THE

INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE

HELD AT SURAT.

December 1907.

FULL TEXT OF PAPERS

READ AT AND SUBMITTED TO IT.

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The Third Indian Industrial Conterence

Held at Surat on the 30th December 1307.

I. INDUSTRIAL SURVEY.

That this Conference expresses its sense of satisfaction that an Indistrial Survey has been carried out in the United Provinces and is being carried out in the Central Provinces and Berar, and in the Baroda State; and it would arge other Provincial Governments in British India and the Governments of other Indian States to carry out at an early date Industrial Surveys of the territories within their jurisdiction, as exact and detailed information would afford facilities for the introduction of a sound system of technical education and the well-ordered development of indigenous industries.

II. TRUBBLE AL AND COMMUNICIAL EDUCATION.

That this Conference re-afterns the Resolution on Technical and Commercial Education passed at the last Conference,

That this Conference thanks the Government of the United Provinces for the action taken by them with a view to introduce a fairly comprehensive system of Technical Education in those Provinces and would express the hope that other Provincial Governments will be pleased to convene representative conferences, such as the recent Naini Tal Conference, to devise measures for the spread of Technical Education in their respective Provinces. And this Conference further expresses the hope that the Government of India would provide adequate funds for giving effect to the recommendations of the Naini Tal Conference and carrying out similar achieves in other Provinces.

That this Conference, while appreciating the action taken by the Governments of some Indust States to encourage Technical Education, urges that forther steps should be taken in the same direction in all Indian States.

That this Conference welcomes the growth of public interest in Technical Education as shown by the action taken by certain local and municipal boards and private associations in promoting it, and it strongly urges on the leaders of the people the necessity of taking practical steps for providing increased facilities for it by starting institutions and founding scholarships to encourage technical studies in India and abroad.

III. AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

That this Conference records its sense of appreciation of the action taken and contemplated by the Government in regard to the establishment of Agricultural Colleges in the several Provinces, and would urge that in view of the importance of a wider spread among the cultivating and landholding classes of a practical knowledge of the principles of scientific agriculture and modern methods, Government would be pleased to establish Experimental and Demonstration Farms as widely as possible, and to start vernacular schools in connection with them, one at least in every district.

IV. AGRICULTURAL BANKS.

That this Conference begs to call the attention of Government to the urgent need of promoting the establishment of Agricultural Banks to help co-operative credit societies and to advance loans directly to agriculturists on reasonable rates of interest, and further begs to suggest that the advice and co-operation of representative members of the Indian community may be enlisted in devising a suitable scheme to secure this object.

V. THE MINING INDUSTRY.

That this Conference expresses its sense of satisfaction at the successful formation of the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Limited, with the help entirely of capital raised in India.

That this Conference invites the attention of capitalists in India to the urgent need of developing and fully utilising the mineral resources of the country and trusts that, in view of the ultimately lucrative character of the industry, they will make organised efforts in that direction.

That this Conference is of opinion that special consideration should be shown to Indian enterprise and initiation by the Government and preferential treatment given to it.

VI. COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING INDUSTRY.

That this Conference records its sense of satisfaction at the stimulus the Spinning and Weaving industry have received from the Swadeshi movement and it urges the bestowal of increased attention on cotton cultivation, the erection of spinning and weaving mills at suitable centres, and the revival of the hand-loom weaving industry on a commercial basis, as essential to the success of the movement.

That this Conference urges the Government to remove the restrictions retarding the expansion of the industry and to provide facilities for affording practical instruction in wearing by the establishment of weaving schools at every important wearing centre.

VII. THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

That this Conference notices with concern the increase in the imports of foreign sugar, and is of opinion that to arrest the steady decline of the indigenous industry it is absolutely necessary to encourage the cultivation of healthier and more profife varieties of cane, to employ greater care in cultivation, to use more economical processes for extracting the juice, and, above all, to adopt the most modern and efficient methods of refining.

That this Conference urges the Government to provide more extensive irrigational facilities, to allow the utilisation of bye-products, and, further, to consider the desirability of imposing a duty upon imported augar in order to protect the indigenous industry.

VIII. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE-BEARERS AND PROVISION OF FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 1989.

That this Conference re-appoints Rao Bahadur R. N. Mudholkar as General Secretary and Mr. C. Y. Chintamani as Assistant Secretary, and it appeals to the public for a sum of Ra. 10,000 for meeting the expenses for the next twelve months.