

OUR CIVIC PROBLEMS

Incorporating the proceedings of the Bangalore Civic Workers' Convention held on 26th June 1960, together with other articles of civic importance.

Public Affairs Pamphlet—4

GOKHALE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

BANGALORE 4

November 1961

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FOREWORD

Problems relating to civic welfare are, in nature and purpose, almost the same everywhere in the world. The mechanism of the tower-clock differs from that of the wrist-watch not so much in principle of operation or structure as in dimensions. Town differs from town, and city from city, more in the scale and size than in the substance and texture of the problems. The same inertia of the average citizen, the same indolence of those who undertake to be watchful, the same pressure of private interests, the same slipshod workmanship of the executive staff, the same puzzlement of the responsible officer at the very magnitude of his charge, the same scantiness of resources, the same lack of intelligent public co-operation, the same feeling of insignificance in the individual, the same stupefaction of the community at the unattainability of unity of aim and the inescapability from its own inner cross-movements,—such are the bafflements that the earnest worker for civic improvement has to face in town or city everywhere.

There can be no way to a solution for him except in the study of experience. There is no metaphysical subtlety or the abstractness of mathematical theory to baffle him here. The things to be dealt with are concrete and tangible,—too too tangible indeed. Drains, dustbins, gullies, garbage, filth-covered road-edges, leaky water-taps, shaky culverts, jagged footpaths, potholes and puddles, congested hovels, befouled public squares, the heedless rentier, the howling tenant, the street-polluter, the jaywalker, the strike-threatening scavenger, the many-mastered sanitary inspector,—such are the raw material of civic work everywhere, at any rate in India. Perplexities of a new kind are those presented by (i) industrialization, (ii) immigration and (iii) suburbanism. The subject has thus a universality of content and appeal.

This explains why we consider that the proceedings of the Bangalore Civic Workers' Convention, held on the 26th of June, 1960, would be of interest to a far wider public than the citizen-

community of Bangalore and why we thought of issuing this brochure as a part of this Institute's journal *Public Affairs*. We wish to record here the G.I.P.A.'s sense of its obligation to the Bangalore Civic Workers' Convention and its Working Committee for their having enabled the Institute to publish this as part of its publication series.

These pages have been published also separately as a Souvenir, for the use of the Convention and its affiliated organizations. The Convention was a notable event in the civic history of this great city. Initiated by the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Bangalore, the Convention had the benefit of participation in its work by as many as twenty-five civic institutions representing the several areas of the city. I think it is not out of place to state here that the Working Committee of the Convention has been working steadily in pursuance of the objects defined by the Convention. The Committee had an informal meeting on the 13th of November, 1960, with the Mayor, the Commissioner, other representatives of the Corporation, and representatives of the affiliated institutions. The resolutions of the Convention were then considered and an understanding was reached as to the implementing of the resolutions. Some of the questions have since been in part attended to by the authorities, and others have been the subject of correspondence with Government. Those who wish to get further information about the B.C.W.C. and its working may kindly address the Hon. Secretary of the Working Committee, B.C.W.C., c/o the G.I.P.A.

The work of the Souvenir was entrusted to a Sub-Committee of Messrs. K. S. Ramaswami and S. M. Sagar. Mr. K. S. Ramaswami helped in the editing and Mr. Sagar in regard to illustrations.

Mr. T. Parthasarathi of Messrs. Parthasarathi & Co. was of help to the Convention, and his assistance in the production of the Souvenir has been very valuable. We sincerely thank him.

Our grateful thanks are due to our esteemed advertisers. They have contributed materially towards our resources, appreciating the public usefulness of this work.

I should in conclusion add this, with all the emphasis I am capable of: that without more active and more liberal public support, especially in the form of donations, no worth-while organization can go far or go on for long, however great the enthusiasm and devotion of the workers. Publicity costs money; and publicity is the very life-breath of a public institution. I say this with reference to both the B.C.W.C. and the G.I.P.A.

SUBBANARASIMHAIYA
Hon. Secretary, B.C.W.C.

D. V. GUNDAPPA
Hon. Secretary, G.I.P.A.

CORRECTIONS

(1) By inadvertence, the pagination of the first eight pages (containing a Report of the Proceedings of the Convention) is given as from 57 to 64. Readers are requested to correct the page numbers as from 1 to 8.

