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Editorial Notes.

The College Day and Conference.

The year's College Day and Conference were celebrated on the 14th, 15th and 16th July and were attended with the usual success. The guests began to arrive even as early as the 13th and a new block of quarters on the estate, just completed but not yet occupied, came in handy to lodge the guests in. The sports commenced on the 14th punctually at 3 p. m. and were very largely attended—the pick of Coimbatore being present. The weather was quite pleasant, a heavy rain the previous day alleviating the rather oppressive heat prevalent at the period. The Obstacle Race and the Tug of War were as usual the most interesting items on the programme. We congratulate S. Dharmalingam of Class IV for winning both the Nayanar Championship Cup for the best athlete and the Parlakimidi Cup recently instituted by the Zamindar of Parlakimidi for the best all round sportsman

during the whole year. The prizes were kindly given away by the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Gordon Cardew, K. C. S. I., amidst loud applause. The function closed with the Hon'ble Member calling for cheers for the Principal and Mr. G. A. D. Stuart for the Hon'ble Member both of which were vociferously responded to.

The various arrangements left nothing to be desired and we take this opportunity to offer our heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Barber and Messrs. A. J. Wilson, J. Muliya, C. Tadulingamudaliar, P. A. Raghunathaswami Ayyangar and C. Narayana Ayyar for the reception of the European and Indian guests, to Mrs. T. Lakshmana Rao for the tastefully executed rosettes, to the Hostel Warden for arrangements in connection with the boarding of guests and last but not least to Mr. A. J. Wilson and his enthusiastic band of volunteers for the excellent arrangements throughout.

Out thanks are also due to Dr. C. A. Barber and Messrs. F. L. C. Cowley Brown, Roger Thomas, F. A. Hamilton and K. S. Vaidynatha Ayyar for acting as Judges, to Messrs. H. C. Bennett and E. E. Berry for acting as Time-keepers, to Messrs. L. B. Gasson, D. Balakrishnamurthi and M. R. Ramaswami Sivan for acting as starters and to Messrs. F. R. Parnell and K. Kamiah for organising and conducting the sports with such success.

The Agricultural Conference began its first sitting on the morning of the 15th July at 8 A. M. with the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Gordon Cardew, K. C. S. I., I. C. S., in the chair; and was well attended. After an

were kind of welcome by the President of the Union and the
 Gordon of the Annual Report by the General Secretary,
 e function which showed an all round progress during the
 or cheers, Hon'ble Sir A. G. Cardew opened the Conference
 e Hon'ble learned and thought-compelling speech. He
 ed to contrasted the conditions now prevalent in India
 hing to use in the pre-British days and drew the attention
 r heartfelt audience to the various difficulties that inevitably
 r the progress of Agriculture in the Presidency.
 He, however, assured the audience that the conditions are
 steadily becoming more favourable and guaranteed on be-
 half of the Madras Government the fullest sympathy in the
 progress of Agriculture in this Presidency. On behalf of
 the Union and the cause of Agriculture in this Presidency
 with which this Union is inextricably bound up, we beg
 to express our appreciation of this assurance and all that
 it may imply. We propose to print this speech *in extenso*
 in the August issue of the Journal.

At the request of Mr. Vengail K. Krishna Nayanar,
 the President of the D'Silva Memorial Fund, a bromide
 enlargement of Mr. S. L. D'Silva executed by The Carnatic
 Studio was unveiled by The Hon'ble Sir Alexander Gordon
 Gardew.

The Mungala and the Nayanar gold medals, for the
 best essays on (1) The Present condition of the supply to
 South Indian towns of Milk and its products and (2) The
 possibilities of Consolidation of Holdings in the Madras
 Presidency, were bestowed on Messrs K. S. Sankaram
 Pillai, L. Ag., and K. Raghavachari, L. Ag., respectively.

Three papers were then read (1) by Mr. F. R. Parnell on "Probable error in field experiments, (2) by Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar on "Some pressing problems the Coimbatore ryot has to solve" and (3) by Mr. F. R. Hemingway on "Agricultural Co-operation." The first paper was highly technical and is said to throw a new light on the method of conducting Field experiments. The second and third papers were more popular and were eagerly followed by some interesting discussions.

At this stage the President of the Union read a letter from Messrs: J. Ranga Raju, Bros., announcing the institution of a prize of the value of Rs. 250. Details regarding the prize will be found elsewhere in this Journal and we commend it to the Members of the Union.

