

the time of transplanting, has before this period a special physical texture and contains much air which enables it to have a temperature more favourable to the development of adventitious roots.

(International Review of Agricultural Intelligence of Plant diseases Vol. X. No. 3). K. R.

News and Notes.

The March issue of the Agricultural Journal of India is a very interesting number. Mr. T. S. Venkataraman, Acting Government Sugarcane Expert and a member of our Union in his article on packing seed sugarcanes for export gives very useful hints in an always neglected, none-the-less important branch of work in an experimental cane growing station.

Mr. Main, Deputy Director of agriculture, Sindh, writes his impressions on the tractor trials held in Loncoln in September 1919. He says upwards of forty different makes were exhibited, most of which were demonstrated on land. The trials took place in some twenty six fields and extended over three days during which time some five hundred acres of stubble and lea were ploughed up. The object of the trial was to help the farmer in the selection of the tractor and not to convince him of its utility. As regards power, the machines varied from 20 to 40 horse power, majority were below 30 horse power, the fuel used was mostly petrol. The lightest weighed about $1\frac{1}{4}$ ton and the heaviest 5 tons. Prices ranged from £ 280 to £ 650. The plough associated was the two to three furrow self lift type costing from £ 40 to £ 60. In most cases when ploughing, only one attendant was required. Mr. Main expects that the tractor would remove the greatest impediment to improved methods in India, which lies in the weak condition of cattle.

He mentions two circumstances in which the tractor would prove of especial value in India.

They are

(1) to assist a devastated famine tract where the cattle have died to recover rapidly.

(2) to enable tracts opened up by new canals to be rapidly developed.

The modern Review, March 1920, quotes from the Japanese Magazine that Japan has discovered a new fibre to mix with cotton. It is a kind of seagrass known locally as sugano. It flourishes plentifully about the shores of Japan. The botanical name is *phyllöspadix scouleri*.

We learn on the authority of Tropical life, January 1920, that the Hashi Pharmaceutical Co., of Tokio has purchased from private owners 800,000 acres of mountain land in the mountainous, jounge country along the Huallaga river in Peru to exploit the medicinal plants, principally cascarilla, from which quinine is extracted and which grows in abundance in this region.

Dr. Giel, the explorer, observes that in China radical reforms are being introduced, and amongst the regulations one provides that in certain tracts every family shall plant a number of trees every year. This is being carried out with much energy that groups of young trees are found in streets and market places. It used to be told in former days of rusticity in India that tree planting was a virtue. We wonder how many practise it in these days of enlightenment and better appreciation of hygienic laws.

Mr. R. Cecil Wood went home to England on 18 months leave.

Estate Notes.

Mr. Anstead has left for England on long leave and Mr. Parnell who has returned from leave is also looking after the duties of the Dy. Director, Planting Districts.

The construction of residential quarters for the Imperial and Provincial Officers and Subordinates and the location of the offices of the Deputy Directors, Planting Districts and V—VII circles, have necessitated more land being added to the estate and about 40 acres was acquired and taken possession of during the month.

Departmental Notes.

Appointments, Confirmation and Transfers :—

1. Mr. T. V. Venkataraman is appointed as a temporary assistant to the Chemistry Section on Rs. 75 from 6-5-20.
2. Mr. T. V. Srinivasacharlu, agricultural Instructor, Borstal institution, Tanjore, is appointed Assistant Farm Manager, on Rs. 50 and posted as Assistant Dairy Manager, Coimbatore.
3. The following L. Ags. of 1920 are appointed in the V grade, Upper Division Agricultural Section, on Rs. 50-5-100 on probation for one year and are posted as shown below :—
 1. Mr. K. K. Raghvan to VII Circle.
 2. Mr. M. Gopalachetti to the VII Circle under the Special Assistant Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore.
 3. Mr. K. K. Subrahmanyam Ayyar to IV Circle.
 4. M. Subrahmanya Pillai to the V Circle.
 5. Mr. T. K. Balaji Rao, on duty in the Government Economic Botanist's office.
4. Mr. Nambiar, Farm Manager at Teachers' College, from IV grade to III grade vice Mr. K. Narayana Ayyangar seconded.
6. Mr. V. G. Dhanakoti Raju, Farm Manager, Central Farm, V to VI grade vice No. 3.