(2) Under the heading *Recommendations* (on pages 6 & 7), among propositions referred to the Working Committee, should have been included the subjects sent by the Samskriti Kendra of Malleswaram, given on page 36.

We regret the mistakes.

With best compliments from:

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BANGALORE CIVIC WORKERS' CONVENTION

Sunday, 26th June 1960

PROCEEDINGS

MORNING SESSION

I. The First Bangalore Civic Workers' Convention was held on Sunday the 26th of June 1960 in a pandal erected for the purpose on the grounds of the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Narasimharaja Colony, Bangalore. The Convention was organized jointly by twenty-four civic, social service and rate-payers' associations working in the several parts of Bangalore, including those in Civil Station (Conspectus and list of constituent bodies given separately—Appendix I). There was a large assembly of the public present. In addition to representatives of constituent organizations and other members of the Reception Committee, there were many citizens distinguished in administration and public life, including the Mayor Srimati B. Indiramma and many members and officers of the Corporation.

II. The proceedings began with a speech by Mr. D. V. Gundappa, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcoming the assembly (speech given separately—Appendix II). He called upon Mr. R. Balasubrahmanyam, representative of the Joint Standing Committee of Bangalore Ratepayers' Associations, to move the election of the President. He proposed that *Pra-dhanashiromani* Sri N. Madhava Rau, C.I.E., Retired Dewan of Mysore, be requested to preside. The motion was seconded by Mr. N. T. Raju, representative of the Jayanagar Community Centre. It was received with cheers. The Chairman of the Reception Committee garlanded Mr. Madhava Rau and requested him to conduct the proceedings. Mr. Madhava Rau delivered the presidential address (given separately—Appendix III).

III. The President then called upon such members of the assembly as wished to speak to do so. The following were among those who spoke on the occasion:—

- (1) Mr. M. R. Narasimha Iyengar
- (2) Mr. P. Hanumanthaiah
- (3) Mr. R. Balasubrahmanyam
- (4) Mr. C. N. Shama Rao
- (5) Mr. T. S. Subrahmanyam
- (6) Mr. H. S. Dorcswamy
- (7) Mr. M. Rangayya Naidu

They supported the idea of the Convention and expressed their good wishes for its success.

IV. The President then called upon Mr. Subbanarasimhaiya, Honorary Secretary of the Reception Committee, to propose the Subjects Committee. Mr. Subbanarasimhaiya presented a statement containing the Reception Committee's guidance in the matter (Appendix IV), and appealed for co-operation on those lines. Several members suggested that the Secretary may propose the names for the Subjects Committee, keeping in view the parties who had sent subjects or resolutions for consideration. The Secretary thereupon proposed the following:—

- (1) President—Mr. N. Madhava Rau
- (2) Chairman of the Reception Committee
—Mr. D. V. Gundappa
- (3) Mr. N. T. Raju
- (4) Mr. S. R. Subrahmanyam
- (5) Mr. C. Venkatachalapathy
- (6) Mr. R. Balasubrahmanyam
- (7) Mr. P. Hanumanthaiah
- (8) Mr. B. Byra Chetty
- (9) Mr. S. M. Sagar

The names were received with approval.

On the suggestion of Mr. A. N. Rama Rao, the Corporation Councillors present were invited to be observers of the Subjects Committee's proceedings.

The President announced that the Subjects Committee would work from 2 to 3-30 p.m.

The Convention was adjourned to 4 p.m.

SUBJECTS COMMITTEE

V. The Subjects Committee met at 2 p.m. with Mr. N. Madhava Rau in the chair, in the hall of the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs. All the members (noted above, Par. IV) were present. Some members of the Corporation were also present and joined in the discussions. Five resolutions drafted on behalf of the Reception Committee were considered and passed. The names of movers and seconders were also fixed. The Subjects Committee meeting closed at 3-40 p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

VI. The Convention re-assembled at 4 p.m. under the presidency of Mr. N. Madhava Rau in the G.I.P.A. hall. The following resolutions, passed by the Subjects Committee, were placed before the Convention one after another as directed by the President.

RESOLUTIONS

1. DECENTRALIZATION

THIS Convention respectfully urges upon the Government of Mysore and the Corporation of Bangalore the desirability of decentralizing the work of the administrative agencies of the Corporation by the division of the Corporation area into conveniently formed Municipal Ranges and the endowing of each such Range with a separate sub-administration, having the necessary supervisory and subordinate staff, to attend to the day-to-day municipal work of the Range, under the authority and direction of the Commissioner and the Corporation.

