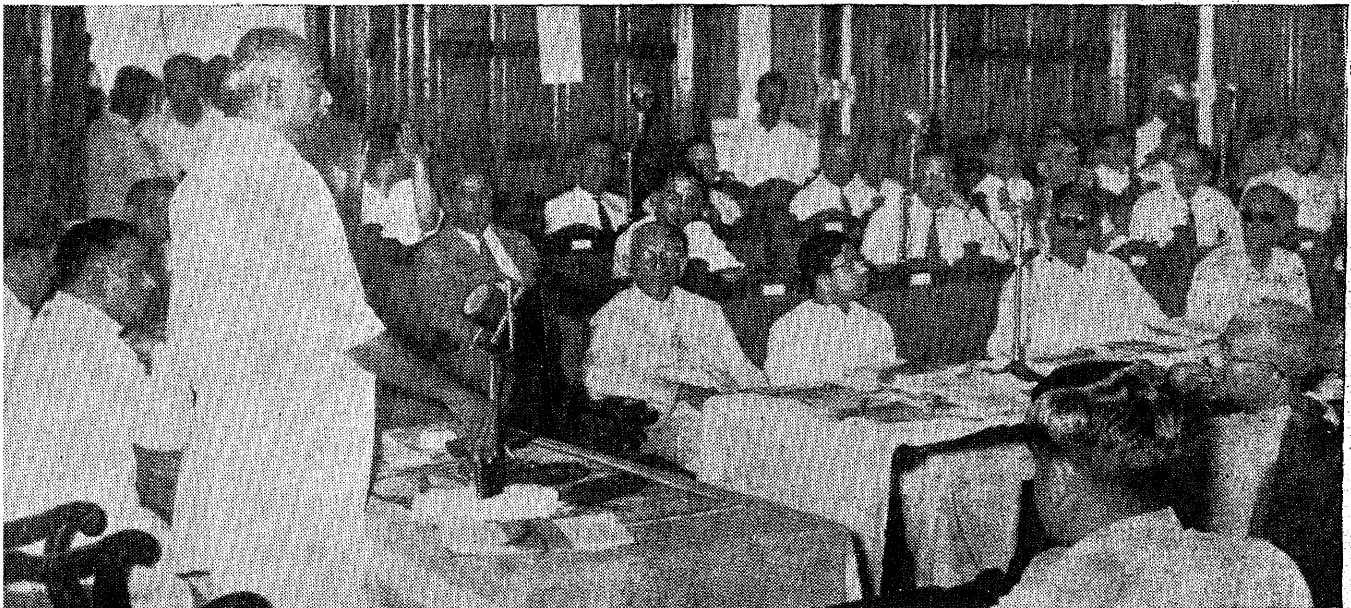
it confers some degree of the protection against the first infection with virulent tuberculosis and that it is, therefore, an important preventive measure. The WHO Expert Committee on Tuberculosis has adopted this view and sponsored the International B.C.G. vaccination campaign as a joint enterprise with the UNICEF. Millions of persons have been given this prophylactic vaccine in Europe and elsewhere. B.C.G. vaccination is now going on in some countries of South-East Asia and South America. After 1948, the Ministry of Health in Britain has introduced B.C.G. vaccination for medical students, nurses and tuberculous negative persons who are contacts of active cases. The use of B.C.G. has recently been extended to school children in Britain. The WHO Committee have recommended mass vaccination with B.C.G. especially for communities with high tuberculosis infection rates and mortalities. Our Planning Commission have urged that the States in this country should make B.C.G. vaccination programme a part of their public health services. The Government of India have entered into an agreement with the WHO and the UNICEF and launched a country-wide B.C.G. vaccination campaign. The progress of this campaign has been very encouraging. This State was the first to introduce B.C.G. vaccination in Madras City. A mass vaccination campaign was

inaugurated in Coimbatore only in last November. It has since then moved to district headquarter towns and belt areas in Malabar, South Kanara, Salem, Nilgiris, and Tiruchirappalli. About 12½ lakhs of persons have been tuberculin tested and nearly 4½ lakhs have been given B.C.G. vaccination up to the end of April. The vaccination is purely voluntary. Government expect the municipal councils to co-operate with the teams entrusted with B.C.G. work in municipal areas.

### The Coming Elections

You will, no doubt, be thinking of the coming elections and the record of achievement which you can put before the electorate. Municipal administration in our country is said to suffer from lack of proper publicity. Large sections of the people evince little interest in its working and fail to give proper support to its activities. Proper dissemination of correct information on municipal services will help to create an enlightened public opinion and civic sense among the citizens. I trust your deliberations will prove fruitful in advancing the cause of local administration.

*[Speech delivered by Sri A. B. Shettyh Minister for Health, at the Fourth Annual Conference of the Chamber of Municipal Chairmen at Rajaji Hall on 3rd June 1955.]*



A conference of Collectors of Districts and Heads of Departments was held in the Secretariat on June 8, 1955. The picture shows the Chief Minister addressing the conference.

## Mahabalipuram Guest House

The foundation stone for a Guest House at Mahabalipuram was laid by Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, on 5th June 1955.

The Mahabalipuram of today was a much celebrated sea-port town, known by the name of *Mamallapuram*, about one thousand three hundred years ago. King Narasimha Varma (A.D. 630-668), the son of King Mahendra Varma the first (A.D. 600-630) belonging to the Pallava dynasty, established his kingdom at this place and he came to be known eventually as the "Great Malla Varma". This place *Mamallapuram* came to be called '*Mahabalipuram*' in later centuries. This town was once as busy and as famous as the celebrated sea-port town of '*Kaveripoompattinam*'—a sea-coast city in '*Chola Kingdom*' that was carrying on trade with all Western countries. From the inscriptions on stones, architectural beauty and archaeological interest obtained from writings on the old mud pots, it is a fact beyond doubt that this place had commanded the heights of civilisation as several cities of yore.

### Foreign Interest

Reverend Bishop '*Manuchi*', who came to India from Europe in the early days, was struck with the architectural beauty displayed on the stones, rock-cut caves, Rathas, temples, etc., and was obsessed with the feelings of high talents of the progenitors of this architecture and the greatness of the Pallava shrines and temples. Later, "Dr. Hoolt Chay", who had inspected the place, has written a good treatise on the inscriptions, images, rock-cut caves, etc. This attracted a good number of foreign tourists and persons from all over the continents began to visit this place. The influx of the foreign tourists has systematically increased and it can be seen that for the last four years, the number of foreign tourists is not less than 50 to 60 on a monthly average. Besides, pilgrims from all parts of India visit the place, individually and collectively. With the increase in the number of foreign and inland tourists, it has become the concern of the State Government to

provide amenities to the tourists. There was already an Inspection Bungalow at Mahabalipuram, maintained by Public Works Department under the control of the District Collector of Chingleput. This Inspection Bungalow was improved to make room for two suites and this too did not meet with the needs of the growing number of the tourists. It was, therefore, necessary to construct a suitable Guest House to accommodate tourists.

