

Add to this :

(1) the harvesting cost. ... ..	26	4	0
(2) seeds (sets). ... ..	30	0	0
	<hr/>		
	121	8	0
	<hr/>		
The tenant's gross income was found to be	Rs. 148	8	0
His net income for an acre ... ..	27	0	0
	<hr/>		
The landlord's gross income was found to be	222	12	0
His charges ... ..	61	6	8
	<hr/>		
His net income per acre ... ..	161	5	4
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R. SIVARAMA AYYAR,

Landholder.

Ravanasamudram, Tinnevely District.

## Diploma Day.

*Principal's Speech.* The present occasion, marks a rather more definite stage than is customary on such occasions. We are closing the old course of 3 years and awarding Diplomas to the last batch of students who have been successful under that curriculum. We are simultaneously presenting the new "Certificates of Proficiency" to the first batch of students successful under the New Short Course. This is the short course of two years, from which selections will be made for the further  $1\frac{1}{4}$  years necessary for the attainment of the Diploma under the new rules. The final examination for the Diploma will in future, be held in December of each year, so that this is the first, and I am glad to think, the last time when both examinations will coincide. The change has thrown a good deal of extra work on the shoulders of my section, which will be evident from the fact that in the old course, Agriculture proper was largely taught towards the end of the course, while in the new, it is largely in the beginning. The change it need hardly be said, has and will more largely yet, increase the scope of the utility of the College. The numbers at present in residence, nearly 100, are greater than they have ever been before, and have

necessitated the construction of extra quarters to meet the demand. We are also grateful to the consideration given to the proposals for a students' Pavilion and Reading Room, which has led to the sanctioning of a sum of Rs. 2000/- for its construction. This work will largely be carried by the students themselves, as part of their practical work, which will enable the building to be much larger than if it were constructed entirely by hired labour. We shall remind our many friends, when the time comes, to fill the shelves with books, and shall welcome all assistance to that end.

Turning now to the results of the present examinations, the number of failures in both is undoubtedly regrettably high. (6 in Diploma out of 18 and 10 in certificate out of 37). However much sympathy is felt for the individuals who have failed to obtain what must for them mean a very great deal, facts must be faced, and all efforts to reducing the standard, simply to increase the number of passed men must be discountenanced. To lower the standard on such personal grounds is to do a great injustice to past and present Licentiatees, by cheapening the value of a prize they have gained, it is to cheapen the reputation of the College, which is based on the doings of its sons, and it is to remove the extra stimulus which is necessary if both teachers and taught are to make the very utmost of their opportunities.

You would probably like to know the criticism of the outside examiner. He was of opinion that students lacked ability to answer questions put to them, and to think out the meaning of the question and to keep the answer to that point and that alone; nextly in *viva voces* they lacked the ability to distinguish between major and minor points. I as an examiner can corroborate both points. I asked a question as to how far it will pay a man to aim at quality in his produce. Pages were written as answers to this dealing with the general improvements of crops. Again a question was asked to describe to a friend a piece of paddy land intended for sale. Many minor points with regard to nearness to road, water supply and such were mentioned without referring to the most important point, namely the yield of the land and the sale price.

There have been some changes in the rules of the College prizes to follow the change in curriculum, the most important is in the Clogstoun prize, which is no longer for the Diploma course but for the best man in the short course. This year as an exceptional case, there are two medals for the Clogstoun: one for the Diploma course and another for the certificate course.

Students in future will have to provide themselves with the uniform prescribed, a shirt for games and the College foster blaze with the pocket badges. The object of this is to foster in students a spirit of unity, so that the sight of the familiar blaze will arouse whenever seen old memories of student days. For convenience, a uniform set of field clothes of *Khakhi* is also recommended for practical work.

Before closing, gentlemen, I must apologise for the heat. We usually close earlier in the year, but owing to an outbreak of plague, which has thrown everything back, we are a month later than usual.

### **The Director's Speech.**

MR. WOOD, STAFF AND STUDENTS OF THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,  
COIMBATORE.

You one and all are doubtless experiencing a great sense of relief that this term has at last come to an end. It has been unduly protracted on account of plague last January which caused a serious, but I am glad to say only temporary, dislocation of work. By continuing throughout April, it has been possible to make up the course of lectures and bring the session to a satisfactory termination but any term so prolonged is a trial to all, both to staff and students and I am sure you all feel thankful that at last it is at an end. None will be feeling this sense of relief so keenly as those who have been successful in their course. Thus in the third year they completed successfully a full course of study upon which they embarked three years ago whilst others in the new 2 years' course have the satisfaction of attaining one stage at least in their progress. To all of those, we most heartily