Moved by Mr. N. T. Raju

Seconded by Mr. P. Ramadev

Supported by Mr. C. N. Shama Rao and Mr. M. R. Narasimha Iyengar

The resolution was passed.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM

(A) THIS Convention suggests the appointment of a small Committee by Government in consultation with the Corporation, or by the Corporation according to the fitness of the case, (i) to consider the working details of the Range system indicated in Resolution I, (ii) to examine the organization and existing system of working and procedure in the Corporation offices, and (iii) to recommend necessary measures under both heads so as to ensure speedy and efficient attention to business and to the needs and grievances of the public.

(B) THIS Convention further suggests that the above-said Committee be asked to consider the existing relations between the Municipal Corporation and the City Improvement Trust Board and recommend any steps considered desirable for ensuring proper co-ordination of the activities of the two bodies.

(C) THIS Convention also suggests that the said Committee may be requested to recommend ways of improving co-operation between the Corporation authorities and Government Departments like the Police, the Transport, Electricity etc., in order to secure better sanitation and cleanliness of the City, better regulation of traffic on the roads and better preservation of public places.

Moved by Mr. R. Balasubrahmanyam

Seconded by Mr. S. Jagannathan

Supported by Mr. M. R. Narasimha Iyengar, Mr. T. Srinangachar, Mr. E. S. Venkata Ramiah, Mr. T. Parthasarathy, Mr. K. Revanna, Mr. V. S. Krishna Iyer, Mr. S. M. Munivenkatappa and Mr. B. Rangadas.

The resolution was passed.

3. CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

THIS Convention appeals to the citizens of Bangalore for active support and help (a) to the several civic and social service organizations and ratepayers' associations existing at present in the several parts of the City and the Civil Area, towards their more effective functioning, and (b) for the formation of

such associations anew in localities where there are none such in existence. The Convention regards the constant activity of such voluntary associations of citizens, both in securing improvements in the municipal administration and in promoting the intelligent co-operation of the public with the municipal authorities, as vital to the civic welfare of the public and the realization of their rights as citizens.

Moved by Mr. T. Raghavan

Seconded by Mr. G. Ramachandra Rao

Supported by Mr. T. R. Shamanna

The resolution was passed.

4. WORKING COMMITTEE

(A) THIS Convention appoints a Working Committee of its members (whose names are appended) for the following purposes:

- (i) Implementation of the resolutions of this Convention;
- (ii) Dealing with questions arising out of the speeches and discussions at this Convention;
- (iii) Dealing with any other municipal matters relating to the Corporation of Bangalore or to the welfare of the public of Bangalore;
- (iv) Affiliating to the Convention civic organizations contemplated in Resolution 3 and co-ordinating and helping their work; and
- (v) Arranging for further sessions of the Convention.

(B) THE Working Committee will have power (i) to co-opt members, (ii) to appoint its office-bearers, (iii) to make rules for its business and (iv) to collect donations and receive help.

(C) ANY balance of funds left on the hands of the Reception Committee of the B.C.W.C. may be handed over to the Working Committee.

(D) THE Working Committee will be composed of the following Members and any others that may be co-opted under Clause (B) of this Resolution:

- (1) Mr. N. Madhava Rau
- (2) Mr. D. V. Gundappa
- (3) Mr. N. T. Raju
- (4) Mr. S. R. Subrahmanyam
- (5) Mr. C. Venkatachalapathy
- (6) Mr. R. Balasubrahmanyam
- (7) Mr. P. Hanumanthaiah
- (8) Mr. B. Byra Chetty
- (9) Mr. S. M. Munivenkatappa
- (10) Mr. G. Ramachandra Rao
- (11) Mr. S. M. Sagar
- (12) Mr. Subbanarasimhaiya (Provisional Secretary)

Moved by Mr. S. M. Munivenkatappa

Seconded by Mr. S. Srikanteswara Iyer

Supported by Mr. M. R. Narasimha Iyengar, Mr. V. T. Srinivasan and Mr. M. Rangayya Naidu.

The resolution was passed.

5. THIS Convention requests the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Bangalore, to give the use of its premises and other possible facilities to the Working Committee for its work, and to give publicity through its journal *Public Affairs* and in other possible ways for the proceedings of this Convention and the public activities of its Working Committee and other organs.

Moved by Mr. B. Byra Chetty

Seconded by Mr. S. R. Subrahmanyam

The resolution was passed.

