

College News & Notes.

Honey Week. The celebration at the Agricultural college of the 'Honey Week' that had been arranged for the first time to be observed on a Presidency basis came off on the after-noon of the 24th of last month. Before a distinguished gathering, Mr. R. C. Broadfoot, Principal inaugurated the function at the College Apiary.

Mr. M. C. Cherian, the Government Entomologist, in inviting the Principal to preside on the occasion said that the economic possibilities of bee-keeping as a cottage or subsidiary industry are great owing to its low capital cost and the existence of other natural facilities. The cost of a hive and an extractor, which represent all that are required, would come to only Rs. 8, while at a modest estimate, each hive can be expected to yield about 6 to 8 lb. of honey in the year worth about Rs. 10. He then proceeded to narrate what the Entomological section is doing to popularise the industry. Started in 1931, the Apiary at the college has at present 40 hives in working condition, and a great deal of information has been collected regarding the bee-pasturage plants, its enemies and their control. In addition, active propaganda is being made by means of printed pamphlets and by demonstration, at most of the exhibitions and fairs.

Specialised instruction is also being imparted to the sons of farmers in the short courses arranged at the college.

Mr. R. C. Broadfoot, in thanking Mr. M. C. Cherian for the invitation expressed the pleasure it gave him in inaugurating the first 'Honey Week' at the college. The object of this week, he said, was to introduce bee-keeping as a subsidiary industry in rural areas. He recalled how one of his friends in England was making quite a decent living out of 20 hives and by supplying bees and bee-keeping appliances to others. His hives averaged over 100 lbs. of honey per annum, which indicates its possibilities in skilled hands. Honey is being sold in England from 9 d. to 1/- per lb. for ordinary grades and from 1/4 to 1/6 for heather-honey. Conditions in India are considerably more favourable for the industry. Bee pasturage can be had all the year round and there would be little need therefore to feed the bees. Further, good honey fetches somewhere about Rs. 1-12-0 a pound at which rate even small yields of 10 to 12 lb. will prove profitable. Mr. Broadfoot then referred to the facilities available at the college for learning this art and that if specialised training or advice is wanted, the Government Entomologist would no doubt make suitable arrangements. With these words, he declared the exhibition open and in recommending it to all present, announced that the exhibition would be on for a week.

The function came to a close with a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. T. V. Subramaniam, Assistant Entomologist.

B. Sc. Ag. Examination. The following gentlemen were at the College in the capacity of examiners in the recent University examination. Mr. B. G. Appadorai Mudaliar B. A., B. Sc. (Tech.), A. M. I. M. E. for Agricultural Engineering, Rao Sahib Mr. M. Ananta Narayana Rao G. M. V. C. for Animal Hygiene and Mr. K. R. Narayana Iyer M. Sc. for Agricultural Chemistry.

Economic Biologists' Association. There was a lecture by Mr. Percy Kent Norris Cotton Commissioner, Section of Plant Industry, Dept. of Agriculture the U. S. A. on the subject of "The working of the Agricultural Adjustment Act in U. S. A."

Coronation Honours. We are glad to note that the Government have been pleased to award titles to two of our Departmental Officers in the recent Coronation Honours List, and we congratulate Messrs. Rao Bahadur N. S. Kulandai-sami Pillai and Rao Sahib G. Jogi Raju Garu on their well merited distinction.