

7. Horticulture was also known from the earliest times ; it was developed during the epic times and has been in a more or less flourishing condition chiefly under the patronage of the rulers, but the scientific aspect of it which was much in evidence during the early part of the British period, was gradually lost.

8. Cattle were paid great attention to in the ancient period and the early part of the medieval period, but there was a gradual decline.

9. The causes for the decline, in general, were, (a) the degeneration of the social organisation, which at first tended towards progress and peace, into its present much divided unworkable form which resulted in the moral and physical deterioration and absence of unity in the nation and consequently in the country being subject to internal dissensions and latterly to foreign domination.

10. The remedy lay chiefly in the people raising by strenuous efforts to the level of other forward nations in point of education, scientific knowledge, co-operation and industry.

(Concluded)

G. Jogi Raju.

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## Review.

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### *A Fruit Growing Industry for the Madras Presidency.*

Under this title Sir F. A. Nicholson, K. C. I. E., I, C. S. has issued a leaflet, urging the more extensive cultivation of fruit trees in the future. The leaflet shows an intimate knowledge of men and country and is full of facts based on personal knowledge.

He regrets the lack of good fruits in our presidency and says, that the fruits ordinarily consumed, are poor in quality and inadequate in amount. The prices of good fruits are high and are often beyond the means of the man in the street. He makes mention of their high dietetic value, their cooling and refreshing qualities and the physical enjoyment afforded by tasty and well-grown fruits.

He cites various instances, all within his personal knowledge, to show that there are immense possibilities of growing fruits in this presidency. The few tracts that are now famous for special fruits are to be taken not as "exceptions" but as "samples" which prove the possibilities of extending the cultivation. Gardens here often owe their inception to individual private enterprise; and he gives examples to show that individual successes in fruit-growing in definite tracts have not in the past contributed to an extension of their cultivation in the neighbourhood. He regrets the absence of reliable nurseries in large numbers throughout the country and urges their establishment in the various tracts. In the cultivation of fruit trees the ryot has an easy means of supplementing the income which he ordinarily derives from his agricultural holding, an uncertain income dependent entirely upon sufficient rainfall at the right time. There are many odd places in every village—odd corners of fields and back-yards of houses—now lying idle and often kept in an insanitary condition, which with the labour easily available from the members of the household could be converted into little orchards both delightful and profitable.

As incentives to develop the industry he urges a survey of the pomological conditions in the presidency, the establishment of pomological stations in suitable localities, an institution of prizes for the best gardens and not merely for exhibits at a particular show, the introduction of simple lessons in elementary schools, and the inauguration of an "Arbor" day for the Presidency.

He further urges that the course at the Coimbatore Agricultural College should include Pomology. The horticulture taught here at present is of a limited character, chiefly because of the absence of a suitable garden and it will be a great advantage if the students could have a certain amount of instruction in this useful branch of knowledge. Every agriculturist who goes back to land would certainly be glad to be able to grow a certain number of fruit-trees round his little homestead. Such schemes are often held up for want of expert knowledge, and it will be long before we can think of experts for every little subject. I would suggest the selection of a bright student, give him full facilities to learn, if necessary, by extensive touring and make him

dream about fruit-culture alone night and day. If at the end of a fair period he does not know enough to grow a decent orchard, I am sadly mistaken in human nature.

The College at Coimbatore is fully equipped to afford all facilities in the matter of the culture of the plant or in the botanical aid required, for in it are concentrated experts in sciences relating to plant-culture.

“A fruit-lover.”

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### News and Notes.

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Rao Sahib A. P. Patro, one of our Patrons has published his studies in “Village Economics.” Dr. Gilbert Slater of Madras University has written an introductory note. The book teems with interesting details and its marked feature is a study of the family budgets of ryots in Ganjam villages.

An organization named the Indian Indigo Co-operative Society has been formed at Calcutta with the object of promoting the distribution of indigo and research work and of advancing the interests of the members as manufacturers and sellers.

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#### List of Students who obtained the Certificate of Proficiency in Practical Agriculture in 1920.

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Name of Student.	Rank.	Name of Student.	Rank.
Subbiah Mudaliar, V. T.	1	Krishna Nayak, S.	10
Govinda Nambiar, K.	2	Sakkaram Rao,	11
Vasudevarao Nayudu, R.	3	Venkataraman, S.	12
Krishna Rao, P.	4	Lakshminarayana, P.	13
Vijiyaraghavachari, C.	5	Srinivasachari, K.	14
Visvanatha Ayyar, S.	6	Venkuswami Ayyar, K.	15
Kunhunni Nambiar, V. K.	7	Krishnamurthi Ayyar, C. S.	16
Seshagiri Ayyar, C. S.	8	Purnalingam Pillai, M. S.	17
Rama Rao, K.	9	Subramania Ayyar, D. S.	18