VII. *Recommendations*:—The following propositions were moved for being referred to the Working Committee for suitable action.

- (1) "This Convention takes note of the request for an independent examination of the House Rent Control Bill and resolves that a memorandum on the subject be prepared by the Working Committee and presented under the auspices of the Convention."—*Moved by* Mr. R. Balasubrahmanyam.

- (2) "That the Corporation be requested to frame quinquennial development plans and that the Central and the State Governments be requested to provide finances or guarantee loans to implement such five-year plans."—Moved by Mr. P. Hanumanthaiah; Supported by Mr. B. K. Sreeremiah, Mr. T. Raghavan, Mr. C. N. Shama Rao and Mr. S. K. Ramanuja Iyengar.
- (3) "This Convention requests the Corporation to prevent the establishment of noisy workshops and factories in the residential areas within its administrative jurisdiction and also urges the Government that the Corporation Act may suitably be amended to give effect to the above plea in the interest of public health."—Moved by Mr. S. M. Sagar; Supported by Mr. N. T. Raju.
- (4) "This Convention is of the opinion that the practice of acquiring useful garden-lands be discontinued by the City Improvement Trust Board and the Corporation of Bangalore and that the landless gardeners in and around Bangalore be helped in all possible ways by the Central and the State Governments, the City Improvement Trust Board and the Corporation of Bangalore to grow more vegetables, fruits, flowers etc., for the benefit of the public."—Moved by Mr. S. M. Munivenkatappa; Supported by Mr. B. Byra Chetty, Mr. S. K. Ramanuja Iyengar and Mr. C. N. Shama Rao.
- (5) "Resolved to endeavour to see that adequate lung-space is safeguarded in every part of the city, so that parks and play-grounds could be constructed and maintained;
- (6) "Resolved to request the Corporation and the Trust Board authorities to reserve and allot in different extensions sites at an upset price for Kalyana Mandirs, Maternity Homes, Sarvajanic Hostels and such other public utility buildings."—Moved by Srimati Pramila Deshpande.

VIII. In bringing the proceedings to a close, Mr. N. Madhava Rau thanked the several organizations and the other delegates for their co-operation. He was glad to note that there

was so much earnestness in every quarter about service to the city. The success of the Convention would depend naturally on the Working Committee's energy and diligence in following up the resolutions of the Convention and implementing its objects.

IX. Mr. D. V. Gundappa rendered thanks to all helpers. He observed that congratulations were due to the President more than to anybody else for the success of the Convention, because the Convention is the outcome of his inspiration and the result of his guidance.

He expressed special gratitude to the Mayor Srimati B. Indiramma for her keen interest and sympathy.

Many members of the Corporation Council had given active help—Mr. G. Narayana, Mr. V. S. Krishna Iyer and Mr. T. R. Shamanna among others.

Mr. T. R. Shamanna had helped in providing refreshments and Mr. S. M. Munivenkatappa had made a gift of fruit and flower for the Convention.

The loudspeaker arrangements were made by the Lokamanya Sangha and Sri Rajaram, for the Convention as well as the Gokhale Commemoration Lectures of the previous three days.

The press had helped the Convention by publicity. Some papers had commended the effort editorially. But for the help given by the press the Convention could not have been such a success.

He also gave hearty thanks to several ladies and gentlemen and also member-organizations who had made contributions towards the expenses of the Convention.

X. The Convention closed with the singing of the national anthem.

APPENDIX—I

A CONVENTION OF BANGALORE'S CIVIC WORKERS

CONSPECTUS

A number of civic and social service organizations of Bangalore have, on the invitation of the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, agreed jointly to hold a Civic Workers' Convention on a convenient day in 1960.

OBJECT

The object of the Convention is to secure better municipal services for the area covered by the Corporation of the City of Bangalore and bring about closer co-operation between the public and the authorities. Among the measures suggested for consideration are:—

(i) the localization of the municipal administration, in certain ordinary matters of everyday interest, for each locality or division of the City, under the general guidance and control of the Corporation; and

(ii) the organization of local public opinion to co-operate with the local agencies of the administration, by (a) keeping them acquainted with local public needs and grievances and watching the progress of improvement work, and (b) educating the public as regards their duties and responsibilities in respect of sanitation, cleanliness, observance of road traffic regulations and road manners and similar matters calling for consideration for the neighbourhood and the City as a whole.