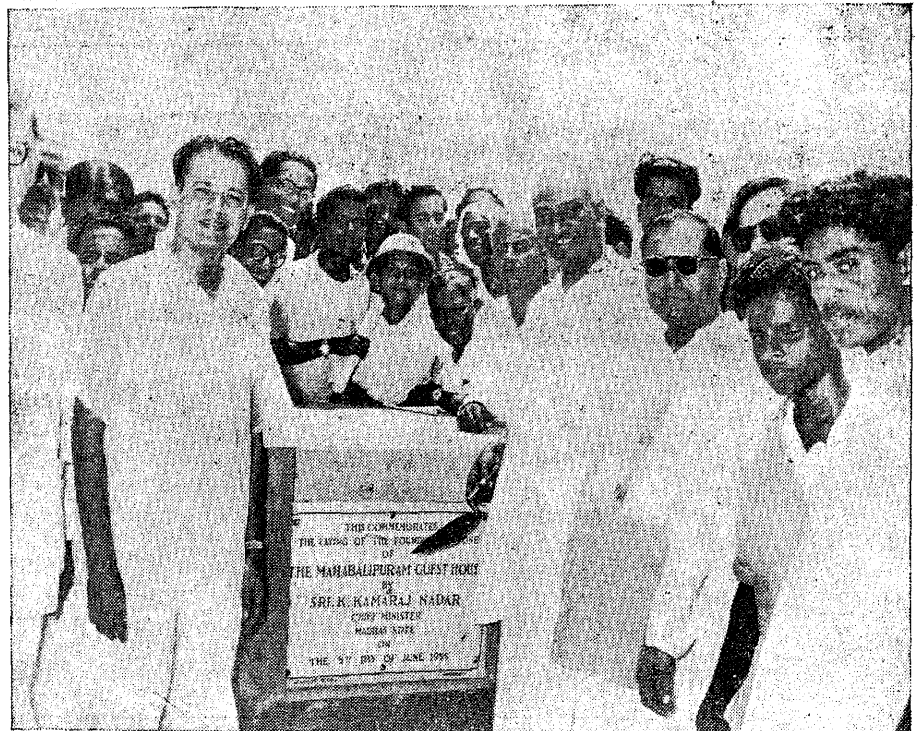
### Suitability of the Site

The question of constructing a suitable Guest House had been engaging the attention of the Governments both at the Centre and at Madras for some time. The Hon'ble Union Minister, Sri Diwakar, visited the place in September 1950 and suggested the construction of a Rest House for tourists. Proposals were made in 1951 to provide a Rest House very near the shore

temple, but dropped later. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Sri Jawaharlal Nehru, who visited the place on the 3rd October 1953 also suggested the provision of a suitable Rest House. The place was finally selected on 18th January 1954, after an inspection of the place in company with the Hon'ble Ministers, Sri M. Bhakthavatsalam, Sri C. Subramaniam Sri Shanmugha Rajeswara Sethupathi and the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department. There is more than one reason for selecting this place for erecting the Guest House—

1. The place is free from noise and bustle of the village and enjoys the charms of solitude.

2. The place is 20 feet above the surrounding places and the building commands a good view of the sea and surroundings.



A good step in the right direction—the foundation stone for the Mahabalipuram Guest House laid by Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister.

3. There are no ponds, pits, springs and water pools and there is no fear of the pest of mosquitoes.

#### *Cost Shared*

The Government of India have paid one-half of the cost of construction, which has come to one lakh of rupees and the other half is to be met by the Madras Government. The proposed building will have six suites of room all with double accommodation, each

provided with kitchen, bath room, bed room, verandah, etc. The roofing will be of reinforced concrete. The construction would be such as would match with the background of the archaeological structures and also have an architectural appeal about it. The finishing features and equipment will be of top-class variety, at the same time effecting all possible economies. Provision has been made for electric installation, including fans, sanitary fittings and protected water-supply.

Provision has also been made for the construction of stewards quarters and watchman's quarters. Catering will be both in the European and Indian style at moderate cost.

The place, situated on the sea coast and famous for Pallava architecture, with rock-cut caves, monolithic rathas, sculptured mantapams, temples at the beach, etc., will attract thousands of tourists and the construction of this Guest House is a good step in the right direction.

## Administration of Agriculture Department Review for 1953-54

Reviewing the administration of the Agriculture Department during 1953-54 in respect of the Madras State, the Government have observed that the working of the Department was on the whole satisfactory and that it is gratifying to note that the extension work done by the Department during the year yielded good result assisted by a kindly monsoon during both these seasons. The Government have impressed on the Agriculture Department that no effort should be spared to make the fulfilment of the Five-Year Plan real and effective.

The following are the other salient features of the Government's review:—

#### *Seasonal Conditions*

During the year the north-east monsoon was above normal and favourable for crop production. Rains received during the hot weather period were favourable for dry crops. The south-west monsoon rains were above normal in the West Coast. On the whole, the year under review broke the long chain of six years of drought. Conditions improved considerably throughout the State. Scarcity for water was not so keenly felt as in the past six years and there were no severe weather extremes like cyclones or storms. Agriculturally, the season was good and in certain areas the crops gave bumper yields. There was an increase in the production of rice from 2.16 million tons to 2.98 million tons.

#### *Food Production*

The third-year programme in the Five-Year Plan of the State was executed during the year under review. The plan aimed at a target of 256,693 tons of additional foodgrains through agricultural schemes during the year.

Most of the schemes under the plan are continuations of those under the old three-year Grow More Food Plan, but intensified for attaining self-sufficiency by the end of 1956.

#### *Community Projects and National Extension Service Schemes*

The Community Development Programme was in operation in eight Community Development Blocks in the Lower Bhavani Project, the Malampuzha Project and the Periyar Project areas and in South Kanara, South Arcot, Chingleput, Tirunelveli and Madurai districts. The National Extension Service Scheme was in operation in 28 blocks scattered throughout the State. Progress in agriculture has been intensified in each Community Project and National Extension Service Block by appointing special staff, spreading improved seeds, increasing the extent manured with fertilization and green manures, popularisation of improved methods of cultivation like the modified Japanese method of cultivation, grant of agricultural loans, etc. A special National Extension Service Scheme with particular emphasis on increasing rice production was introduced in the Mayuram and Kumbakonam divisions of the Tanjore district. The scheme will be gradually extended to the rest of the district and its object is to ultimately increase the annual exportable surplus of rice of the Tanjore district by 75,000 tons.

#### *Agricultural research*

The achievements under Agricultural research were, on the whole, satisfactory and it is hoped that the tempo and standard will be improved under crop-breeding work.

### Do You Know ?

That,

1. In 1954, Indian Aircraft on scheduled and non-scheduled services flew nearly 24 million miles carrying over half a million passengers and 181 million lb. of cargo and mail.

2. The cost of a hydro-electric project varies from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 3,000 per K.W. of installed capacity, depending on local conditions.

3. With a view to providing expeditious mail service in rural areas, as many as 1,754 runner's lines, totalling 14,519 miles, were replaced by motor services during the last five years.

4. The production of steel in India in 1954 amounted to 1,226,000 tons, and all-time record. During the same year, 387,401 tons of steel were imported.

5. During the ten months ending January 1955, nine hundred and eighty-eight companies limited by shares, with a total authorized capital of Rs. 192.12 crores were registered as against 984 companies with a total authorized capital of Rs. 39.74 crores in the corresponding period of 1953-54.

6. During 1954, 310,604 tons of Ammonium Sulphate was despatched from Sindri to different parts of the country.

#### *Crop Improvement and Seed Multiplication*

The Department has evolved so far about 100 improved strains of paddy suited for local conditions and seasons.

## Development of Highways

During the last few years Madras State has made great strides in construction and improvement of roads and bridges. The first Five-Year Plan which provides for a well-balanced programme of road and bridge construction is well on its way and the last year of the Plan would see the achieve-

ment of the physical targets of the Plan to a satisfactory extent. The Balance of the programme will be followed up in the Second Five-Year Plan.

Of the following four Schemes, two have been completed; the work on the other two had just started.

