

THE JOURNAL  
OF  
The Madras Agricultural Students'  
Union.

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Vol. V.

February 1917.

No. 2.

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

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**Editorial Notes.**

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We are publishing elsewhere in full the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Public Services so far as they relate to our Department. On the whole, we consider, that the recommendations have been made in a liberal spirit and with regard to the claims of Indians for service in the department.

The conditions of recruitment recommended for the posts of the Deputy Directors of Agriculture and Scientific Experts are such as to ensure greater efficiency all round and once this is secured in the higher offices it is sure to filter down to the lower.

According to the Commission, Pusa is to be the premier Agricultural Institute in our country and is to play

the part till now played by institutions such as the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester, England. In fact it is to be so equipped as to be capable of affording the highest training in agricultural research and supplying candidates for direct recruitment into the Imperial service.

The commission has rightly realized the need of regular service between the Imperial and the Subordinate services. At present there is too wide a gap between the two services as regards pay and status and this precludes anything like comradeship in the various pieces of research that come up from time to time.

We are unable to understand why the commission discourages the deputation of promising young men from countries outside India for training. We can readily name a few instances in which such a training is bound to be useful; for instance sending out a man to Java or Mauritius to study the sugar industry of those countries. In fact that go-ahead state of Mysore is systematically sending out young men, and we understand, with satisfactory results.

The Commissioners recommend direct recruitment for the Provincial Service. In our opinion such a system has both its merits and demerits. On the one hand it will secure for the service a certain amount of youthful blood with its implied vigour, and enthusiasm. On the other, it will deprive the service of the rich experience, and the mature judgment of people who may be easily secured from the upper regions of the subordinate grades. We are in favour of recruitment from both the above sources.

The commissioners observe that 'the whole of the normal requirements of the staff should be met from India within a reasonable period of time.' We are glad of this for we have always held that sooner or later we should be fit for any post in the Department. We are an old agricultural race and if Heredity does not belie us we are sure to have the agricultural instinct somewhere in our blood.

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We regret to have allowed an error to creep in in the article "Some experiments in Manganallur Agricultural Station" in our January issue. The writer wishes us to correct that Calcium Cyanamide is not yet being manufactured in India, though proposals are on foot to start the industry.

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### Tribulus—the thorny weed.

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*Tribulus terrestris*, Linn. known in Tamil as *Neringi*, in Telugu as *Palleru*, and in Canarese as *Neggina mullu*, is, it is to be trusted, a familiar acquaintance to most. To refuse to recognise it is almost tantamount to a confession to a non-out-door life. Around Coimbatore there seem to be two main races of this plant. One with thick fleshy stems and branches, large silver-grey hairy leaves, stout fruits bearing rather short thorns; and the other with long thin branches carrying small dark green smooth leaves and rather thin fruits with long sharp thorns. The fact that these two may often be seen growing side by side precludes the idea that they are simply variations due to differences in the nature of the soil. The fruits when dry divide into about 8 parts each carrying a thorn, and get distributed mainly by adhering to the feet of men and cattle. They are most