The object, broadly speaking, is to evoke a sense of common interests among the residents of each Mohalla, Division, Extension, or "Neighbourhood" in the City and to stimulate voluntary civic effort for advancing such interests, in co-operation with the concerned authorities. This is to be achieved through local associations of citizens, with active study-and-working groups as the core of their organization.

The rapid increase that has been taking place in the built-up area and population of the City makes it necessary to localize some branches of the municipal administration at appropriate

levels. It has been suggested that it would be a great convenience to the public if the Corporation established Zonal Offices in different parts of the City, to attend to municipal affairs directly connected with the daily lives of the citizens residing therein. This arrangement would facilitate closer individual and group contacts between citizens and administrative agencies.

If the public are to take an intelligent and helpful interest in the affairs of the City, they should be regularly provided with information, in an accessible and intelligible form, regarding the activities and programmes of municipal and other authorities concerned with the public health, safety and convenience of the City communities. Some suitable arrangements should be devised for this purpose. It is the object of the Convention to elicit opinion on these suggestions and any others that may emerge in the course of the discussions and to concert measures for implementing the conclusions reached at the Convention.

PREPARATORY

A preliminary meeting was held on 24th January 1960 at which 23 persons representing 15 institutions were present, in addition to a few individual citizens who came in response to the invitation published in the press. That meeting, after considering the draft scheme from all points of view, appointed a Reception Committee, with Mr. D. V. Gundappa as Chairman and Mr. Subbanarasimhaiya as Secretary, to take necessary steps for the organizing of a Convention on the lines indicated.

Since then a few more institutions have joined and are expected to join. The Reception Committee held its second meeting on 27th March 1960 and appointed a Working Committee and a Souvenir Committee. It also settled certain working details.

The Reception Committee resolved that *Pradhanashiromani* Sri N. Madhava Rau, C.I.F. (Retired Dewan of Mysore) be requested to preside over the Convention and guide its proceedings.

The meeting also resolved that invitation to the Convention may be extended to the Minister for Local Self-Government, the Mayor and Members of the City Corporation, the Chairman and Members of the City Improvement Trust Board and members of other corporate bodies connected with civic and sanitary conditions and public amenities in the City such as the

Electricity Board and the Traffic Advisory Committee, and to governmental authorities and officers in the Departments of Government concerned and to citizens known for public spirit.

MEMBERSHIP

The Reception Committee invites all institutions working for improvements in civic, sanitary, hygienic, educational and social conditions and public amenities in the City and Civil Area to join the Reception Committee and help in its work. The minimum subscription payable by an institution is Rs. 5/-. It may be represented on the Reception Committee by not more than two members.

Citizens interested in the objects of the Convention are cordially invited to join the Reception Committee in their individual capacity, the subscription being Rs. 5/- a member.

APPEAL FOR PUBLIC HELP

The Reception Committee has to appeal to the public for monetary assistance. The expenditure, including printing charges, cost of stationery, incidental expenses, etc., may come to not less than Rs. 3,000/-. Towards this, the Reception Committee requests generous contributions from public-spirited citizens as well as from institutions like Co-operative Societies and Banks. Cheques may be made payable to *Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Bangalore*.

It will be generally agreed that there is vast room for improvement in the civic conditions and amenities of this large and growing City. Improvement, however, can result only from thoughtful planning, efficient administration and hearty voluntary co-operation from citizens of all classes and all sections. Civic betterment involves no question of party politics and should commend itself to every inhabitant of the City, irrespective of political, religious, linguistic or other differences. In this faith, we ask for help from every fellow-townsmen and every fellow-townswoman in the best ways possible to each.

The Secretary will be glad to furnish all further information.

SUBBANARASIMHAIYA

*Secretary, Reception Committee, B.C.W.C.
C/o Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs,
N. R. Colony, Bangalore-4*

15th April 1960.

CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS

1. Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs
2. Study Circle, G.I.P.A.
3. Malleswaram Branch of the G.I.P.A.
4. Youth Forum (Civil Station)
5. Malleswaram Ratepayers' Association
6. National Welfare Services
7. Lokamanya Sangha (Visvesvarapuram)
8. Journalists' Colony Residents' Association
9. Malleswaram Swimming Club
10. Samskriti Kendra (Swimming Pool Extension)
11. Hanumanthanagar Residents' & Ratepayers' Association
12. Jayanagar VIII Block Residents' Association
13. Community Centre, Jayanagar
14. Kempapura Agrahara Ratepayers' Association
15. Rangaraj Memorial Hindi Association (Malleswaram)
16. Medical School Old Students' Association
17. Ganapati Seva Mandali (Chickmavalli)
18. Joint Standing Committee, Bangalore Ratepayers' Association
19. Gandhi Sahitya Sangha (Malleswaram)
20. Southern Division Ratepayers' Association (Civil Station)
21. City Y.M.C.A.
22. Bharat Sevalal (Nehru Nagar)
23. Yuvaka Sangha (Basavangudi)
24. Women's Department, Mysore Pradesh Congress Committee
25. Jayanagar IV Block Welfare League (Since 27-6-1960)

APPENDIX—II
CIVIC PROBLEMS OF BANGALORE
WELCOME SPEECH

BY
MR. D. V. GUNDAPPA

Chairman, Reception Committee, B.C.W.C.

The Reception Committee has assigned to me the privilege of offering you, on its behalf, a cordial welcome to this Convention of Civic Workers in Bangalore. The Reception Committee is deeply appreciative of your kindness in having responded to its appeal for goodwill and support.

(2) So far as I have been able to ascertain, this is the first instance in India of an attempt by citizens outside formal authoritative bodies in the town, to gather together to deliberate on their common civic problems. We have in this matter no precedent to guide us. It is seldom given to a pioneer effort to be wholly satisfactory to every one from every point of view. You know our difficulties. I am confident the Reception Committee may feel assured of your sympathy and readiness to overlook any defects noticed in the organization or arrangements.

HISTORY OF THE IDEA

(3) It may not be out of place for me to recall briefly how the idea of this Convention has come to take shape. The members of the Study Circle of the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs began the practice, twelve years ago,—under the lead of an enthusiastic worker Mr. S. V. Seshadri,—of making periodical surveys of hygienic and sanitary conditions and public amenities in the several localities of the City. This work was meant as a practical exercise in citizenship, supplementary to the book-study pursued in their Sunday Classes. Batches of ten or twelve members visited a selected locality each time and walked along its lanes and by-lanes, making note of defects in the state of roads and road-margins, of drain and conservancy cleaning, of lighting and water supply and other public amenities. They met residents of the locality and heard of their grievances and requirements. They put together their notes in the form of a report,

and sent copies of it for remedial action to the concerned authorities of the Corporation and Government, and for publication in the press. The local newspapers were so good as to find space for the reports. In many instances, the authorities took helpful action, or at any rate took official notice of the matter. The public evinced much interest in the reports. Mr. N. Madhava Rau, as Chairman of the Bangalore Development Committee (1954) was pleased to write as follows in his letter of 5th April 1954 to the Secretary of the Gokhale Institute:—

“In the course of my work as the Chairman of the Bangalore Development Committee, I came across, and felt much interested in, some of the Civic Survey Reports prepared by the members of the Gokhale Institute. A brief, but appreciative, reference to this aspect of the Institute's activities will be found in Para 174 of the Committee's Report.”

The paragraph in the Report reads as follows:—

“While strict administration is a *sine qua non* of successful Town Planning, public co-operation is also essential. Democratic institutions function at their best only against the background of strong and well-informed public opinion. It is a matter for gratification that Ratepayers' Associations in different parts of the City are taking a keen interest in the municipal administration of the City and voluntary organizations such as the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs are, from time to time, making detailed studies of local requirements and bringing them to the notice of concerned authorities. Efforts of this kind should be encouraged.”

A TWOFOLD REFORM

(4) Experience gathered in the course of the civic surveys of the Study Circle made two things clear:

- (i) The need to adopt such reforms in the system of municipal administration as will secure to each and every division or locality at least a certain minimal measure of close attention to its specific requirements; and
- (ii) the need for the efficient functioning of a popular orga-

nization in each division or locality to focus the attention of the authorities on the needs of the locality and to organize the citizen-body of the area for intelligent and active co-operation with the authorities.

(5) Mr. Madhava Rau has always evinced keen and kindly interest in the civic work of our Study Circle. Some months ago, when I had an opportunity of speaking to him, I made a reference to our experience and to the need for localizing administrative authorities and functions at the routine duty levels. Mr. Madhava Rau has often put forward the idea of decentralization of powers and functions and the canalizing of the public spirit of our people into channels of useful citizen-like activity. When I reported my discussion with Mr. Madhava Rau to my colleagues of the Institute and the Study Circle, it occurred to us that a way should be found of putting these ideas before the public in adequate detail for their consideration and eliciting their support. This, in brief, is the origin of this Convention.