### Vallipuram Causeway at Nelvoy

The Palar river at Vallipuram Causeway has a width of about 2,430 feet at the crossing. Owing to frequent floods in the river, the traffic on this road used to be interrupted several times in the year. The construction of a high-level bridge at the place would have cost not less than 25 lakhs of rupees. As the amount available from the C.R.F. is limited and the construction of such a costly structure might not have materialised so soon, this causeway costing 4.25 lakhs has been provided here. As the road level on the causeway has been kept at 90.25 a few feet above the ordinary flood level, practically there will not be any interruption to traffic except in the case of heavy floods. The causeway has a level portion of 1,980 feet and sloping portions of about 300 feet on

Tirukalikundram side and 160 feet on Nelvoy side. The road width over the causeway is 22 feet. On the southern side of the river where the river has

its deep bed, 56 vents are provided. Out of these nine box culverts with four cells of 10 feet by 8 feet each form 36 vents. The remaining vents are of 10 feet by 9 feet each for which open foundations with cement concrete piers and simply supported slabs are adopted. The work was started on 6th June 1953 and completed by March 1955.

About 108 tons of steel and 1,320 tons of cement have gone into the work.

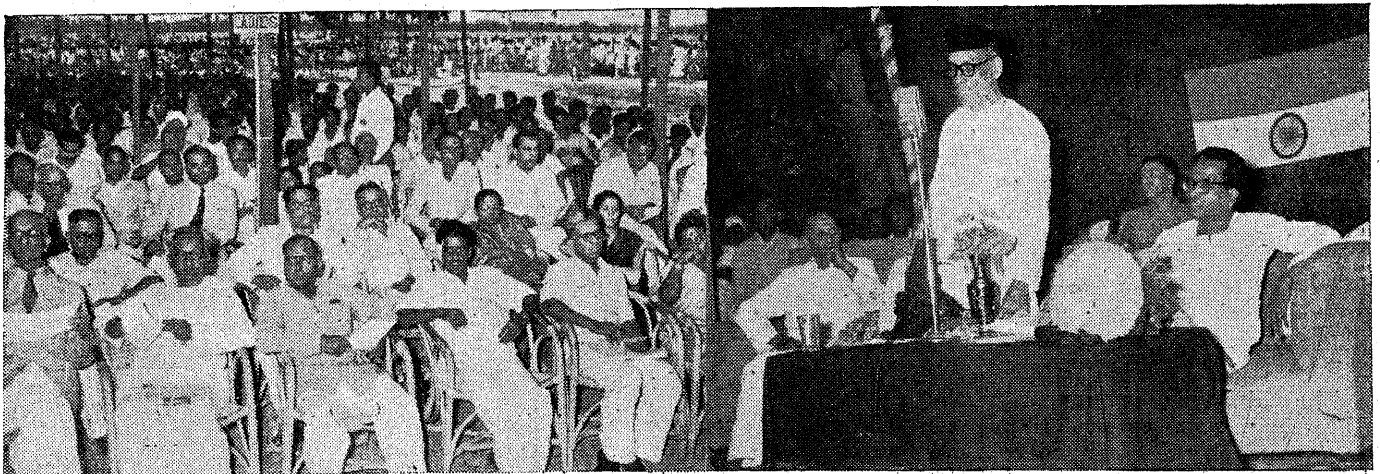
The Vallipuram Causeway at 13/1-6 of Nelvoy-Tirukalikundram road was opened by Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister of Madras, on 5th June 1955.

### Bridge across Palar at Ranipet

The Palar bridge at Ranipet consists of 30 spans of 60 feet clear and the roadway will be 24 feet wide between kerbs. The decking will comprise of 3 flanged Tee beams with ribs 12 inches by 45 inches spaced at 9 feet centres, having a bottom flange 24 inches by 12 inches. The thickness of deck-slab will be 92 inches. The foundations under piers and abutments will consist of two circular wells of 12 feet external diameter, the thickness of steining being 2 feet with cement concrete (1 : 3 : 6).

The length of the bridge proper will be 1,974 feet. The cost of the estimate is 19.75 lakhs excluding approaches. The approach work is proposed to be executed under a separate estimate. About 2,520 tons of cement and 735 tons of steel are estimated to be used in the work.

Now, North Arcot district is well provided with a net work of good roads covering 1,642 miles. This comprises of 104 miles of National Highways,



The foundation stone for the bridge across Palar at Ranipet was laid by Sri O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister, Transport and Railways, Government of India, on June 10, 1955. The photo shows Sri M. A. Manickavelu, Minister for Revenue, addressing on the occasion.

552 miles of Government Roads and 986 miles of District Roads. Of this, 22 miles have cement concrete surface, 136 miles are black-topped, 993 miles water-bound macadam and the rest are unmetalled fair-weather roads. The cost of maintenance and improvements to the National Highways is being met entirely from the funds of the Government of India. There is a separate Five-Year Programme of Road Development on National Highways, under which the cement concreting of this road from miles 87/2 to 100/0 has been executed at a total cost of about 10.45 lakhs. This bridge work is also one such work undertaken with the assistance of the Government of India. It is also proposed to take up under the current Five-Year Programme, the widening of this road to 22 feet width to provide for two-lane traffic, in miles 70/0 to 78/0 and 87/2 to 100/0.

Apart from the National Highway works and the National Five-Year Plan for the State and other roads, the Government of India have recently sanctioned 21 works costing Rs. 1.45 lakhs in all, for the development of inter-State roads. Under this scheme, are included the following four works in North Arcot District, costing Rs. 9.25 lakhs :

Formation of a road to Yelagiri Hills—Rs. 4,00,000; improvements to Katpadi-Venkatagirikotta road—Rs. 2,00,000; constructing bridge near Kannamangalam at mile 104/4-5 of Cuddalore-Chittoor road—Rs. 1,25,000; and improvements to Arkonam-Tiruvallur road—Rs. 2,00,000.

In addition to these, the two works of constructing a bridge across Cheyyar

at mile 31/4-5 of Wandiwash-Polur road costing Rs. 3 lakhs and a bridge across Kallar at mile 14/2 of Polur-Chengam road, costing Rs. 75,000 have been recently sanctioned. Besides these, another bridge work across Goundinya river at mile 18/6-8 of Katpadi-Venkatagirikotta road in Gudiyattam Municipal limits costing Rs. 2,75,000 has also been sanctioned under Post-War Road Development

Five-Year Plan. All these works when completed will greatly add to the communication facilities of this district and considerably help its economic development.

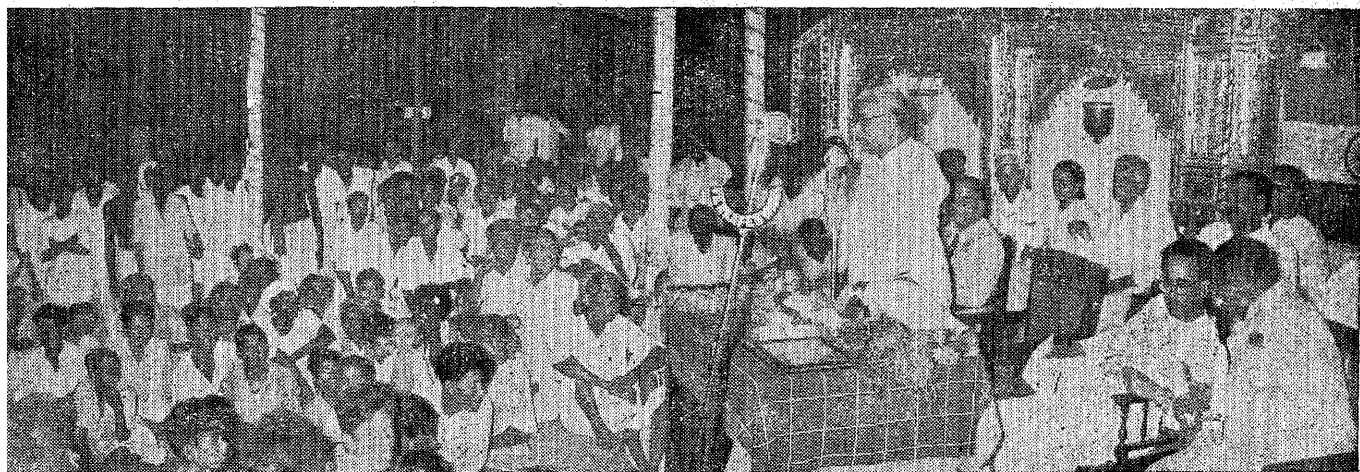
Sri O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister, Transport and Railways, Government of India, laid the foundation for the bridge across Palar at Ranipet at mile 71/1-5 of Ranipet-Krishnagiri road on 10th June 1955.

