

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.

Canes for Seed.

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

canes at the time of crushing, and the same is the case in the neighbourhood of Anakapalle. To provide sufficient seed for planting, portions of cane fields are left as "Stand Overs" and the rest crushed at the proper time when canes ripen. It is also the practice in certain villages of Vizag and Ganjam Districts to grow canes exclusively for seed purposes but not for crushing. The lands on which they are grown are slightly alkaline and the jaggery does not solidify if canes are crushed. Therefore in those places canes are grown solely for seed purposes, thus enabling the ryots who grow canes for crushing to crush their whole crop. When portions of fields are left as "Stand overs," it is very difficult to exactly gauge the amount of canes to be left sufficient to plant a definite area as different canes behave differently in their germinating capacity depending also on the time of cutting. Young canes germinate better than older canes. Certain canes, like the Red Mauritius, germinate uniformly throughout the length of the cane. All reed canes, as a rule, germinate well throughout the whole length of the cane. Rich juicy canes, like the Vellai, germinate properly when only the top halves are planted. Canes that develop aerial roots, like the Bonta, are to be selected carefully, avoiding all sets that have roots on them. Some of the recently introduced canes, like B. 208, have very prominent buds which shoot very badly, as the canes ripen, giving a good deal of trouble in transporting canes for seed. The accompanying photo* clearly proves how badly this cane shoots when left as "Stand overs" for planting. While recommending to the ryots any of these new canes, great care is to be taken in ascertaining the germinating power of such canes. The success of a cane crop entirely depends in getting a full and even stand to start with, by planting good and selected sets. There are several controversial points, purely of academical interest, which I have tried to avoid in this brief note.

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[* *The photo is in the College Museum.—Editor.*]