(6) When this intention was communicated to the several ratepayers' associations and civic and social service organizations working in the City and the Civil Area and also to the general public, the Institute felt encouraged to find that there was much sympathy and goodwill forthcoming. As many as twenty-four institutions are represented in this Convention; and there are, besides, a few individual members. The number of individual members may not be impressive in size. But it has quality. With more time at our disposal, I am sure we could have enlisted a larger number.

(7) I should like to say how deeply grateful the Gokhale Institute is to the several sister institutions as well as to the individual citizens who have strengthened the Reception Committee by their membership. It is a special pleasure to be able to count a few members of the Corporation among our fellow-members and workers here. I must also acknowledge the sympathy of the distinguished Mayor, Srimati Indiramma, who has given us a generous personal donation. It is a happy augury for the Convention that it starts with the goodwill and support of some few among the popular Corporators; and I feel sure more of them will come to our aid as the aims and methods of the

Convention become more generally known. The Convention, in one word, is the citizens' organ of collaboration with the Corporation. It is but one single common enterprise we are all engaged in,—whether as Corporators or as municipal officials or as non-official citizens. Whatever the position we hold for the time being, we are all participants in the great task of making and keeping our City a fit home for a worthy community. The name and interest of Bangalore integrate us all in one undivided loyalty.

The Secretaries to the Chief Minister and the Minister for Local Self-Government have written to say how the two Ministers are unable to attend the Convention, and to assure us of their good wishes for the success of the Convention. Among others who have written similarly is Mr. N. Narayana Chetty, a former Mayor.

CENTRAL PURPOSES

(8) I have set out above the two objects immediately to be kept in view by the Convention as stated in the Conspectus, namely (i) decentralization of municipal responsibility and power, and (ii) organization of public vigilance and co-operation. But these do not exhaust our present problems. There are scores of others which, in their turn, must give rise to further problems in our process of solving. I shall just mention the more important among them.

(i) *Reconditioning the Central Office*:—The departments and procedures in the Central Office of the Corporation need to be overhauled with an eye to greater quickness and efficiency in business. Of the urgency of this, we have evidence in the delays commonly experienced in getting letters attended to, in the absence of ready information and reference, in the congestion of work. Registers and files and forms should be looked into with a view to their simplification and clarity and correctness. It is only an experienced administrator that can help us here; and such reform of official rules and methods is the first pre-requisite to all improvement.

(ii) *Co-ordination among Multiple Authorities*:—There appears to be ambiguity in jurisdiction and in division of respon-

sibility between the Corporation and the City Improvement Trust Board at present. There are large areas,—particularly in the new extensions,—where responsibility is in doubt and the inhabitants are the sufferers in consequence. It is imperative that a board should be set up of representatives of the Corporation, the Trust Board and the Government, to deal with matters in which the three are involved. The relevancy of the Government's partnership will be appreciated if we remember, in particular, how indispensable the assistance of the Police force is to maintain the sanitation and cleanliness of our public places and for the enforcement of proper road manners.

(iii) *The Share of State and Central Governments:*—The present responsibilities of the Corporation are in a very large measure the creation of the State Government and the Central Government. Their offices and the industrial and other establishments belonging to the two Governments or fostered by them, throw burdens upon the Corporation; and there must be a way of ensuring that the Governments do not add to the burdens of the Corporation without its willing consent. This is particularly necessary as regards the opening of new offices and new factories which add to difficulties of housing and accommodation.

(iv) *Management of Public Utilities:*—It is primarily the responsibility of the Corporation to see that public utilities like the Post and Telegraph, the Telephone, the Transport, Water Supply and Electricity are managed primarily in the interest of the citizens. It is on the assumption that these indispensable services are efficiently maintained that people build houses and come to live in the far-flung parts of the City. The Corporation must therefore be allowed a voice in the management of public utility concerns within the Corporation's territorial limits. The Corporation should never be ignored or by-passed by Telephone or Transport or Postal authority.

The Transport problem is becoming more and more acute day by day, with the lengthening distances of our extensions. Bus service is totally unsatisfying. In addition to it, whether we may not have a tram-car service is a question that must be seriously examined.

