beginning of the rains once in 4 or 5 days. Nothing else is done till the crop is harvested in August.

There is no doubt the crop is a very paying one. From 4 pits, about a riddleful of tubers worth 4 to 8 as. is obtained. Roughly the yield is about 40 fold in good lands.

A second crop of paddy is often raised in the land after the harvest of chembu.

Cultivation in the dryland:—Planting is done in May after a few showers have been obtained. Crop is harvested in November. No irrigation is necessary and other treatment (manuring etc) is exactly as detailed above.

Seed:—It may be noted that chembu cultivated in the wet land is more tasty and easily digestible but it does not keep very long. The tubers selected out of the dryland harvest has therefore to be preserved in pits for seed. Some ryots keep a few pits unearthed till the planting time. The germinating tubers are dug out and planted straight away at the proper time.

M. GOVINDA KIDAVU,
Farm Manager.

Sadai Samba cultivation in the Gobichettipalayam Taluk.

The cultivation of this variety of paddy is confined to the lands under the branch channels from the main ones of the Bhavani river where water is allowed from 15th June to 15th November to these reaches. This is a heavy yielder when treated in the 'dry seed bed' system. As much as 30 salagais or nearly 5000 lbs. are obtained. The object of the ryots is to raise seedlings so as to enable them to plant them by the end of June

or beginning of July as this is considered to be the best season for it. Several ryots resort to the practice of ploughing up a small area near the main channels by hand watering it and then preparing it for sowing paddy seed beds. After 3 or 4 ploughings, cattle manure or ashes is applied and ploughed again. The paddy seed is broad-casted and covered by ploughing or in some cases by merely levelling the field with a mammatti or by hands. The ryots prefer to have only small areas and thick sowing, as much difficulty is experienced when a large seed bed is to be watered. Further the roots tear asunder if the seed beds are thin and when the seedlings are pulled out carelessly. The seedlings are planted in 40 to 45 days. The soil is coarse alluvium with excellent drainage. The yield is much more than that of the other varieties i. e. Ayan Samba, Anai Komban or Kar which are grown on their respective reaches. Bunch planting is resorted to. The lands are manured heavily with cattle manure, or silt. The seedlings take root soon after planting and begin to tiller profusely and cover the ground fully although they are transplanted about 9" apart. The ryots are aware that planting far apart gives them better results. The work of the Agricultural Department this season is important in that the usual seed rate of 30 Madras Measures per acre has been considerably reduced to 3 to 6 Madras Measures per acre and may be said to be at the minimum in some cases. Through the continued efforts of the Agricultural Department, single seedling transplanting was adopted in most of the cases by the ryots and thin planting in a few cases where ryots were afraid to try the experiment for the first time. A seed rate of 3 Madras Measures per acre was found to be ample in some cases and the nursery seed rate was 1 Madras Measure in 2 cents i. e. half the rate advised generally. An inspection during the growth of the crop disclosed that the ground is fully covered and the crops have tillered profusely, usually with over 30 tillers. About 100 acres may be seen transplanted singly

with this variety in 7 villages of this Taluk in this season and about 200 acres with Ayan Samba and Anai Komban in half a dozen villages and about 37 acres with Kar in one village. Thus single seedling is spreading rapidly in this Taluk

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* The need for Agricultural Organisation.

Within the last few years, the Goverment have reorganised their Department of Agriculture. They have eastablished a Colleges of Agriculture and Research Institute at Coimbatore and Farms [illegible] portant centres, for experimental and demonstration purposes. Tl was only the research work, the experimental work and demonstraticties other published in bulletins and pamphlets. The Goverment, ins started the Department of Agricuture, has in its view the introd wonder that, provements in the methods of agriculture as practised hi heavily incombat the insect pests and fungoid diseases of the crops. led of with remembered that eighty per cent of the population of tgricultural depend upon agriculture for their living, and that the revenng Indian from land by Government constitutes more than sixty five pon of Cothe total income, it is natural that the Government are anxiousisations the prosperity of the agricultural classes. But, in spite of the belocieties of Government, can we honestly say that improvements in agri have been effected in any appreciable manner, that new methods taken the place of old, except in a few isolated instances? is a

Dr. Volcker says that at his best the Indian ryot or cultivator is quite as good as, and in some respects superior to, the average British farmer, and that at his worst, he will struggle on patiently and uncomplainingly in the face of difficulties in a way that no one else would. Yet how is it that modern methods and improvements advocated by the

* Summary of paper read at the last Agricultural Conference by Mr. C. R. Lakshmivaraha Aiyangar, B. A. B. L., High Court Vakil and Secretary, Agricultural Association, Kumbakonam.