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N. B:—Contributors are requested to send in their contributions written legibly in ink on one side of the paper only.—Editor.

Editorial Notes.

We invite the attention of our readers to the excellent article contributed to the Agricultural Journal of India by Mr. Wynne Sayer on Agricultural Education. We are in complete agreement with his view that for the general widening of agricultural education, affiliation of the existing agricultural colleges to Universities is desirable. It is only then that we can attract a better class of students. Students that ordinarily seek admission at present are generally those that are not able to get admission into Arts Colleges. If the better sort is admitted they require a true collegiate education centering round agriculture, and not merely manual training in the details of agricultural practices. If some of the passed students are drafted as executive revenue officers they will be useful in popularising the improved methods of agriculture.

**Agricultural
Education.**

For grown up sons of the farmers, the teaching that is given in Vernacular at the agricultural school at Loni in the Bombay Presidency seems to be the best and is worth a trial in other Presidencies also. Mr. Sayer truly observes that direct teaching of agriculture in rural schools is to be deprecated but giving it an agricultural tinge in the shape of nature study and school gardening is recommended.

Instead of the usual cheap sneer at the conservatism of the ryot, he espouses his cause and approves of the ryots' methods. The policy of the Indian ryot in cultivating two crops at a time is upheld.

Mr. Sayer's general ideas about the introduction of new methods and the necessity for imparting mechanical education are worthy of consideration. What India needs is not so much the introduction of expensive machinery from abroad as the systematic transfer of the best agricultural practices from one part of the country to another. India has been an agricultural country for centuries. Every tract after many trials has settled itself down to some definite agricultural practices, so that, improvements should be recommended only after thorough trial extending if necessary over a period of years.

On the importance of mechanical education, Mr. Sayer aptly says "The present war has given England an enforced mechanical education, the use of which will never be forgotten by the nation—for it is not the knowledge of classics and certainly not a knowledge of Law which is beating the German."

The article breathes a spirit of toleration and shows that the writer has grasped the agricultural requirements of the country.

We invite the attention of our readers to G. O. No. 1820 Revenue dated 10th August 1916, embodying rules regarding the grant of land *on darkhast* for opening cattle or dairy farms. Each application will pass through the Director of Agriculture, after having received the support of the Collector of the district and the former officer while transmitting the application to the Board of Revenue, will lay down certain conditions under which the above grant will be made.

Facilities for opening Cattle and Dairy farms in the Presidency.

These conditions will include, the number of cows and bulls to be kept, the castration of young bulls, the separation of the cows from the rest of the village cattle, the kind of grass or fodder that should be raised on the land etc. The fact that the Department of Agriculture will have a control over such grants augurs well for the success of the scheme. We hope that some of the members of the Union will, ere long, avail themselves of this opportunity to start cattle and dairy farms.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Sankara Kumar Pillai, an ex-student of this College and apparently farming on his own account, is doing very useful work in the Tinnevely district. He is said to have successfully introduced the economic transplanting of paddy and artificial and green manures in ryots' lands. We trust more students of this college will follow his good example, without rushing into service in the department.