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**The Tiruppur Cattle Show.**

The Tiruppur Cattle and Pony Show held from 31st May to 2nd June is as important for the Southern districts as the Ongole Show is for the Northern half of the Presidency. The Show was organised by the Coimbatore District Agricultural Association and opened by the Hon'ble Mr. L. E. Buckley, Commissioner of Agriculture. Heads of several Departments were there with their subordinate staff; e. g., the District Collector, the Director of Agriculture, the Director of Industries, the Registrar of Cooperative Credit Societies and the Superintendent of the Civil Veterinary Department. It has been customary for the Principal and some of the scientific experts of the Coimbatore Agricultural College to send exhibits and otherwise help in making it a success. The Principal's section was represented this year by Mr. R. Ramaswami Aiyar, Acting Chief Assistant and Mr. K. Umikrishna Menon, the new teaching Assistant.

The former gave a popular tamil lecture, accompanied demonstration on the use of implements suited for garden and dry land cultivation, and also explained, with the help of magic lantern slides, the improvements which the Department is suggesting for adoption by the ryot, in the matter of the growing of green manure crops and the economic transplanting of paddy. Mr. K. Unni Krishna Menon though a Malayalee, spoke very well in Tamil and held a ploughing demonstration and a trial of different implements on 2 days. Both the discourses and demonstration were followed with appreciation by the actual cultivators who formed the bulk of the audience and who asked a number of questions. It was pleasing to note that several ryots who had adopted the suggestions of the Department spoke of their actual experiences in green manuring and economic transplantation. Several spoke well of the better work done by the implements demonstrated. Two causes might be mentioned here which have awakened the interest of these cultivators. The largest Government Agricultural Station, namely, the Central Farm, being located at Coimbatore, several hundreds of land holders and cultivators, accompanied by Revenue officers of the different taluks, have visited the Farm on several occasions during these years, during which periods the Principal and his staff and students had taken enormous pains to arrange for suitable demonstrations, in addition to looking after their personal comforts. The cultivators who joined in the discussions at the lectures and demonstrations spoke highly of their impressions of the Coimbatore Farm and the lessons they practically learnt therein. The second cause is the deputation of a special Farm

Manager for district work. We have received for the last year and a half, several reports of the work done by Mr. W. Raghavachari, under the guidance of Mr. H. C. Sampson, both official and from actual ryots, and we may safely place to the credit of Mr. Raghavachari much of the successful work in the district, whereby cultivators have adopted the suggestions of the Department. The two methods of reaching the ryot mentioned above, namely, taking them to see a Farm where improved methods of cultivation are practised and sending an enthusiastic young man to their own villages, are the quickest methods of introducing wholesome changes in the farming of land. The Department recognises it and it is only insufficiency of trained hands that stands in the way of an expansion of work.

The Government Entomologist was at the Show with his assistant, Mr. C. Narayana Aiyar ; and the latter gave an interesting discourse on Insect pests and some remedies to combat them, with the help of specimens and coloured drawings, and also practically demonstrated the use of spraying machines and how to bag insects.

The Show consisted essentially of 4 sections:—(1) Cattle. (2) Ponies. (3) An agricultural section and (4) An industrial section. The cattle which had been brought to the Show were, in the opinion of the judges, as usual of a high standard. The Pattagar of Palayakotta and, next to him, the Agricultural College, had brought the largest number of animals. People seem to be losing faith in *black eye*, so that a better quality and a larger number of cows had been exhibited. With regard to breeding bulls, Mr. D. T.

Chadwick, the spokesman of the judges, was of opinion that there seemed to be a tendency to select bulls more for their sizes and bones. The Kangayam cattle which are used to hard work on hard soil have certain characteristics which are necessary to be maintained in breeding, although size is not a factor to be ignored. The ideal Kangayam breed should possess good hard legs, well built backs and hard hoofs, and should move freely and quickly so much so that, in the class of mature bulls, the prize was awarded to a small sized bull as judged by its legs, feet and hoofs; and the same bull won the championship prize. There was an increase in the exhibits of animals brought by ryots paying not more Rs. 50/- kist. All the same, the Pattagar still deservedly holds the first rank as the breeder of Kangayam cattle. There were ploughing competitions and bullock carts' races introduced this year which might be developed, with better arrangements, in future shows.

Regarding the Pony Show, Mr. J. T. W. Filson was of opinion that it was a very good Show, esp. of young stock. Tiruppur ponies have a reputation as hardy animals and, now that motor traffic is largely displacing horse vehicles, one might prophesy that the time is not far distant when equine stock will be used for ploughing and other field operations as in other countries.

The agricultural section of the Show was on the whole very poorly represented. There were the museum case and a show of implements from the Agricultural College and Mr. Raju Naidu of Podanur displayed a well appreciated trophy of horticultural plants. Field grains which had been

sent by the exhibitors were not properly arranged. The Hon'ble Mr. E. F. Barber who was the spokesman of the judges in this section expressed a wish that the small cultivators might be better represented and that small shows might be organised in the different taluqs. He also pointed out a number of ways in which the exhibits might be better arranged.

Mr. K. T. B. Tressler, on behalf of the judges in the Industrial, section regretted that this year's Show was smaller than last year, several important industries of the district not being represented. There were, however, a few odd exhibits of interest, e. g., a large iron safe, neatly worked brass articles and reeling and preparation of silk. The small weaving competition which was held, was hardly representative of the weaving classes so largely present in the Coimbatore District.

Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiar, the Vice President of the District Agricultural Association and the Secretary of the Show gave a history of the Association and the origin of the Show and said that the defects pointed out would be noted for future guidance. In acknowledging the help of the Agricultural Department, he said that several members of the Association were handicapped now and then; for instance, there was a great demand for fish manure, but fish manure was not available.

The Hon'ble Mr. Buckley, in his concluding remarks, said that, in view of the unfavourable season for the last 2 or 3 years, it was remarkable that the exhibits were brought

in a good condition and that the Show was a distinct success, for which he thanked the members of the local committee, esp. Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiar and Rao Sahib A. Vittal Das Sait. He asked the members of the Association to take the suggestions thrown out by the judges, not in the light of fault finding, but in the spirit in which they were given, viz, the improvement of the Show in future.

The Hon'ble Mr. Barber distributed the prizes, consisting of several gold and silver medals and cash prizes up to the value of Rs. 1000. Three of the gold medals were awarded by Government for the best cow, the best bull and the best mare with foal at foot. Mr. A. R. Cumming, the Collector of Coimbatore and the President of the District Agricultural Association thanked the Hon'ble Mr. Buckley, the Hon'ble Mr. Barber, the judges and all others who helped to make the Show a thorough success.

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### **Canes for Seed.**

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Cane crushing and planting are almost synchronous. There is not much difficulty in securing sound and selected sets for planting, if cane crushing is in progress. It is the universal experience in all cane growing countries that top portions of canes germinate better than the bottom ones, but advantage is not fully taken of this to the right extent. Several ryots in the deltaic tracts of Godavari remove and reserve the tops for planting as crushing goes on and, when they find sufficient tops to plant a fair area, they stop their crushing and proceed with the planting. This is a very easy matter when irrigation water is easily and readily available. The case is quite different in places like Palnad in Peddapur Taluk where it is not possible to plant