

13. Mr. C. V. Sankaranarayanan, Sub Assistant in Economic Botany, leave on average pay for 20 days from 4th June 1923.

14. Mr. G. R. Venkatachalapathi Raja, Asst. Agricultural Demonstrator, IV Circle, leave on average pay for four months and half average pay for two months in continuation thereof from the date of relief.

15. Mr. V. Achyutam Pantulu, Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator, Sandyal, leave on average pay for 12 days from 5th May 1923.

16. Mr. A. S. Nithyakalyana Reddi, Assistant Farm Manager, Palur, leave on average pay for one month from 10th June 1923.

17. Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar, Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator, Tanjore, leave on average pay for 12 days from 20th May 1923.

18. Mr. H. Narahari Rao, Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator, Bhavani, leave on average pay for 20 days from 13th June 1923.

19. Mr. N. Narayana Ayyar, Assistant Farm Manager, Central Farm extension of leave on average pay for one week.

20. Mr. M. Singara Royan, Head Artist to the Government Lecturing Botanist leave on average pay for 20 days from 4th June 1923.

21. Mr. J. Sundara Rao Bhutgoswami Artist, Govt. Entomologist's office, an extension of leave of one month and six days.

22. Mr. P. H. Rama Reddi, Deputy Director of Agriculture, an extension of leave on average pay for four weeks in continuation of the leave already granted to him.

Editorial Notes.

Birthday Honours—Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.

On behalf of our Union and on behalf of our department, we beg to convey our heartfelt congratulations to the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu, Kt.—our Development Minister—on the richly deserved honour bestowed on him by His Majesty the King Emperor on the occasion of His Majesty's Birthday. Our department will always be grateful to the Minister for the paternal care with which he has been fostering it and will never forget the zeal with which he has been for the last three years protecting and defending it from unfair and uncharitable criticism both

within the Council and outside. Every body interested in the Agricultural Department will, we believe, recognise that it is due to his personal interest and exertions and to his attitude of encouragement and sympathy—so necessary for progress in scientific work—that it has been fairly generously treated during the Budget debates in the Council. We are afraid, now that the term of his office is drawing near, our department may perhaps be deprived of his kind care in future, but we are hopeful that, into whatever sphere of work he may be drafted in coming years, he will continue to have a warm corner in his heart for this department.

We are likewise proud that another distinguished son of South India, likewise connected with agriculture—the member in charge of the Portfolio of Agriculture in the Viceroy's Executive Council—the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur Sir B. N. Sarma, K. C. S. I.—is similarly honoured and we tender our heartfelt congratulations to him.

M. R. Ry., Rai Sahib K. Nageswara Rao Pantulu Garu, B. A., Under-Secretary for Development is the recipient of the title of Rao Bahadur and we convey to him our sincere felicitations. We are sure this is in recognition of his steady and conscientious work in the agricultural and co-operative departments.

Rao Sahib Abboyee Nayudu—An Enthusiastic Agriculturist.

This honours list also includes Mr. Abboyee Nayudu of Pulla, Kistna District, on whom is bestowed the title of Rao Sahib—an instance where a genuine and practical Agriculturist, who has often given enthusiastic support to the activities of the agricultural department in his district, has been honoured by Government.

He is a respectable and well-to-do land-owner of Pulla farming his lands himself and one known to the Department for several years past as an enthusiastic agriculturist. For over a decade he has kept himself in close touch with all agricultural improvements in progress in this province, and his interest was so genuine

that, as early as 1912, he approached the Director of Agriculture for the loan of the services of a special officer to guide him in carrying out improvements in his lands. The exigencies of the Department at that time did not permit of one being deputed for this work, but a demonstrator was stationed at Pulla, mainly to help him, in addition to looking after *patimannu* work in Kistna District. This led to the reclamation of some alkaline lands in the village, which opened the eyes of the ryots in the neighbourhood to the advantages of adopting improvements suggested by the Department. Besides being an enthusiastic ryot with progressive ideas, he also evinced a great amount of public spirit and has successively been Chairman of the local Union and a Member of the Taluk Board for several terms, in which capacities his influence has, we are sure, been greatly felt by his fellow ryots. He fully deserves the honour conferred on him and such recognitions of services of agriculturists by the Government will, we hope, stimulate others to emulate his example.

The S. W. Monsoon.

