

In some other lands of mine, I adopted some of the culture is menis suggested by the agricultural department. 6 acres were inism with the seed drill. 25 kalams were realised on an average per acres 18 kalams were realised on an average from the broadcasted field per acre. (1 kalam: 36 M. M. : 90 lbs.) 1.16 cents were sown with sunhemp. Owing to the insect and flood damage the crop failed. However, it gave green manure for an acre. 5 acres of the dry land was ploughed with monsoon plough. Varagu grown in the area yielded well. Superphosphate was applied with green leaf manure to some other plots. Poombalai was grown in 16 cents of land. It gave 34 kalams per acre or 34 x 90: 3,060 lbs. I did not maintain any correct account for this. But I am sure that there is gain in each improvement suggested by the department.

I am extremely glad to take this opportunity of permitting you to let other peasants and mirasdars benefit fully by my experience.

I beg to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant;

(Sd) K. SRINIVASACHARIAR.

---

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

---

*Rice finds elbow room*:—Paddy Breeding was for over 12 years confined to a small area of land adjoining the Coimbatore Farm wet lands. The singling out of a promising strain which was christened G. E. B 24 led to systematic efforts being made to grow it under diverse conditions before it could be put out into the districts on a huge scale. This brought into existence the Adaturai farm in the Cauvery delta two years ago. Appreciation of the work on paddy encouraged the opening of a third station in Marteru in the Godavari delta this year. Release of 126 lakhs of rupees from the local contribution to the Central Revenues has occasioned the earmarking of 4 lakhs for the Development department and opportunity has been taken to make arrangements for establishing a Rice Breeding Station this time in South Malabar. Ganjam alone of all the chief rice growing tracts is thus without a station. She has been asking for a farm for nearly 20 years now. We hope that it will be her turn next. For we need not labour the point, that in regard to area under paddy and the number of varieties grown she stands almost second in the presidency. That

As has not yet been provided with a farm is, we believe, more his lack of persistent effort and enthusiasm on her part, though he was one of the earliest districts to evince interest in agricultural activities. The latest Season and Crop report shows that in 1923-24 the acreage under paddy in the chief rice districts was as follows:—

Vizagapatam 1,147,800 acres, Ganjam 1,156,000 acres, Tanjore 1,124,300 acres, Kistna 1,137,000 acres, Malabar 873,400 acres.

*Thick canes assert themselves* :—It is common knowledge that vast stretches of land growing sugar-cane in India lie within the sub-tropical tracts, in Agra and Oudh, Punjab and the North-West Frontier Province. This region is characterised by its thin canes. Thick canes do not find a congenial home here, but hold sway in the warmer regions of this country. When the question of breeding sugarcane attracted attention in 1912, it was considered imperative that thin canes should be taken up first and the Sugarcane breeding station which was established at Coimbatore was made to evolve types of canes suitable to Upper India. We now understand that thick canes are no longer to be neglected and their breeding will be undertaken in a farm to be opened in the neighbourhood of Coimbatore immediately under a second Research Officer. We hope that the Deccan ryot will have better opportunities of profiting by the lessons on the latter station which will materially contribute to his success

*Severance of a limb* :—The importance of sugarcane as an All-India question necessitated a breeding station being opened at Coimbatore in 1912 as the place best adapted for production of seedlings by pollination of flowers which phenomenon does not occur in Upper India owing to its climate. The Sugarcane Expert and the Breeding station were kept under the administrative control of the Madras Government which was however financed by the Central Government. With effect from 1st April this year this arrangement came to an end and the Government of India have assumed direct control of the staff and the station. This would, we hope, give scope for more intimate touch of the Experts at Pusa with Coimbatore to the benefit of both.

*Agricultural Development Trust.* The thoughts of the world have since the close of the War been turned towards Agriculture. More production, less wastage, better distribution, economic consumption, co-operation, efficiency are ideas which reverberate with great resonance in political, commercial and social circles. This is all for the good but there seems to be no real grasp of the means to be adopted. A well meaning Indian Pro-

fessor advises from America that mass co-operation in agriculture is the only way to regenerate India. A socialist suggests communism a loyalist advocates peace and order, a theoretical economist urges less expenditure on marriages and obsequies, a businessman wishes enforcement of contract, a capitalist emphasises efficiency of labour, a trade unionist insists on less hours and more leisure for workers, a statesman pleads for precedents and expediency, and the beggar cries for food at no cost. Thus owing to the interaction of several forces the state of agriculture in India which is by all acknowledged as an agricultural country, is anything but satisfactory. An improvement in any direction implies expenditure of money and a well laid out programme which should secure the assent of all parties and is beyond cavil and criticism. When the programme has been laid out spread over a number of years, it would be advantageous to have a fund from which required amounts can be drawn without anyone being subjected to impersonal pressure not to allow grants to lapse. The creation of such a fund is urgent in the cause of agricultural development as no schemes that are taken up can possibly be completed within a year, and their extension beyond the customary official year would under the present circumstances, entail either abandonment of the schemes or their being rushed through with feverish haste, undue waste of money and deplorable loss of efficiency. This suggestion is nothing original but requires courage, knowledge and patience on the part of responsible authorities, for the success. We hope, now that this department has been in active existence for about 20 years, it should think of creating such a fund for working out its programme; and the time is opportune as any slice that may be snatched from the remission of provincial contribution may very well form a sound nucleus.

*Inter-University lectures:*— Our readers are aware that in May last year a conference of representatives in India was held at Simla under the Chairmanship of Minister for Education and one of the resolutions that were passed was for the creation of facilities for exchange of Professors of eminence, so that correct knowledge may be diffused and the standard of teaching raised in University Colleges. No action seems to have been taken by any University so far. It would be best that this step is begun with applied sciences like agriculture, the subsidiary branches of which require deep knowledge, intimate contact with details, and authoritative expression of views, to ensure its progress. Now that Coimbatore, Poona and Lyallpur Agricultural Colleges are affiliated to the Universities it should be easy to arrange for such exchange or deputation of Specialists for varying periods, as was contemplated in the resolution referred to.