### Ponneri-Pulicat road work

The Ponneri-Pulicat road connects Ponneri with Pulicat and is 12½ miles long. Pulicat town lies at the southern extremity of an island which divides the sea from the large lagoon called the Pulicat lake, which is about 37 miles in length by 3 to 11 miles in breadth. This salt water lake is under the influence of the tide and must have been produced by an inroad of the sea during a storm, when it topped the low ridge of the coast line. Pulicat town is the site of the first settlement of the Dutch in India. In 1609 they built a fort here and called it Geldria. It was taken by the British in 1781 and finally occupied by them in 1795. There used to be considerable trade between this port and the Straits Settlements. This important place of Pulicat was once a flourishing town as evidenced by the array of magnificent buildings now in disrepair and in the process of being pulled down and sold for salvage of timber and other valuable building materials. This village is

completely isolated from other parts of the district for want of proper communications. There are said to be 5,000 families in Pulicat alone and about 12,000 of the surrounding hamlets are included. There are about 2,000 fishermen operating in this area who find it difficult to send their catches to the market in time for want of suitable communications. The need for a road from points of view of public health, education, etc., is also urgent.

There are some traces of an old road in the swamps near Pulicat. It is presumed that a road has once been formed by the Dutch and the same would have got merged in the swamps for want of proper attention. It is now proposed to form a new road at a higher level to connect Pulicat with the existing road. With this improvement, Pulicat, which is now cut off from civilisation by a large stretch of marshy land, will be easily accessible by motor cars and buses from Madras City.



Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, inaugurated the work on Pulicat-Ponneri road on 11th June 1955

The cost of the project is Rs. 7.02 lakhs. There is already a District Board road up to 12/0 Polathiamman Koil, since taken over by Government. This road needs extensive repairs and strengthening with revetments to protect the sides from erosion widening in places, metalling, etc. The remaining 2 miles and 7 furlongs to Pulicat have to be newly formed in swampy areas as already stated. This new formation alone costs Rs. 4 lakhs.

The portion of the road from 3/0 to 9/5 is already a metalled road. There are several weak and narrow culverts and the road is also narrow in several places. As the existing metal crust is not sufficient, it is now proposed to renew the entire surface with boulder stone metal 12 feet by 3 inches and also to widen and repair the culverts wherever necessary. For the reach 9/6 to 12/0 it is proposed to metal the entire length to a thickness of 5 inches and for a width of 12 feet. The entire reach will be widened to the standard width of 24 feet and the slopes will be protected by revetment wherever necessary.

The reach from 12/0 to 14/7 a distance of 2 miles and 7 furlongs is to be newly formed. The entire area is a big sheet of water during rainy season. The MFL is 92.50. So it is proposed to have the formation level of road after metalling at 95.00. The route now proposed to be adopted is the one which is the least affected during rainy season. The road will be formed up to 94.00 by earthwork. Over this, gravel soling of 9 inches is proposed to the full width of 24 feet. Metalling

over the gravel soling will be done to 6 inches thickness for 12 feet width. The slopes of the embankment will be protected with laterite revetment.

Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, Government of Madras, inaugurated the Ponneri-Pulicat road work on 11th June 1955.

## Prestressed concrete bridge over Palar

The Palar bridge is 2,202 feet long between the faces of abutments and consists of 23 spans of 90 feet clear. The piers are of plum concrete 6 feet wide at top and 7 feet at bottom. Well foundations are adopted with two circular wells of 12 feet diameter for each pier. Wells have been sunk to an average depth of 32 feet. Wells of pier No. 5 have gone down 52.5 feet below the river bed.

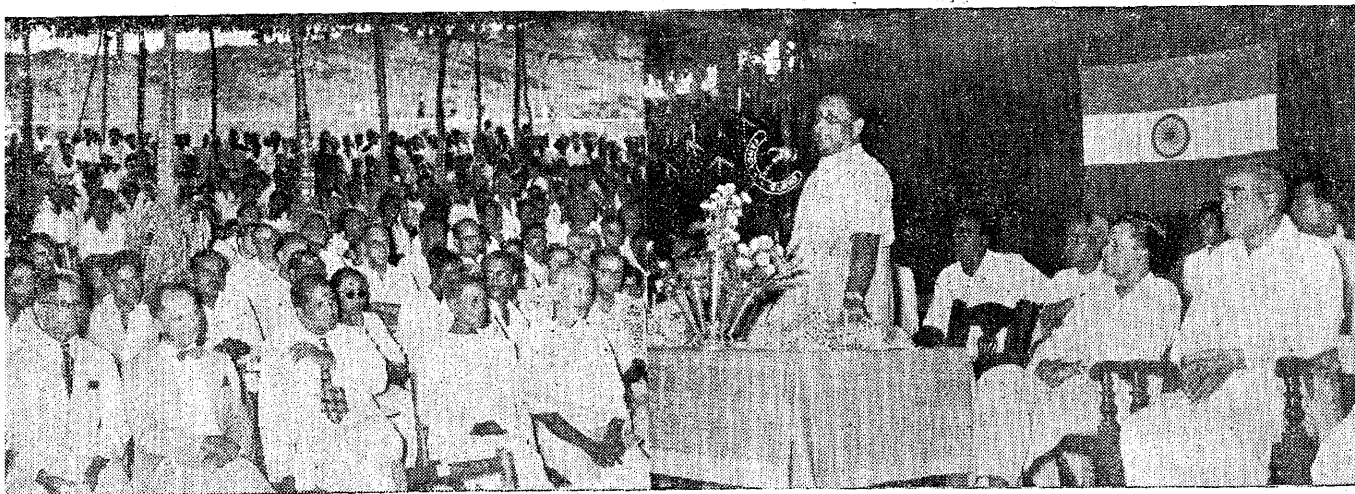
The deck consists of 4 precast prestressed girders 96 feet in length with a 6-inch thick reinforced concrete slab cast *in situ* on top of these. The girders are of cellular construction of U shape 41 inches by 61 inches with 5 inches webs and 6 inches soffit slab. These U girders are prestressed with 256 wires of 0.2 in diameter on Magnel Blaton system. There are 8 cables in each beam. The girder rests on mortar pad at one end and rocker bearing at the other. All the girders were precast and prestressed on the banks and launched into position. The girders weighed 59 tons each and launching of the 92 girders from bank to the piers was a job in itself. Local

talent, materials and labour were made use of. The bridge is designed for Indian Road Congress Standards and has a carriage-way of 22 feet between kerbs.

The total cost of this work is 25.75 lakhs. Quantity of mild steel used was 506 tons, tensile wire 120 tons and cement 3,993 tons.

Many difficulties had to be overcome in the construction of this first prestressed concrete road bridge in India. While sinking wells big boulders were found embedded in clay. Sinking through this strata required considerable time and effort. The contract time had to be extended. Prestressed concrete work being new, every item of work had to be experimented and then perfected.

Sri O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister, Transport and Railways, Government of India, opened the prestressed concrete bridge over Palar near Chingleput at mile 38/3-5 of Madras-Dindigul road on 12th June 1955.



Sri O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister for Transport and Railways, Government of India, opened the Palar bridge near Chingleput on 12th June 1955. Sri Shanmugha Rajeswara Sethupathi, Minister for Works, presided.