It is none too untimely to refer to the subject of the weather. The all-absorbing topic in every South Indian village home is the question of the monsoon. The Edabappathi (15th of Vaikasi) of Malabar, the Mrigasira Karthi of the Circars and the 1st of June in Tinnevely are anxiously awaited in the respective tracts. Unfortunately this year pronounced hot weather conditions, which are an indication of a favourable south west monsoon, were not experienced. Early in the month there was a weak monsoon current, which died out in a few days. A spell of dry weather followed which was quite unwelcome to the ryot. A later outburst of rain which was hailed with joy has ended however in nothing; the current has again slackened as we are writing (25th) to the utter discomfiture of the expectant ryot. There are no reports of freshes in several of the rivers which are due at this time of the year. The out-look is not encouraging, but we hope

we shall not be visited with any failure of rains this year, as happened in 1918 and we sincerely trust that the apprehensions of the South Indian ryot associated by him with the rather ominous name of the current Hindu year *Rudhirodgari* (lit. spitting blood) will not prove true.

The Objects of Our Union.

The College Day and Conference is fast approaching and the Union is busy preparing to celebrate the one Great Event in the annual round of its existence. Many of the members, we are sure,—especially those stationed in the districts—live in anticipation of this occasion, which, we believe, is usually associated in their minds with the prospective pleasure of meeting old friends and of revisiting familiar scenes. As for the members of the Working Committee, for a month or two prior to the event, they are, as usual, desperately busy making preparations for the various activities associated with the College Day and Conference, and are full of anxiety until the function is steered through successfully to the relief and credit of all parties concerned. Such an outbreak of activity, however, is apparent only while the Conference lasts and when the last of the guests has departed, the members usually heave a sigh of relief, and for all practical purposes the Union then drops into a gentle, peaceful sleep from which it is awakened only when the circling year has once again brought round the time of celebrating the next College Day.

Our Union has passed through about a dozen summers now: all these years the College Days have been punctually held—excepting of course the unfortunate case of last year when the celebration had to be postponed owing to the outbreak of plague—and the Union may congratulate itself, on the whole, on having had so far a successful career. However, it may be interesting to recapitulate the various achievements that stand to its credit and the objects it has served during all these years. The rules of our Union declare the objects to be fourfold: 1. to create an *esprit-de-corps*

among the members: 2. to arrange for an exchange of experiences on Agricultural matters: 3. to secure employment to the members and 4. to protect and promote the interest of the members. When these objects are carefully analysed it will be apparent that our Union is first, and in essence, an "Old Boys' Association" created with the object of linking up students past and present and creating a feeling of brotherhood and amity that ought to exist between the products of the same *Alma Mater*. All the other avowed objects are in a way grafted on to this original and main object.

By holding the College Day and Conference annually the Union not only provides an opportunity for "Old Boys" to meet old friends and to make the acquaintance of the present students, but also allows of a free exchange of opinions and experience on matters agricultural. Papers read at the Conference and subsequently published in the Journal and articles contributed to the Journal by various members are positive proofs of the opportunities provided for the members to record their observations and experiences. As to objects (3) and (4) relating to its function of procuring employment to the members and guarding their interests in general, the Union cannot be said to have been neglectful. It has always helped where it could and, for instance, in the matter of equalising the starting pay of Licentiates and Graduates in the Agricultural and Scientific lines, it cannot be denied that it has done its duty. If, however, it is desired that it should take on the functions of a regular employment bureau, we are sure, it will gladly take up the work, provided that its constitution is thoroughly and suitably re-organised and expanded so as to provide for the carrying-out of such additional work efficiently. Perhaps some of the members expect it to take upon itself the duty of backing the cause of such members of the department as happen to have been superseded or dismissed; if so, we fear, they have not bestowed much thought on the possibility or the advisability of such a procedure. While such duties may be appropriate in the

case of Labour Unions or certain Service Associations, they are absolutely irrelevant in an "Old Boys' Association" of our kind. While broad questions affecting certain classes or groups of members may be taken up for advocacy, it should be clearly recognised that individual grievances are beyond the scope of our Union—at least as at present constituted. In this connection it may be useful to remember that a good many of our members are not Government employees, while some are independent landlords.

Taking a retrospect as to the past activities of the Union, we are rather doubtful as to whether we are proceeding on profitable lines. The main work that our Union has been doing in the past is (1) the holding of the College Day and Conference and (2) the publication of the Journal. Although these items are in no way insignificant, yet it is a fact that the Union has not had any definite programme of work that could keep it engaged between one conference and another. We are of opinion that our Union is capable of being of immense service not only to our department but also to the country as well—if only it would aim high and set up higher ideals of work.

