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.)

Weather Review (AUGUST—1932)

RAINFALL DATA

Division	Station	Actual for month	Departure from normal	Total since January 1st	Division	Station	Actual for month	Departure from normal	Total since January 1st
Circars	Gopalpore	5·6	−1·7	13·0	South	Negapatam	3·5	...	12·8
	Berhampore *	6·7	−2·5	19·0		Aduthurai *	2·8	−0·4	13·8
	Calingapatam	2·3	−4·6	14·0		Madura	4·4	+0·1	13·0
	Vizagapatam	1·3	−3·2	11·5		Pamban	0·2	−0·5	4·4
	Anakapalli *	2·0	−1·6	19 2		Koilpatti *	11·7	+9·8	20·8
	Samalkota *	3·5	−0·2	18·2		Palamkottah	6·7	+6 2	12·8
	Cocanada	5·2	−0·9	18·7					
	Maruteru *	6·8	+1·9	24·9					
	Masulipatam	5·3	−1·4	19 9					
	Guntur *	...	...	...	West Coast	Trivandrum	15·5	+10·1	50·4
Ceded Dists.	Kurnool	4·2	...	11·9		Cochin	14·9	+2·6	80·1
	Nandyal *	5·7	+1 9	14·1		Pattambi *	10·5	−8·5	79 2
	Hagari *	6·4	+4·9	11·8		Calicut	16·5	+1·2	107·3
	Bellary	6·9	+4·7	10·6		Taliparamba *	13·4	−20·4	114·1
	Cuddapah	4·5	−1·2	8·8		Kasargode *	13·6	−12·1	88·3
Carnatic	Nellore	3·3	−2·5	11·5		Nileshwar *	10·1	−11·7	121·4
	Madras	4·5	−2·5	5·8		Mangalore	10·9	−12·3	8..7
	Cuddalore	1·7	−3·7	7·9	Mysore and Coorg Hills.	Bangalore	5·8	+0·5	21·0
	Palur *	4·5	+3 0	11·8		Mercara	18·8	−6·9	100 9
	Palakuppam *	4·2	−0·3	13·0		Mysore	5·1	+1·9	20·0
Central	Vellore	3·1	−2·7	13·3					
	Hosur Cattle Farm *	4·6	+4·3	22·0		Kodaikanal	12·7	+6·1	34·4
	Salem	5·1	−1·2	23 1		Coonoor	12·0	+8·2	25·0
	Coimbatore Town	3·3	+2·3	16·0		Ootacamund *	7·4	+1·3	28·7
	Coimbatore - Res. Inst. *	2·8	+1·6	16·3		Nanjanad *	7·2	+0·4	36·4
	Trichinopoly	8·5	+4·6	21·9		Kallar *	10·1	+7·8	27·7

* Meteorological Stations of the Agricultural Department.

Summary of general weather conditions: The monsoon was active in the north of the peninsula at the beginning of the month when the trough of low pressure was active over upper India. On the 9th a shallow "low" passed inland from the Bay into Orissa, and thereafter the monsoon weakened over the whole area. From that date till the end of the month the pressure distribution was of an abnormal type resembling that usual at the transition period in September and October, with the pressure relatively high over the north of the peninsula and low over the south of the Bay. Winds were in consequence variable, and air movement feeble owing to shallow pressure gradients over the peninsula. Towards the end of the month a "Low" developed over the south of the presidency and occasionally extended into the south-west of the Bay. These abnormal conditions gave rise to numerous thunderstorms over the peninsula almost throughout the month. At the end of the month the moonsoon began to revive on the west coast with rough seas and squally weather and conditions became favourable for the formation of a depression over the north of the Bay.

Rainfall was in slight to morderate defect in the Circars, Coromandel coast, Kanara coast and Coorg; in large excess in west Deccan, parts of the Central districts, and Travancore and in slight to moderate excess elsewhere. Some locally heavy falls of rain were reported the chief of them being: Bellary 3.5" (18th) Anantapur 4.3" (19th), Trichinopoly 3.5" (29th) Trivandrum 4.0" (29th) and Calicut 5.4" (30th).

Temperature was generally above normal over Mysore and the Deccan for the greater part of the month.

Weather Report for the Research Institute Observatory:

Report No. 8/32.

Absolute Maximum in shade	92·8°
Absolute Minimun in shade	69·1°
Mean Maximum in shade	83 8°
Mean Minimum in shade	72·0°
Total Rainfall	2·82"
Mean rainfall for month	1·27"
Departure from normal	+ 1·55"
Number of Rainy days	8
Mean daily wind velocity	2·5 M. P. H.
Mean 8 hrs wind velocity	2·4 M. P. H.
Mean Humidity at 8 hrs	80·0%
Total hours of bright sunshine ...	200·7
Mean daily hours of bright sunshine ...	6·5

Summary of weather conditions:

The weather was unsettled for the greater part of the month in consequence of the abnormal pressure distribution over the peninsula and the Bay. Air movement was feeble as is usual during periods of weak monsoon and conditions were favourable for the formation of thunderstorms. During the second half of the month the upper air currents were from some point in the N. E. quadrant and numerous thunderstorms occured in the vicinity of the Observatory, though they were of small magnitude and extent.

Pressure fluctuations were irregular, and the day and night temperatures were generally high. The rainfall totalled 2·82 inches and was 1·55 inches in excess of the normal. The skies were mostly heavily clouded and humidity high.

P. V. R. & T. S. L.

Departmental Notifications.

I Circle. V. Tirumala Rao, Asst. Anakapalle permitted to avail a month's leave already granted to him from 18—8—1932. M. V. Kondala Row, A. A. D. Vizagapatam, l. a. p. on M. C. for 3 months in continuation of leave already granted. **II Circle** S. Sithapathi Rao, A. A. D. Nellore extension of l. a. p. for 10 days from 25—8—32. M. V. Narasimha Sastri A. A. D. extension of l, a. p. for 15 days in continuation of leave already granted. M. P. Narasimha Rao, A. D. Kaikalur, l. a. p. for 10 days from date of availing. **III Circle.** N. Kesava Iyengar, Cotton Asst. Hagari, extension of 1. a. p. on M. C. for one month from 7—8—32. **IV Circle.** K. B. Vydeswara Iyer, F. M. Palur, extension of 1. a. p. on M. C. for 3 months from 8—8—32. M. A. Balakrishna Ayyar, A. D. Wallajah, 1. a. p. for one month