## National Malaria Control Programme— Madras Corporation

By SRI A. B. SHETTY, Minister for Health

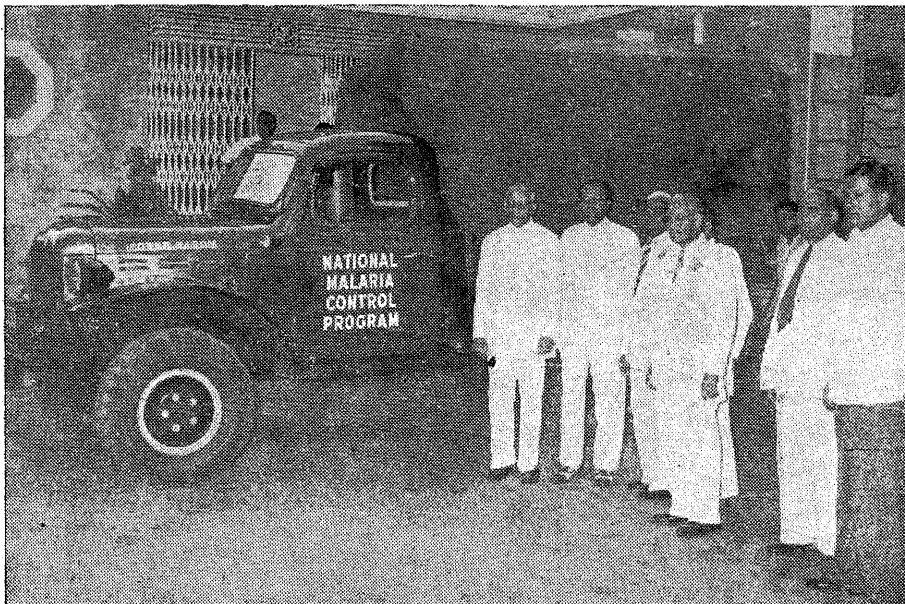
India is one of the countries where malaria has been recognized to be the most important hazard to the health of the people, causing high annual mortality and a large amount of sickness and physical incapacity interfering with agricultural and industrial activities. The Planning Commission have assigned top most priority to malaria control work in our health plan. International malaria control by the use of new insecticides, developed since 1940, has practically eradicated malaria from one area after another. Larvicidal measures to control breeding of malaria mosquitoes may also be necessary in certain areas. But the use of D.D.T. as a residual insecticide to destroy the adult vector has become a major method of malaria control. D.D.T. as commonly applied for residual spraying on the inside walls of habitations, has produced no injurious

effects. Enlarged spleens among young children are a reliable index to the presence of malaria. In D.D.T. sprayed areas the spleen rate has dropped to a very low percentage indicating the practical elimination of malaria. Residual spraying has been found useful in destroying such household insects as flies, lice, cockroaches and fleas. But house flies soon develop resistance to D.D.T. Insect strains of other species also have become resistant to insecticides like DDT and BHC. It is said that no species of anopheles has yet been found to have developed resistance to insecticides in this country. Yet there is a possibility of malaria vectors also developing some degree of resistance in future. Residual spraying quickly reduces the incidence of clinical malaria but it is not wise to terminate a residual spraying project in view of the danger of malaria

reappearing in a previously treated area, if there is any focus of malaria in that area or endemic malaria on its borders. Until malaria eradication is accomplished, treatment has to be provided for malaria cases of quinine and other synthetic compounds. It will be useful to publish a booklet giving reliable information upon modern anti-malarial drugs and suitable for treating different types of cases.

It has been estimated that 3.5 million persons are exposed to the risk of malaria in Madras State, 2.5 millions in the rural areas and about one million in urban towns like the Madras City, Salem, Erode, Tiruppur and Tuticorin municipal areas and in Namakkal Panchayat Board area. Madras State is implementing the National Malaria Control Programme of the Government of India. During 3½ years of the operational period of the programme, the Government of India provide, out of the Indo-American Fund, assistance through grants of DDT, Anti-malaria drugs, vehicles, sprayers essential equipments amounting to Rs. 15.66 lakhs in cost. The State Governments have to provide operational costs including the cost of the personnel, contingent expenditure on labour, transport charges, etc. The Government of India have agreed to give similar assistance in the shape of equipment and materials costing approximately Rs. 5.86 lakhs for the 2½ years of the operational period of the National Malaria Control Programme, in the urban towns already mentioned.

Madras is considered to be one of the best cities in India in many respects. Though the extension areas of the city have houses with compounds, the old built up areas like Georgetown, Tondiarpet, Washermanpet, Royapuram and Chintadripet are overcrowded with side to side houses. Many diseases of an epidemic and endemic nature prevail in the City.



You will see this vehicle running about the City contributing its share in eradicating Malaria.

## MADRAS INFORMATION

### MADRAS INFORMATION

(26)  
(28)

Besides malaria, filariasis and kala-azar are two of the chief insect-borne diseases. Parts of the City having poor drainage system, are subject to the filariasis scourge transmitted by culex fatigans. Kala-azar has been prevalent in the City for more than three decades. The northern portion of the City, namely the Gorgetown area,

constituted the original focus of infection from where the disease has spread to other areas by slow stages. It is understood that an intensive survey has been undertaken recently and that the Corporation will, in due course, take up control measures in regard of kala-azar and filariasis. The citizens of Madras will, I hope and particularly

those in the affected areas extend their full co-operation to the Corporation health staff in making the investigation and control work a success.

[Speech by Sri A. B. Shetty, Minister for Health, at the Corporation Stadium on 8th June 1955 inaugurating the Investigation and Control Programme of the Corporation.]

### Administration report of the Fire Service Branch for 1954

During the year 1954, Fire Service continued to function in 42 Municipal towns and in Madras City. Fire calls were attended to by Fire Stations within a radius of 30 miles and even beyond in exceptional cases. The Fire Service attended to 1,902 calls during the year as against 1,815 in 1953 and saved property estimated at Rs. 116.6 lakhs as against Rs. 194 lakhs during the previous year.

There were 10,202 ambulance calls during the year as against 9,446 in 1953. The officers of the Branch carried out 6,235 inspections as required by various Acts with a view to prevent possible fire accidents and also carried out 778 half yearly inspections of Government buildings to ensure adequacy of fire protection measures.

The Village Fire Fighting Squads organised in 1951 continued to function. There were 10,195 Fire Squads functioning during the year. They rendered assistance to Fire Service on 315 occasions.

### Contagious Diseases Among Animals

There was a general fall in the incidence of and the mortality from contagious diseases among animals in the State during April 1955. In all, 273 outbreaks with 1,302 deaths were recorded in the month as against 348 outbreaks with 1,600 deaths in the previous month.

*Rinderpest*: The State continued to be free from the disease as in the previous month.

*Haemorrhagic Septicaemia*: There was a fall in the incidence of and mortality from the disease as compared to the previous month. Thirty-seven outbreaks with 185 deaths were recorded during the month as against 55 outbreaks with 301 deaths in the previous month. The disease was prevalent in a severe form in the district of Tanjore when compared to the other districts.

