

The district staff visited 962 villages in the month. Konkan ploughs were sold in Punganur. Seeds of improved strains of Cambodia from the Cotton Station, Coimbatore were distributed to villages in Dindigul and Usilampatti and improved strains of karungani introduced into black soil areas of Tirumangalam and Dindigul. 8912 lbs., of paddy seed were supplied from Aduturai, 27,158 lbs., from Maruteru, 122,78 lbs., from Coimbatore. Very strenuous demonstration work of different kinds was proceeding in all districts.

48 cows and 38 she buffaloes were served by stud bulls.

NOTES.

Co-operative Development in the United States. It is estimated that in 1900 there were approximately 2000 farmers' business organisations functioning in the United States. Between 1900 and 1925 the number of active associations increased to about 12,000 and the purposes for which the associations existed also increased.

At the close of 1925 there were approximately 12,000 functioning associations, including 40 federations, 80 centralised associations, 35 sales agencies, 50 bargaining associations, and nearly 10,000 independent local associations. The number of associations marketing dairy products increased from 1600 to 2200; the number of associations handling grains from 100 to 3,400; the number of livestock shippings association from less than 100 to 1,800; fruit and vegetable marketing associations from 100 to 1,300. There were also formed nearly 100 associations for marketing wool, and 70 for marketing poultry and poultry products.

It is reasonable to assume that the business done in 1900 amounted to less than 200,000,000 dollars. This figure is significant in comparison with 2,400,000,000 dollars which is the estimated amount of business by farmers associations for 1925. The 1900 figure is even more significant in the light of the fact that several of the present day associations report sales of more than 50,000,000 dollars a year.—(News Bulletin of the Markets and Migration Department Federal.)

(From the Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales for September 1927.)

A new cattle disease.—From a Copenhagen message to the Scottish Farmer it is understood that a new disease has been discovered at Halling, Alen (Norway) attacking both the hoofs and mouths of the animals. The ailment is distinct from foot-and-mouth disease. In the primary stages it is said to resemble eczema and causes great pain. It is believed that in some way the disease is connected with damp.

Sweet and Sour Silage.—"The production of sweet and sour silage depends chiefly upon the temperature of the material in the pit at the time of making and this, in turn, is dependent upon the access of air." Says H. C. Stening in the Agricultural Gazette, of N. S. Wales. "When the pit is filled and pressure is applied rapidly so that the air be excluded from the material the temperature does not rise allowing vigorous action of acid-producing bacteria, resulting in the formation of volatile and fixed acids which cause sour silage. "Sweet silage" on the other hand, is produced when the pit is filled slowly before being compressed. In this case the air has comparatively free access to the material and a high temperature is induced resulting in the destruction of acid producing bacteria and consequent production of only relatively small amount of acids."

Norway.—One third of the total population of Norway live on the land. The soil so far as potatoes and usual corn crops were concerned was fully competitive with the most highly developed farming countries anywhere. Wheat and potato crops have doubled in production, the increase of the oat crop being about 50 per cent but rye has declined during the past 25 years. This increase in corn is due to the cultivation of large areas of new soil owing to the bounty on corn given by the Government.

The Making of Men.—"When a man leaves school or colleges his education is not complete—it is merely beginning." Says the Times. "Other things being equal, the University man should have a better foundation on which to build than his rival straight from school, but if, in after-life, he neglects his opportunities, that foundation alone will not carry him very far. There are born leaders of men and there are born administrators but we cannot trust to a sufficient supply from that source and it is desirable that men should be trained."

"The tragedy of our time is that in every sphere of life many good men of natural ability are condemned to comparative obscurity by the jealousy and ignorance of those who have it in their power to keep them back. It is a fallacy to suppose that good men always come to the top. Some men are broken by the way."

What an Agricultural College should be. The ideal would be to have a farm as close to the College as possible. The advantages of that are obvious. The aim of the College is to impart knowledge to the students which they could not get at home namely the scientific principles underlying agriculture and the economics of different ways of farming. It is not the work of the college to teach a batch of 200 students how to turn turnips—work they could learn at home. A college farm is very necessary for demonstration purposes but the greater part of the students' time must be spent in the class room and the laboratory. (Principal Paterson in *The Scottish Farmer* of 6th August 1927).

An American Puzzle. The ratio of cattle population to the human population has been steadily declining in U. S. A. since 1900, until to-day it is about 50 per cent of what it was in that year. The official figures are 0·89 (1900), 0·67 (1919), 0·63 (1920), 0·55 (1925) 0·49 (1927).

Opinions differ. Some believe vegetarianism is spreading; others, that it is due to improvement of milch breeds resulting in a fewer number of animals being maintained.

(C. F. Andrews in the "Servant of India" dated 6-10-27.)

DEPARTMENTAL NOTIFICATIONS.

Gazette Notifications:—Mr. S. Sundararaman, is confirmed as Government Mycologist in place of Dr. Mac Rae.

Mr. C. Narasinha Ayyangar is confirmed as Lecturer in Engineering from 3rd August 1927.