Pressure of more important work prevented the worthy President from being present at the second day's Conference and the session closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the President.

An informal meeting of the Members of the Union and some of the staff of the Institute, partly to talk about the affairs of the Union and partly to exchange views and talk of "old times" with a 'Tea,' was arranged, by kind permission, at the Officers' Club on the afternoon of the 15th and latter in the day it was followed by a dinner, the resident officers on the estate playing the hosts.

The second session of the Conference began on the 16th July at 8 A. M. with F. R. Hemingway Esq., I. C. S., Registrar of Co-operative Societies, in the chair.

Four papers were read—(1) “Adulteration” by Dr. Marsden, (2) “The Coconut and its importance to Malabar” by Mr. Vengail K. Krishnan Nayanar, (3) “The milling of rice” by Mr. L. B. Green and (4) “How to spread Agricultural education among the masses” written by Dr. N. Kunjam Pillai and read by Mr. D. Ananda Rao.

Each of the papers was followed by interesting discussions and we propose to publish the papers in the August issue of the Journal with as much of the discussion as possible. In bringing the proceedings to a close, the President felt sorry that because of considerations of time he had reluctantly to apply the brake on the discussions and suggested that in future the Union would do well to have less of papers and more of discussion.

A General Body Meeting of the Union was held at 1 P. M. to consider ways and means for a better utilization of the Union Funds and, certain changes in the rules. The former was left to the Working Committee to work out and the rules as altered are printed in this issue. (outer cover).

On almost all the evenings Foot-ball, Tennis or Hockey matches were played. The huge bonfire was lit on the maidan on the night of Monday the 16th and the celebrations were brought to a close by a students' drama entertainment on the same night. The success of the entertainment was greatly due once again to Mr. B. Viswanath.

During the entertainment, our indefatigable War Fete Secretary, Mr. R. C. Wood, came round for a silver

collection in aid of the War Fund and this was gladly responded to.

As the years roll by, it is found that the Conference is getting to be more and more counted on as an annual function of no small importance or usefulness. The Press, the Public, and the Government are getting interested in it; and if only the past progress is maintained, the Union may soon have reason to be proud of this tittle venture.

Because of the abnormal rise in the cost of paper the Editorial Board has decided not to publish a separate Conference Number this year. It is proposed to publish all the Conference papers in the August issue of the Journal as a Conference Number. We hope that our subscribers will generously agree to the above arrangement.

We invite the attention of our readers to the two Agricultural Competitions the details of which will be found elsewhere in the issue. Both are magnificent offers and we hope that there will be a keen competition from among the members of the Union. Mr. Ranga Raju has always been an enthusiastic member of our Union and the offer is just the kind to be expected from the brother Rajus. We thank them heartily for making our journal the medium for publishing the results of the interesting experiments with the 'Avasara Samba' paddy. A note on this interesting paddy from the pen of M. R. Ry., J. Cheluvarama Raju Avergal will be found elsewhere in this issue.

We deeply regret to record the death of Mr. J. H. Barnes, B. Sc., F. I. C., F. C. S., Imperial Agricultural Chemist at Pusa on the 2nd of June 17. We offer our heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family.

Some Suggestions to Tanjore Mirasdars.*

As paddy is the most important cereal in this Presidency and the District of Tanjore possesses the largest area devoted to the cultivation of this crop, the Department of Agriculture recognised the necessity of starting enquiries, in 1908, about the condition and the practices under which the crop is raised and soon found out that there was a reasonable scope for introducing improvements calculated to increase the yield for the benefit of the ryots whose sole concern is to grow paddy which gives them food and all requirements of life.

Ultimately in 1902, an Experimental Station was started at Manganallur near Mayavaram chiefly for the trial of various manures and methods in order to enable the Departmental Officers to give correct and definite advice on the various important points from the results obtained at Manganallur where the soil and other conditions are the average of those generally prevailing in the Tanjore Delta. It is necessary to work for several years and watch the results to be certain of the advice offered. We will now consider our subject in some detail under the following heads:—

Manuring.

You all know that this involves a great problem in our district where the area is large and the sources of manure supply are extremely inadequate. The small quantity of cattle dung that is produced is also burnt up as fuel. The only manures that are therefore available

*A paper read before the Kumbakonam Agricultural Association in May 1915 with Mr. D. T. Chadwick I. C. S. in the chair.