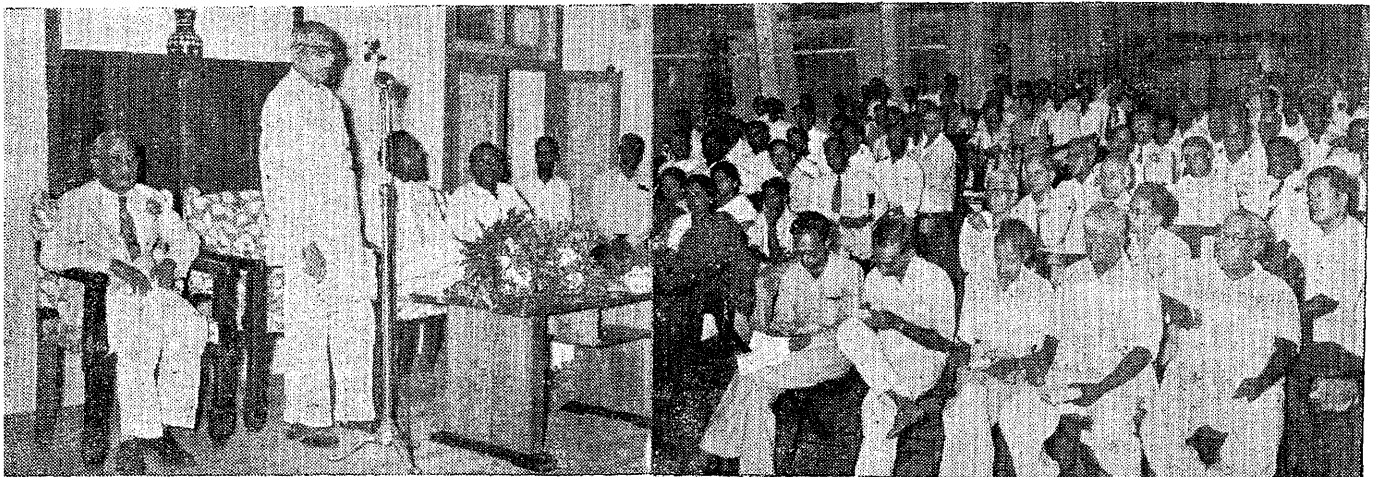
The Fire Service has been rendering valuable help to the general public who are realising in a greater measure its importance and usefulness.

*Black Quarter*: There was a fall in the incidence of and mortality from the disease during the month, as compared to the previous month. Two hundred and twenty-one outbreaks with 1,047 deaths were recorded during the month as against 276 outbreaks with 1,205 deaths in the previous month. The disease was prevalent in a severe form in the districts of Chingleput, North Arcot, Tiruchirappalli, South Arcot and Salem.

*Anthrax*: There was a fall in the incidence of and mortality from the disease during the month as compared to the previous month. Seven outbreaks with 70 deaths were recorded during the month as against 11 outbreaks with 94 deaths in the previous month.

*Foot and Mouth*: There was a slight rise in the incidence of and no mortality from the disease during the month as compared to the previous month. Eight outbreaks with no deaths were recorded during the month as against six outbreaks with no deaths in the previous month.

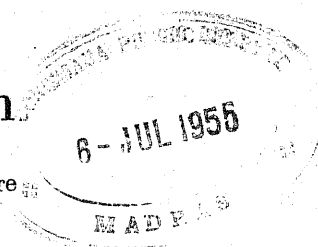
Prompt preventive measures were taken to control the epidemics in time and the diseases were brought under control.



i A. B. SHETTY, Minister for Health, inaugurating the National Malaria Control Programme at the Corporation Stadium on 8th June, 1955

## Refrigeration to Preserve Fish

BY SRI M. JAYARAJ, B.E., Refrigeration Engineer, Mangalore



Yet another bold step, in the drive for development of Fisheries in the State is being taken by the Government of Madras, when the two Ice Factory, Cold Storage and Quick Freezing plants at Mangalore and Kozhikode are commissioned. Constructed at a total cost of about 7.5 lakhs each, either plant is capable of producing four tons of Ice per day, quick freezing about five tons of fish per day and has storage capacity for about thirty tons of fresh fish and about forty tons of frozen fish.

Next only to the Central Government Quick Freezing plant at Sasson Docks, Bombay, these plants are India's most modern fish refrigeration plants equipped with "Chill Blast" quick freezing process.

### *Benefits to Fishermen*

Refrigeration is but at its infant stage, as a medium of preservation of fish in our State. Hitherto there have been facilities only for icing fish for preservation. Icing of fresh fish limits the effective period of preservation to only about 24 hours. The starting of these two plants will mark the dawn of a new era in fish preservation, namely—quick freezing and storage thereafter under refrigeration. Fresh fish, quick frozen and stored in cold storage can be preserved for four to six months.

This enables the fishermen to bring in their catches in the glut season, quick-freeze them and store them in cold storage and draw them from the cold storage, as and when required for local and distant markets, at times when there are no catches and the demand is strong. This will not only enable the fishermen to get good prize for their catches, but also will eliminate the colossal national waste that is prevailing to-day in the West Coast fisheries due to the inevitable conversion of a considerable portion of the catches during glut season to mere manure, for want of facility for preservation.

### *Functions of the Plant*

**Production of Ice:**—Four tons of opaque ice will be produced per day and there is an Ice storage room maintained at 30° F. for storing twelve tons of Ice produced intact. This will enable the Factory to cope up to sudden peak demands and adjust production according to demand. Ice will be sold to the local fishermen at the barest minimum rate possible to popularise the use of ice in preservation of fish. Each plant is provided with an insulated fish transport van (gifted under the T.C.A.) which the individual fishermen can hire and transport iced fish to interior markets.

**Fresh Fish Storage.**—For short preservation of fish lasting for not more than eight to ten days, mainly to balance the procurement and demand in local markets, the fresh fish storage provided in the cold storage plants is extremely convenient. Each cold storage at Mangalore and Kozhikode is provided with a fresh fish storage room of capacity about 5,700 cubic feet in space for about thirty tons of fresh fish. This storage room is maintained at 30° F. continuously (2° F. below the melting point of ice).

Fresh catches of fish are just mixed with chipped ice and kept in baskets inside this fresh fish storage room. Fish thus preserved can last for 8-10 days depending on variety. In case even at the end of 8-10 days should the market be still unattractive, they can be quick frozen and stored.

### *Theory of Quick Freezing*

The ordinary method of icing fish for preservation does not permit an average temperature of lower than 30° F. to be reached, with result, the innermost tissue of fish will be at a higher temperature and is liable to bacterial action. It is this short coming that reduces the effective period of preservation with icing. For prolonged preservation, it is hence

necessary that fish has to be subjected to sub-zero temperature treatment which is called "Freezing" in which fish is subjected to a temperature of about 20° F. so that even the innermost tissue of fish is much lower than melting point of ice (32° F.).

It is essential that this process of freezing must not prolong but it must be quick. If freezing is attained slowly, the water molecules contained in the body of the fish freezes slowly and there is a tendency for the neighbouring molecules of water to unite together and form bigger crystals of ice during which process, the tissues of fish rupture thus promoting bacterial action. This crystallisation is avoided by subjecting fish to what is called as "Quick Freezing" process in which the medium of cooling is at a much lower temperature and the freezing is attained as quickly as possible.

The Madras Government plants at Mangalore and Kozhikode are equipped with "Chill Blast Quick Freezing Process".

### *Chill Blast Process*

Fresh fish is brought first to the "preparation room" where it is graded according to size and variety. If fish is of big size the gills and guts, etc. (where bacterial action starts first) are removed and cleaned and if necessary they are filleted. However, when they are of small size, it is neither economical nor advisable to remove the guts, etc., for it may take a considerably long time in preparation, effecting deterioration in quality. Sardines, mackerel, prawns, etc., which form the bulk of fishery of the West Coast, can be frozen as they are, without preparation. The bigger fishes like seer, cat fish pomfrets, sharks, etc., can be prepared, filleted and then frozen.

Prepared or whole fish are washed well and spread in trays provided in the fish trucks and these fish trucks

are pushed into the "Freezing tunnel". In the freezing tunnel, chill air at 20° to 30° F. is blown over these fish trucks at high velocity and this blast is continued till the fish is completely frozen. The usual duration of this process is about 3 hours depending on the variety of fish; at the end of this, the fish trucks are pushed out of the freezing tunnel.

