

decomposed manure. The moisture content is affected by the local rainfall, and where rainfall is heavy, the authors recommend the transfer of the compost to raised heaps. Excessive cold and heavy winds lower the temperature of fermentation and prejudicially affect the rate of decomposition.

The authors rightly lay special emphasis on obtaining a correct carbon-nitrogen ratio of the compost (33:1) to start with, but it is doubtful whether if the author's method be followed the farmer could control on the large scale this factor as effectively as the other factors. This could only be done by ensuring a good supply of leaves and leguminous crops rich in nitrogen, and even at Indore, with the extensive materials available on a big farm of over 300 acres, the authors state that they could ensure a favourable nitrogen proportion only (1) by cutting the cotton stalks soon after picking is over, so as to secure the maximum number of leaves; (2) by growing a large area of sunn-hemp, which contains when withered as much as 2.3% of nitrogen and (3) by securing as much green weeds, groundnut residues and fallen leaves as possible for the mixture. Material containing a wrong ratio does not compost properly. The authors' experiments show that composting of "single" material, e.g., cotton stalks alone, is not successful, due to too close compacting and insufficient aeration and probably also to the unsatisfactory carbon-nitrogen ratio. Obviously it will be unwise to ask a farmer of small means to adopt the method as it stands, where he has to rely on any and all available organic matter, irrespective of the carbon-nitrogen ratio existing in them and especially in dry lands where he may not find it possible to supplement the nitrogen by growing leguminous green manure crops like sunn-hemp. In such cases the small farmer may find it more advisable to bring the carbon-nitrogen ratio of the compost material to the optimum, by the addition of nitrates or ammonium salts or by adding the Adco mixture, though the use of this mixture does not seem to meet with the approval of the authors.

(C. N.)

College News & Notes.

Students' Club. A meeting was held on 4th August when student Mr. Y. V. Narayaniah of class III initiated a discussion on "The Problems and Progress of the World To-day". Rao Sahib T. V. Rajagopalachariar was in the chair. Mr. Narayaniah in the course of his long and interesting paper discussed the most vital problems, economic and monetary, confronting the world at present. The discussion was well thought out and the lecturer gave a clear picture of the present economic position. Several students took part in the discussion of whom Messrs W. Thirumal Rao, N. Srirama Reddy, M. R. Devarajan, Rangasamy Ayyangar and D. C. Hanumantha Rao may be mentioned. The president in his concluding remarks stated that the economic problem was an important one and that social problems like divorces and marriages were also equally important. After dealing in a general way the causes that have led to the present economic depression the chairman opined that in tackling such problems clear thinking and a thorough knowledge of the details were essential.

At a second meeting of the student's club, student Mr. N. Venkat Rao, initiated a discussion on "Temporary closure of the Universities as an immediate measure against unemployment" with Dr. T. R. Seshadri in the chair. Mr. Venkat Rao in the course of his speech observed that the main cause of unemployment in the middle class society was due to the Universities turning out a large

number of graduates every year, men who were unfit to shoulder responsibilities and do any work on their own except in State service. Some of the other remedies that are usually thought of as birth control, emigration etc., were according to Mr. Venkat Rao either impracticable or could not give immediate relief. The only effective remedy for arresting unemployment was to close down the Universities temporarily and restart them later on ideal lines when there could be a demand for knowledge for knowledge's sake. As was expected there was a good deal of opposition to this rather narrow point of view of the opener of the discussion and the motion was turned down by a large majority.

Games—Hockey. There was a trial match between our College and the Coimbatore United Club on 21—7—32 on our grounds. The play was well balanced for the first 20 minutes or so when neither of the teams scored. Just before the interval, however, our players were able to score a goal. The teams crossing over the C. U. C. started their attack vigorously and soon scored a goal. Our players rose to the occasion and with timely rush of the forward line were able to add two more goals to their credit and thus eventually won the match by 3 to 1.

