

a country where soils are so deficient in organic matter it is essential that serious attention should be paid to the provision of fuel other than cowdung.

Lucerne. The Department recommends several fodder crops of which Lucerne is one. It will amply pay the growers near big towns and racing centres where a large number of horses are kept. For example, the Madras Race Club is said to consume in the neighbourhood of 400 lb. a day valued at Rs. 12-8-0. It is reported to be obtained all the way from Bangalore. Attempts are now being made to grow it at Velacheri, a village already mentioned above and situated near the Guindy race club. The crop, if grown under proper conditions, is expected to yield about 50,000 lbs. of green stuff annually. The gross value, estimated liberally at 100 lb. per rupee, will amount to Rs. 500 per acre while the cost of cultivation is not expected to be more than Rs. 200. Lucerne is a good succulent food not only for horses but also for cattle—working and milch, and poultry.

Fish Guano. In the West Coast very large quantities of different varieties of fish are caught and used in the preparation of sardines and in the extraction of oil. The refuse after the extraction of oil is known as "fish guano." Some varieties of fish, particularly those which are small in size are simply dried in the sands on the beach. Such beach-dried sardines which cannot be used as food are used as manure.

One variety, "White bait" or known locally as *Kollataru* was recently sent to the Government Agricultural Chemist, Coimbatore, for analysis and was found to contain as much as 10.4% nitrogen and 4.4% phosphoric acid. It is already being used as manure for sugarcane with very good results.

College News and Notes.

The Principal of the College and ex-officio President of the Union Mr. R. C. Broadfoot is proceeding home on leave and Mr. R. W. Littlewood, Dy. Director, Live Stock is appointed officiating Principal of the Agricultural College.

College Day and Conference. The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddy will as officiating Governor of Madras inaugurate the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, and the Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan will preside over the College Day and Conference. The proceedings will commence on Wednesday the 29th July and last for four days. It is likely that a conference of all the Gazetted Officers of the department will be arranged during the conference week, and it is expected that Mr. C. J. Paul, Development Secretary will preside over the Gazetted Officer's Conference. The Managing Committee of the Union extend their invitation to all the members of the department, and the readers of the Madras Agricultural Journal, to attend the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, and make the function a success.

The Late Sir M. Ramachandra Rao Garu. In the death of Sir M. Ramachandra Rao, South India loses one of its leading public men, and the Madras Agricultural Students' Union, one of its sincerest well wishers. His interest in the welfare of the ryot was sincere and real, and his contribution towards the co-operative and banking movements in the presidency is well-known. He was one of the distinguished presidents of our College Day Conference. We tender our heart-felt condolence to the members of his family.

Mr. M. Rajagopala Iyer. It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. M. Rajagopala Iyer, assistant lecturer in chemistry on the 21st inst. Mr. M.

Rajagopala Iyer, was one of the active members of the Union, and was a member of the Managing Committee, as Treasurer for nearly seven years. We offer our sincere condolence to his relatives.

Research Engineer. Mr. M. Lakshmipathi Mudaliar, is in charge of the Research Engineer's Section, in the absence of Mr. N. G. Charley on leave.

Ramasastrulu Munagala Prize. The last date for submitting papers is 15th June.

B. Sc. Ag. Examination Results. Elsewhere in this issue is published the results of the B. Sc. Ag. examination held in 1936.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Agricultural Education in India and the 25th College Day and Conference will commence on the 29th July 1936. His Excellency the Governor of Madras will inaugurate the proceedings. The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan will preside over the conference. An Exhibition will be staged along with the Conference.

The annual general body meeting of the Union will be held on Sunday the 2nd August at 8-15 A.M., when the annual report and budget for the next year will be presented for adoption, and the office-bearers for 1936—37 elected.

Members desirous of moving propositions at the meeting are requested to give due notice, to the Secretary, to reach him not later than 1st July 1936.

Weather Review (APRIL 1936).

Summary of General Weather Conditions. Rainfall was general in the Presidency on the first day of the month, but thereafter weather was dry, with high day temperature. A depression formed in the centre of the Bay on the 23rd but it moved in a North Easterly direction after intensifying into a storm and crossed the Arakan coast. The depression did not influence weather in the Peninsula.

Rainfall was generally below normal throughout the Presidency and markedly so on the West coast, Mysore and Coorg, and the hills and in parts of the Circars and Deccan.

Day temperatures were high on the East coast between Nellore and Madras and in the Deccan, Nellore and Rentachintala recording maximum of 111°F on several occasions.