

opinion held as to its nature is that it is one of the deficiency diseases caused by the loss of a certain important constituent—probably of the nature of a vitamin—of the nutritious seed-coat of the rice-grain which is removed by the high polishing the grains are subjected to in the rice-mills. The affected districts of Guntur and Kistna also happen to have the largest number of rice-mills in the Presidency.

The investigation of this disease has been undertaken by Col. McCarrison, I. M. S., at the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor and we understand Dr. R. V. Norris, Government Agricultural Chemist, is collaborating with him by an investigation on the chemical side. We hear, highly interesting results have already been obtained. We are sorry, however, to notice that this is one of the subjects on which the Inchcape axe has descended and that this work is to be stopped soon on grounds of retrenchment—a very sorry commentary on the degree of importance which is attached to research work in general in this country—and a circumstance which is extremely regrettable indeed in the case of a piece of original research concerning the welfare of thousands of suffering humanity.

Activities of the Union.

At a meeting held towards the end of May, the Working Committee elected the various committees for Games, Reception, Entertainment and Subscription in connection with the celebration of the ensuing College Day and Conference. Mr. H. Shiva Rao is to be the Captain of the volunteers. At another meeting held on the 13th June, allotments for the various items of expenditure in connection with the College Day were made and a rough programme for the conference was arranged. We are glad to announce that a fairly large number of papers have been promised for the conference.

Departmental Notes.

Appointment :—

1. Mr. K. S. Ramana Bai, Lower Subordinate IV Grade, to officiate as Upper Subordinate V Grade, vice Mr. K. Unnikrishna Menon officiating in the Madras Agricultural Service, with effect from 1-5-1923.