Our College met the C. U. C. again for the second time on 9th August, the C. U. C. team being a definitely stronger one this time. In the first half our college was able to score 2 goals against nil. In the second half, however, the C. U. C. equalised the score within a few minutes of the commencement of the game. Our forward line tried its level best to score again but every time the ball was shot into the goal it was ably defended by the C. U. C. goal keeper, an old boy of our college. The match thus ended in a draw.

On 16th. August our College played a friendly match with the estate boy-scouts' team. The youngsters put up a really good show this time though they eventually lost the match by 4 goals to nil. We are glad to note that some of the estate boys who played in the scout team gave a good exhibition and we are sure that with more practice and experience they should turn out first class hockey players.

On the 30th. August we played a match against the Stanes High School on our ground and won comfortably by 7 goals to 2. Our opponents appeared to be 'off colour' and though the scores do not represent the actual balance of the sides, our boys exhibited a high standard of hockey. Narayanan at Pivot was a great source of strength to the team and was easily the outstanding player on the side. That our great victory on this occasion was not entirely to our superiority was proved on 8th September when playing the Stanes school on their grounds they turned the tables on us and avenged their defeat by scoring 5 goals against 3. This has, however, come as an eye opener to our men, and they may anticipate a keen struggle against this team in the ensuing hockey tournament.

Cricket. On Sunday, 7th August our College played a friendly match with the Forest College on their grounds. The foresters entered first and were all out for 63 runs, Varadarajan bagging 5 wickets for 30 runs and Narasinga Rao 3 wickets for 19 runs. Our team entering later had scored 134 runs for the loss of 5 wickets, Narasinga Rao being the top scorer with 54 runs.

Y. M. C. A. Tournament. The first match of the tournament was played on our grounds on 13th August between our College and the Government College, Coimbatore. The visitors entering first took 63 runs. Our bowling was very effective, Narasinga Rao bagging 7 wickets for 19 runs, Varadarajan 2 wickets for 19 runs and Lakshmanan 1 for 11 runs. Our innings began rather shakily two of the best batsmen going down for 4 runs. Varadarajan, the skipper, entering later stopped the rot and by careful play gathered runs rapidly until the century was put on boards, his individual score being 56 not out. He declared the innings and put

in the Government College team for the second time. Our bowling was still very effective 8 wickets having been bagged for a poor 22 runs. Mahadevan bagged 5 wickets for 6 runs and Narasinga Rao 3 for 16 runs. Since the time was up the Government College was saved from an innings defeat.

The second match of the tournament was played between our College and the C. U. C. on our ground on the 20th. The visitors entering first had scored 161 runs. Amongst our bowlers Narasinga Rao was responsible for 5 wickets, Thomas for 3 wickets and Narayanan and Lakshmanan for one each. Our team entering later had made 72 runs for the loss of 7 wickets when the stumps were drawn for the day. Amongst our batsmen Thomas and Narasinga Rao played a good game and were responsible for 34 and 32 runs respectively. The match thus ended in a draw.

The third match was played between our College and the Foresters on 3rd September on the Forest College grounds. Our College were all out for 97 runs. Thomas contributed 46, including 4 fours. For the Forest College, Gulvadi took 4 wickets for 31 runs and Fareed 5 for 37 runs. After the lunch interval, the Forest College were all dismissed within an hour for 39 runs, Sarvate alone being not out with 14. Narasinga Rao for our College bagged 6 wickets conceding 25 runs and Thomas 2 for 5 runs. Our College in our second innings scored 81, Narasinga Rao being top-scorer with 30 and Varadarajan coming next with 19. After tea, the Forest College went in and made a fine rally scoring as many as 70 runs in an hour, Krishnamurthi making 40. The Forest College made 83 for loss of 7 wickets when stumps were drawn for the day. Thus our College won on the first innings.

Our College and the C. U. C. having obtained the same number of points another match will have to be played between these two teams and the winners will get the shield.

Health Week Foot-ball Tournament. We won our first match in this tournament by defeating the Municipal School and qualified for the finals. The finals came off on Monday, 5th September between our College and the London Mission High School. The School scored in the first half and we returned the compliment early in the second half, after an evenly contested and exciting game, the school took the lead close on time and the College lost the match by two goals to one.