#### *Glazing and Storage*

The trays containing frozen fish are then taken out and dipped in cold water kept about 40° F. to 50° F. and as soon as they are dipped in cold water due to extreme low temperature attained by the frozen fish, a coating of ice is formed all over its body thus encasing the fish in a protective armour which considerably retards the process of desiccation and enzymic contamination. This process is called 'glazing'. In order that the fish can be preserved for a prolonged period it is necessary that this protective glaze has to be maintained without thawing by storing the frozen fish under sub-zero temperature conditions.

However, if fish or fillets are warped in moisture and vapour proof transparent paper and then frozen, this 'glazing' can be eliminated.

Fish thus frozen and kept under storage in the frozen fish store, where the temperature is maintained at about 0° F., thus protecting the glaze intact, can be stored for a period of about four months even extending up to six months depending upon the quality of fish and conditions of storage.

#### *Scope for Brighter Trade*

Mangalore plant is situated in a convenient locality just opposite the bar with a river on one side and a high way on the other. The fish can

most conveniently be transported from the nearby fish-landing places by boats and the boats can transfer the fish to cold storage direct with the least difficulty due to the fine boat-landing facilities. The out going product can easily be booked from the Railway goods station, which is quite close to the cold storage. During the peak fishing season the heavy catches of the rich fish landing areas like Malpe, Gangothri, Moolki, Ullal, Kasaragod, etc., can be transported by power boats which, the department proposes to make available. These can either be frozen or kept under chilled fish room.

Mangalore itself has a very good local market for fresh fish. If local market is not attractive, the fish can be iced and sent to interior markets like Coorg, Mysore border and Malnad areas, by the insulated vans which have already been provided under the T.C.A. Frozen products can be sent by rail in Refrigerated van provided by the railways to places like Madras, Bangalore, etc., where the cold storage facilities already exist and stored there, for consumption as and when demanded by the market.

Thus there is scope for continuous refrigerated transport and storage to make frozen fish trade a success. From Mangalore frozen fish can also be transported to Bombay by Refrigerated-storage-equipped ships and can be stored again in the cold storages of Bombay. Then there is the still untapped scope for export of frozen fish to foreign countries by cold storage equipped liners and already the Indian prawns (which are available in the West Coast) are in heavy demand abroad specially in the United States of America.

#### *West Hill Plant*

The West Hill Plant situated on the seashore near fish landing areas and

very close to the West Hill railway station, which started production on 15th October 1954 has already gained wide popularity among fishermen. Government Ice has become popular in all the coastal fishing towns of Malabar and South Kanara districts and ice has been distributed to places like Parapanangadi, Kadulundi, Badagara, Tellicherry, Etakot, Kanhangad, Kasaragod and even up to Mangalore. The demand for ice continues to be strong and the people are realising the benefits of Refrigeration in Fisheries Trade.

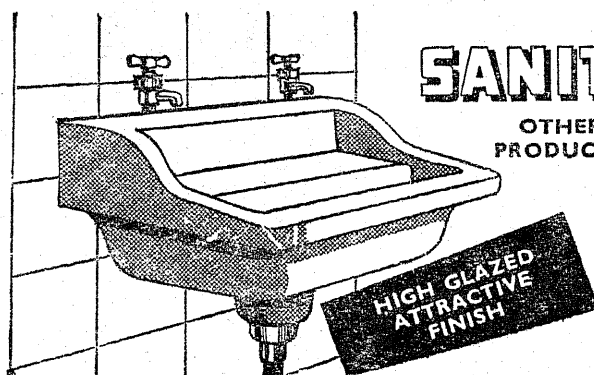
The fresh fish storage is being utilised to adjust procurement to demand. Again opportunities for freezing and transporting frozen fish, specially prawns by rail to various interior places or by steamer, abroad, remain untapped.

Thus these refrigeration plants mark the dawn of a new era of brighter fisheries. It opens new avenues for a hitherto untapped scope for Scientific preservation and marketing of our fisheries products—Our national asset.

*(Continued from page 16)*

patients maintain their morale and return home to continue cheerfully until they succumb to some other ailment or injury. Those who do not co-operate often lose interest in living and pass away.

Renewed interest in the aged in the problems of old age and its management (Geriatrics) is being taken in Britain. The benevolence of philanthropists like Viscount Nuffield and the keen interest which the State takes, makes research into these problems possible. For us the subject is an individual or domestic problem. With advances in Medicine and Public Health, we too may live longer and face the same problem. Shall we then be prepared, or get caught unawares?



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Misc. 145

## Rural Broadcasts for July 1955

Friday, 1st July 1955—

Lavani;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion: Weather Report.

Saturday, 2nd July 1955—

Activities of the Harijan Welfare Department—Talk in Tamil arranged by the Department of Harijan Welfare, Government of Madras;

Podumenra Maname: Song;  
The Adult Literacy Class: Tirukural: Seinanri Arithal (Kural Nos. 103 and 104);  
Weekly Review of Market rates; Water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Sunday, 3rd July 1955—

Green Manure: Glyricidia, sesbania and ipomoea: Discussion;  
Inikkum Karumbu: Song;  
Thummam Vendam: Play;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Monday, 4th July 1955—

Bee-keeping as a hobby: Discussion;  
Sathya Jothiyai: Song;  
Irulil Oli: Feature;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Tuesday, 5th July 1955—

Farm Forum: Discussion;  
Grama Pattum Katchiyum;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Wednesday, 6th July 1955—

Care of Teeth: Discussion;  
On National Anthem: Discussion;  
Listeners' Letters;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion: Weather Report.

Thursday, 7th July 1955—

Farm Forum: Discussion;  
Musical Bouquet;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Friday, 8th July 1955—

Karaha Attam:  
Market rates and Water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Saturday, 9th July 1955—

Cottage Industries: Leather Tanning: Discussion;  
Pachai Kuzhandaiyadi: Song;  
The Adult Literacy Class: Tirukural: Sei Nanri Arithal (Kural Nos. 105 and 106).

Sunday, 10th July 1955—

Cultivation of Turnips: Discussion;  
Tennaiara Cholaiyile: Song;  
The Pial School of Political Science;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Monday, 11th July 1955—

Grasses and Fodder Crops: Discussion;  
Folk Songs lesson;  
The Village Women's Forum;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Tuesday, 12th July 1955—

Farm Forum: Discussion;  
Grama Patasalaiyil: Asu Kaviroyar;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Wednesday, 13th July 1955—

Infectious Diseases: Discussion;  
National Anthem: How to sing?  
Nakaiyum Pakaiyum: Play;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Thursday, 14th July 1955—

Farm Forum: Discussion;  
Vasanai Kalanjiam: Koonthal Thailam: Musical Feature;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

Friday, 15th July 1955—

Gandharva Kudirai;  
Market rates and water-level readings;  
Topical Discussion; Weather Report.

*Price Reduced*

*Price Reduced*

### COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY, MADRAS—1952

Published by:

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Containing valuable information regarding the resources of the State, descriptive accounts of major industries, State enterprises, State Financing of Industries, condition of Import and Export Trade, Foreign Exchange Control, Import and Export restrictions and preferences, financing of trade, Commonwealth Tariff preferences, Balance of trade and Payments, the names of manufacturers and traders in the State with their addresses and the products they deal with, Shipping Lines, Air Services, Insurance Companies, Banks, Contractors, Forwarding and Clearing Agents, Indian and Foreign Importers, Exporters, etc., etc.