In the present state of our country, nothing is plainer than that we are very backward as regards our Agricultural and Industrial development as compared with various other countries of the world. As far as Agriculture is concerned, ways of improving the present state of affairs point partly to the necessity of gathering more accurate information as to the present ways and means of production and of acquiring fresh knowledge on a scientific basis leading to the increase of production, and partly also they point to the necessity of causing a rapid diffusion of knowledge among the cultivators as to methods of improvement—tried and tested by the Agricultural Departments. While it is beyond the means of our Union to take up original research work, it can help the progress of the country by encouraging the acquirement by its members of fresh and authentic information as to particular local

methods current in various out-of-the-way places, since they are naturally scattered throughout the country. It can also help the Agricultural Department by causing a wide spread adoption of improved methods by encouraging its members to undertake and test on their own farms such as are recommended by the Department. In fact this latter method has been adopted with success in Mysore and it is reported that it is working well and has served to link many of the practical agriculturists with the State Department of Agriculture.

Some years ago, we remember, the working committee of the Union undertook the work of collecting statistics as to the economic conditions of some of the villages round about Coimbatore on the lines of the enquiry conducted by Dr. Mann in the Bombay Deccan. Although it is not known how far the enquiry then started was pushed through, there can be no denying that it was a most laudable undertaking and it gives us one instance out of many, wherein members of the Union can help in the acquisition of a fuller knowledge of the conditions under which the actual cultivators exist. There are also other ways by which the Union can stimulate the progress of knowledge. Our Members need not be told that the institution of prizes for essays on Agricultural subjects under the auspices of the Union used to be a regular feature of its activities a few years ago, but as it depended on the generous impulses of certain of its large-hearted members, it has not been quite such a feature as it deserves to be. The institution of Ramasastrulu-Munagala Prize in memory of the late Mr. Ramasastrulu Nayudu, who was the pioneer in this movement, is likely to fill a much required need, but we might point out that efforts might be advantageously made not only to increase the value of the prize and thus make it more attractive, but to enlist the sympathy of the great Landlords of the Presidency and institute more annual prizes through their help.

Again, we may perhaps refer to the tendency people generally have of looking to the Government not only for help but also for the initiative in enterprises of all sorts. Although we do believe the Government should give all necessary help up to a certain limit, we think that we, on our own part, ought to try to ease the situation and help the Government by trying to stand on our own legs and to be more self-reliant. It is perhaps not very generally known that many of the famous educational and scientific institutions of England are managed by private bodies which are helped by Government only in part. These bodies owe their existence in great part to the patriotic and large-hearted contributions made by the enlightened public and we believe that similar contributions in the cause of education and the advancement of science will be forthcoming if the great landed Proprietors—the Zamindars and the Rajahs—and the rich merchants are approached in the right way. In many respects, Bombay has been leading the way in these directions and, as one example out of many, we might cite the case of the great Sassoon Trust the interest from the vast funds of which is being utilised by the Bombay Agricultural Department for various items of special research work. The example of these Merchant-Princes of Bombay ought to be followed by all patriotic landlords of this Presidency and our Union may very well take on itself the work of approaching them and of enabling them to realise how they could help the onward march of the country's progress. In these respects our Moffussil Members of Council and Vice-Presidents have unique opportunities of helping the Union.

We are, however, afraid that some of the readers may think that these items are rather too tall an order to expect the Union to undertake the responsibility thereof. Perhaps they are, but notwithstanding all that may be said against it, we would rather prefer that it should aim high and set before itself great ideals, however impossible of achievement they may be considered to be at present, and strive to the best of its ability towards their accomplishment,

than sit self-complacently with folded hands for the greater part of the year. Nothing worth having was ever obtained cheap ; and no achievement worth the name can ever be accomplished without the requisite pain and sacrifice. And we would appeal to our members to bestow some thought on these points in their leisure hours and help the general body of the Union to arrive at a decision as to its future expansions.

SMILE.—

If the weather looks like rain,
Smile.

When you feel you must complain,
Smile.

Do not mind if things seem gray,
Soon there 'll come a brighter day,
You will find that it will pay
To Smile.

1.

If the World looks sad and drear,
Smile.

Banish every thought of fear,
Smile.

Do the very best you can,
Play your part now like a man,
Make each day a better plan
And Smile.

2.

If you taste life's bitter cup,
Smile.

Should the doctors give you up,
Smile.

You are very far from dead,
Waste no time in useless dread,
Put your trust in God instead
And Smile.

3.

Grenville Kleiser. (Great Thoughts—Feb. 23.)