7. Mr. K. A. Venkatarangam, vice No. 4 to report to III Circle.

8. Mr. M. K. Nambiar, Farm Manager, is directed to report himself for duty to the Assistant Director of Agriculture, VII Circle, after finishing his lecturing tour in Coimbatore.

9. The following confirmations and appointments are made in the V grade :—

1. Mr. D. Panakala Rao, Agricultural Demonstrator, I Circle.
2. „ V. Ratnaji Rao, do. on cotton work.
3. „ K. Ramanujacharya do. Chintaladevi, Cattle Farm.
4. „ G. Rajagopal Mal do. on cotton work.
5. „ S. Pranatartiharani, Farm Manager, Anakapalli.
6. „ A. Gopalakrishnayya do. Chintaladevi, Cattle Farm.
7. „ A. Gopalan Nair, Agricultural Demonstrator, Tellicherry.
8. „ T. R. Venkaswami Rao, Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator,

Tanjore.

9. „ N. Raman, Assistant Farm Manager.
10. „ M. P. Kunnikutti, Assistant Farm Manager.
11. „ K. Govinda Nambiar, Assistant Farm Manager, Coimbatore.

10. 1. Mr. T. V. Narayana Rao, Farm Manager, Central Farm, from II grade to I grade S. P. T.

2. Mr. M. Mangesha Rao, Farm Manager, Sugar-station, from III grade to II grade S. P. T. vice No. 1.

3. Mr. W. Raghavachari, Agricultural Demonstrator, Coimbatore, from IV grade and S. P. T. III to III grade S. P. T. vice No. 3.

4. Mr. S. Narayanayya, Farm Manager, Combodia cotton Farm, from V grade S. P. T. vice No. 3.

5. Mr. S. Subbayya, Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator, Chinglepet from III grade lower division to V grade S. P. T. vice No. 4.

11. Muhamad Azizudin Sahib, Sub Assistant in Economic Botany, to III grade Lower Division.

1. Mr. Achutan Nambiar is confirmed as Sub-Assistant in the office of the Government Sugarcane expert.

2. Mr. N. Sreenivasa Rao, Assistant Dairy Manager, posted under the Special Assistant Director, Coimbatore.

Leave :—

1. Mr. A. Venkobachar, Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator has 1½ months' privilege leave from or after 16th May 1920.

2. Mr. M. Chinnaswamy Nayudu, Assistant Farm Manager, Hagari Farm has privilege leave for one and a half month from or after the 25-5-1920.

3. Mr. A. Gopalan Nair, Agricultural Demonstrator, North Malabar has privilege leave for one and a half months from the date of his relief by Mr. M. K. Nambiar.

Mr. C. Namasivayam Pillai, Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator is granted leave on loss pay for 3 months from or after 1-5-1920.

Ramasastrulu's Memorial Fund.

The following Subscriptions are thankfully acknowledged.	Rs.
Messrs. M. Veeraraghava Rao	5
" A. Gopalakrishnayyar	5
" G. Rangayya	5
" A. Lakshmipathi Rao	5
" A. V. Thirumurughanatha Pillai	3
" R. Cecil Wood	10
" T. S. Venkatraman	20
" C. V. Ranga Reddy	2
" C. Sudarsana Raju	3
" P. Lakshminarayan	3

Gentlemen who have promised subscriptions are requested to kindly remit the same at an early date.

K. Krishnamurti Rao,
Provincial Secretary.

Notice has been given for the following change of rules :—

Proposed by Mr. C. Tadulingam and Seconded by Mr. V. Muthuswami Ayyar.

Rule 3 (1) for " the date for the.....1909" read " the celebration Mall-ordinarily be in the latter half of December.

Rule 15 for " May " read " October."

Rule 17 (e) for May read October.