Officers Club. Mr. P. A. Raghunathasamy Ayyangar, assistant to Govt. Agricultural Chemist, who has retired from service on 1st September was entertained at Tea at the club on 2nd September. Mr. Ayyangar had been connected for over 20 years with several public activities on the estate the chief of them being the college co-operative society, the estate fuel depot, the officers mess, etc. He was one of the founders of the officers' club and was its first president as early as 1910. After the tea some of his friends who have known and moved with him for the longest time, Messrs. C. Tadulingam, K. Krishnamoorthy Rao and B. Viswanath made eulogistic references to the qualities of head and heart of Mr. Ayyangar and wished him on behalf of the club a long life and well earned rest.

The members of the chemistry section gave him another entertainment earlier in the week.

Visitors. Among the visitors to the Research Institute during the month may be mentioned Dr. Van Der Veen from Java, Mr. Donald G. Beaton, Agricultural Engineer, Cooper Engineering Works, Satara, Khan Bahadur D. B. Cooper, Proprietor, Cooper Engineering works, Satara, and Mr. L. S. Pinto, Industrial Engineer, Madras.

Sir Archibald Campbell, The Hon'ble Revenue Member to the Madras Government during his stay in Coimbatore, paid a visit one evening to the Paddy Breeding Station and the Central Farm to inspect the duty of water experiments that are being carried on at the two places.

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC BIOLOGISTS

Under the auspices of the Association Dr. Van Der Veen who had been working for some years at the Sugarcane Research Station, Pasurvan, Java, gave an interesting lecture on Sugarcane cultivation in Java. In the course of his lecture he stated: "In Java there are about 180 factories producing on an average 3 million tons of white sugar every year. The sugarcane area of Java is mainly confined to the middle and eastern portions of the island. The western portion is not suitable because of too much of rain and some of the factories that had been started there previously had to be closed down as the crop was subject to too many diseases. Unlike in India, the factories in Java all grow their own canes in lands rented from the villagers. According to the existing regulations no European can buy land in Java which is already under cultivation. The cultivation of cane in Java is all in the hands of people who have had special training in Agriculture in Europe and so is highly scientific. The Java soils are all very rich being of volcanic origin. Even now due to the action of the volcanoes fresh rich clays are being formed in certain parts of the island. All the scientific and research work connected with sugarcane is carried on at Pasurvan in East Java and the station is maintained by the owners of the sugar factories scattered in different parts of the island. The research work of the station is divided into a number of sections with special laboratories and a set of highly trained staff of workers. Of the three main divisions of research work, that dealing with agriculture of the crop is by far the largest and the most important. Under this division come the several branches like soil analysis, plant pathology, entomology, plant physiology, field experiments, selection and cytology. A good deal of work has already been done with regard to selection and manurial trials and the results obtained have in no small measure been responsible for the phenomenal tonnage of sugar per acre obtained in Java. The selection work is carried on under the guidance of Dr. Posthumus who had come to Coimbatore last year. It is from selection that such good types like P. O. J. 2873 and 2883 which are largely grown in the middle part of Java have been obtained. The sub-division dealing with field experiments carry out nearly 2500 experiments every year on lands held by the factories. As an example of one of the important experiments may be mentioned that intended to determine the most profitable amount of ammonium sulphate to be given to the crop. Experiments are also carried out where new selections made in the island or imported from outside are tested against the local ones. Since the results obtained at Pasurvan are not all of universal application throughout the island a new sub-station has been opened in the western portion of the island where the conditions are found to be different."

Dr. Veen who had observed the work of the Cane Breeding Station, Coimbatore, stated that selection work carried on at Coimbatore was of a high standard and several types had already been evolved to suit the different conditions of soil and climate in India. He considered that from the factory point of view the cultivation of cane in India being in the hands of the ryot who does not readily take to scientific methods was a drawback. (K. R.)