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Saturday, 16th July 1955—

Diseases communicable by milk and those that are communicable by milkmen—Talk in Tamil arranged by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Madras.  
Mazhaiyin Azhagu : Song ;  
The Adult Literacy Class : Tirukural : Sei Nanri Arithal (Kural Nos. 107 and 108).  
Weekly Review of Market rates ;  
Water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Sunday, 17th July 1955—

Dry Farming : Discussion ;  
Kavi Padi Perumai Seyya : Song ;  
Kona Ezhuttu Kunchitapadam : Serial Feature ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Monday, 18th July 1955—

Pearl Fisheries of South India : Discussion ;  
Sathya Jothiyai : Song ;  
Irulili Oli : Feature ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Tuesday, 19th July 1955—

Farm Forum : Discussion ;  
Urumi Melam ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

(Continued from page 12)

The Question-hour is a period of sun-shine, cloud and storm. There are few more trying experience for the Ministers than that of this hour. It demands superb seamanship on the part of the Speaker/Chairman also. He has constantly to intervene to maintain order and control irrelevant and discursive supplementary questions and answers and at the same time keep the House in good humour. There is at times a whole series of scenes with the Speaker/Chairman constantly on his legs but the storms are seldom lasting. The House changes from grave to gay or *vice versa* and the incidents of this period are immediately forgotten when the Speaker Chairman says :

“ Questions over.”

Wednesday, 20th July 1955—

Leprosy and Treatment Discussion ;  
National Anthem : How to sing ?  
Listeners Letters ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Thursday, 21st July 1955—

Farm Forum : Discussion ;  
Musical Bouquet ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Friday, 22nd July 1955—

Kathakalakshepam : Sri Aandaal ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Saturday, 23rd July 1955—

Kashmir : Life in a house-boat ;  
Vilakkinile ; Song ;  
The Adult Literacy Class ; Tirukural : Seinanri Arithal (Kural Nos. 109 and 110) ;  
Weekly Review of Market Rates ;  
Water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Sunday, 24th July 1955—

Major insect pests of rice and their control : Discussion ;  
Gramangal : Song ;  
The Village Welfare Association ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Monday, 25th July 1955—

Common ailment of calves : Discussion ;  
Malaiyin Maiyalile : Song ;  
Chattarathu Chowkidar (1) Serial Feature ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Tuesday, 26th July 1955—

Farm Forum : Discussion ;  
Grama Panchayattil : Peyotti Vazhakku ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Wednesday, 27th July 1955—

Greens in diet : Discussion ;  
National Anthem : How to sing ?

Social Education for Women under Five-Year Plan Talk ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Thursday, 28th July 1955—

Farm Forum : Discussion ;  
Have you heard this song ?  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Friday, 29th July 1955—

Pattu Vathiar Amma—Musical Play ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Saturday, 30th July 1955—

Makkal Tiruppani : Play ;  
Gomatha : Song ;  
Tyagam : Play ;  
The Adult Literacy Class : Tirukural : Naduvu Nilaimai (Kural Nos. 111 and 112) ;  
Weekly Review of Market Rates ;  
Water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

Sunday, 31st July 1955—

Gourd : Discussion ;  
Tamizhnadu Ulagodu : Song ;  
Venn Kudai : Play ;  
Market rates and water-level readings ;  
Topical Discussion ; Weather Report.

(Continued from page 13)

Temple Popular

The Temple is a popular one for the Lingayats and the Non-Lingayats as well. Pilgrims used to visit from throughout the District of Mysore, Mandya and Bangalore Districts in Mysore State and from Nilgris, Coimbatore and Salem Districts in Madras State. Deepavali, Sivarathri and Ugadhi are the three major annual festivals for this temple and thousands of pilgrims used to congregate to witness the Car festival. At present the Temple is under the management and control of the H.R. and C.E. (Admn.) Department with an Executive Officer and a Board of Trustees having been appointed for the proper management of the same. The authorities are doing their best to provide all facilities to the visiting pilgrims.

### New Extension

In the Madras Electricity System a total number of 134 D.C. services with an approximate connected load of 219 K.W. were changed over to A.C. supply on a voluntary basis.

During the month 43 extensions were sanctioned by the Chief Operation Engineers and Chief Engineer for Electricity at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,517 lakhs.

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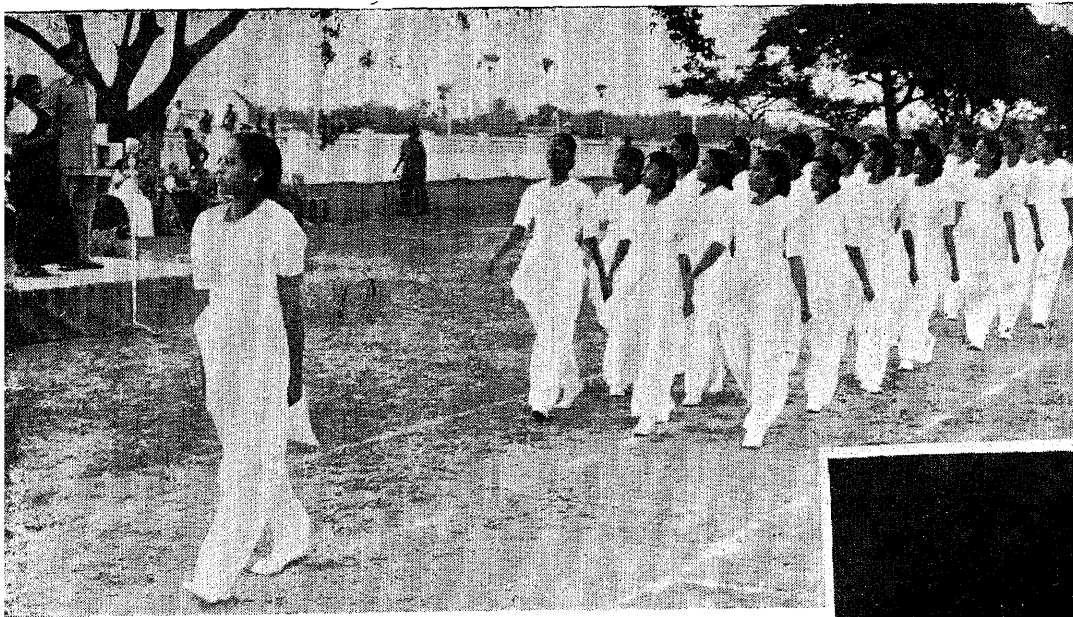
TOTAL LOOMS : 325

TOTAL SPINDLES : 50,314

*Additional 100 looms under erection*

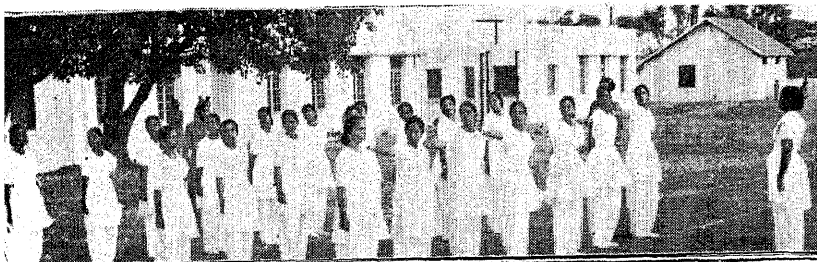
**P. S. S. SOMASUNDARAM CHETTIAR**

*General Manager*



WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CADET CORPS

The passing out parade of the Women's Auxiliary Cadet Corps Lady Teacher (Officers) Training Camp was held at Queen Mary's College on 15th Jun 1955, under the presidency of Mrs. Nallamuthu Ramamurthy. The photo (bottom right) show the President presenting the Best Cadet Cup.

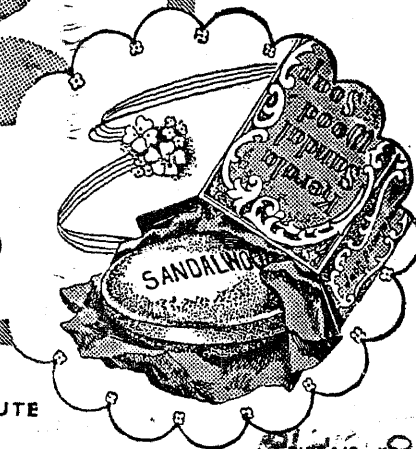


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