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## Che Madras Agricultural Students' Union.

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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.

The College was very fo tunate in having in its midst a distinguished visitor in the person of Prof. J. A Todd of the chair of Economics in the University College, Nottingham, who had specially come to India for the purpose of delivering a series of lectures in economics in the University of Punjab. We learn that his hobby has all along been to visit different parts of the world where cotton is grown and India has naturally come under his purview. He spent five years in Egypt studying cotton, especially the manufacturing side of it and has travelled extensively in America winning for himself the reputation of being one of the experts on cotton in the world. His book on "The world's cotton" is well known. Prof. Todd gave two public lectures in a fascinating and lucid style, and we hope to publish abstracts of them in our next issue.

The selection of students for the college during the first week in June at Coimbatore has become quite a mamool. We find there is going to be a departure in the right direction this year in holding a special selection examination at Anakapalli with the object of making it more accessible to candidates resident in the Northern districts, who, owing to distance, have not been able to come in such numbers as one would wish. The selection will be on the 22nd of May and the following days and we hope the privilege will be fully taken advantage of by all prospective students. We believe that no other college in the Presidency extends this concession.

The interest that the Legislative Council members are taking of late in the Agricultural Department is more than of passing Legislative Council and interest. In almost every agenda of the meeting, some reference is made to the departmental work. This is as it should be. Every representative of a district is fighting to have a separate Experimental Farm for his district. As men become available, we have no doubt that the Govt. will institute more farms to meet the wishes and needs of the people.

We are in receipt of the College Calendar for 1915-16, which we regret to note is very much belated. In normal years the College would have been closed by now and to be of any real use it aught to be out before the end of the first term. The frontispiece of the College is excellent although we miss the College group photo. This omission we hope will be remedied in future volumes. We also note that owing to the change in the courses of instruction the Robertson and Clogstoun medals will in future be awarded to the best man of the year in the diploma and certificate courses respectively.

In running our eyes through the rules of the students club we come across the following as one of the duties of the Secretary.

"He shall arrange for at least three meetings of the club, in a term at one of which a paper shall be read in another a debate and the third to be a social gather-

ing." We have not often heard of papers read and debates held, but we are quite sure the Secretary has always exerted himself in getting up the Social gatherings. The literary side of the Club, we regret to note has never been very active and this year it has nearly become moribund. We, however, notice that of late it has been unusually active in holding weekly debates, instead of the usual reading of papers by one of the staff which neither gave the students occasion to think nor encouraged their debating power. We publish elsewhere a notice of the debates held, and in our opinion the second one "It is better to be lucky than rich" was by far the best.

With great satisfaction have we noticed the appointment of Mr. M. R. Ramaswami Sivan as the Senior Assistant in Chemistry to the Govt. Agricultural Chemist. Possessed as he is of zeal and earnestness of purpose, Mr. Sivan has earned a name as a good teacher. We congratulate him on his promotion and wish that he will soon

climb up the ladder of gazetted appointments one of which he now holds.

## Madras Agriculture: its Progress and its future.\*

I wish to attempt to note in a very brief manner some of the outstanding features of the progress and development of Madras Agriculture, and to try, however imperfectly, to forecast its general trend as a guide to the direction in which future efforts for further advance

<sup>\*</sup>A paper read by D. T. Chadwick Esq., M. A., I. C. S., at the Madras Exhibition in January 1916.