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(v) *Register of Property*:—There are large tracts of land here and there within the Corporation area about which ownership or custody is often in doubt as between the Corporation, the Revenue Department of Government and other Departments. There is also uncertainty as to the legal owners of sites covered by hutments and slum-dwellings. A definitive record of rights as to every inch of ground within the Corporation limits is essential if responsibility as to its maintenance should be duly enforced.

(vi) *Slum Clearance*:—The slums present a baffling problem. The Legislature has passed an Act. But its usefulness is yet to be realized. Whether the administration is coming up against any practical difficulty in working is a matter not yet made clear.

(vii) *Essential Supplies and Conveniences*:—(a) The question of milk supply to the City is of course most urgent. Recently we read in the newspapers of a dairy scheme contemplated by the Corporation. Apart from it and in addition to it, there is need for action to provide each locality with a Cattle Enclosure where cattle-owners and dairy-men could, for a fee, find facilities for the washing and breeding of their cows and buffaloes. Dairy-owners should be required to register themselves and obtain a trade licence, and to produce certificates of periodical cleaning of their cows in the Enclosure. (b) Similar helpful action would be necessary in regard to laundries and bathing places. (c) Vegetable and fruit gardening. (d) A stricter system of enforcing cleanliness on hotels and restaurants is also called for. (e) A system of registering and licensing for street-hawkers seems also called for.

(viii) *Water Wells*:—The water supply problem seems nowhere nearer a solution today than years ago. Government and Corporation keep assuring us that all that is possible is being done to improve. But it is in everybody's experience that actual improvement is not proportionate to the attractiveness of the promise. The time, I think, has come when the Corporation should encourage the sinking of wells in private houses. The encouragement should take the form of arrangements, through co-operative or other institutions, to lend money on proper secu-

rity to house-owners and to help them in the purchase of pumping equipment, etc., at reasonable prices.

(ix) *Vital Statistics*:—Arrangements as regards Birth and Death Registers for newly formed Extensions are unsatisfactory and much hardship is being felt in the obtaining of Death Certificates which are so indispensable to rights of succession to property. The entire question of cremation grounds cries for sympathetic attention.

(x) *Prevention of Animal Nuisance*:—More effective action is called for as regards stray cattle and monkey and goat depredations.

The list can be easily lengthened. But these ten items should suffice as illustration.

THREE BASIC FACTS

(9) Three broad facts stand out in the physiognomy of Bangalore: First, its excessive size as seen from the standpoint of the optimum of area and population for a single administration; second, the heterogeneity of its population—particularly of the more recent influxes; third, the proportion firstly between the house-owning and the house-renting categories and secondly between the permanent and the floating sections of the population.

(10) The City, before the amalgamation with the Civil Station, was a big enough charge for the municipality. After the incorporation, the dimensions have become too huge for efficient care by a single monolith administration. A way of mitigation is in the stratification of the administration. There must now be a branch of the administration to have special charge of each ward or Mohalla and to concentrate attention on local needs upto a certain level, under the general direction of the Corporation. Each level or grade of the community's life must receive attention as regards its peculiar requirements. This will be possible only when there is a local branch of the administration for each locality.

(11) Secondly the administrative Divisions of the City are today not like the old Mohallas or Agrahars, Keris or Petes, where a certain social and cultural homogeneity marked the

residents, and the articulation of the public mind was free and easy. The total lack of a common ethos which is a grave civic deficiency of today, when no one knows his neighbour, can be to some extent remedied by the creation of new civic centres in each locality which could draw the various elements of the resident population together, in planning and working for certain common interests.

(12) Lastly, the minority character of the house-owning and permanently resident part of the population, as compared with the renting and floating parts, creates problems for both the administration and the social worker. The floating part of the population is not interested and the rent-resident shifts from locality to locality. I hope I may not be dubbed a reactionary if I suggested that the time has come for us to think of measures to limit additions to the population by inrush from outside the State. The apathy and unconcern of the shifting majority can bring to nought the efforts of the permanent minority to improve conditions.

(13) I am sure no one among us is expecting that all the municipal problems pressing against us can be solved by this Convention at one sitting. The time we have today cannot suffice barely to touch even a fraction of them. It will be for this Convention to decide whether it should create a permanent agency of its own to work from year's end to year's end for objects and purposes to be defined by this Convention. Such a body, if appointed, may also be authorized to attend to problems that may hereafter crop up from time to time, and also to organize such a Convention periodically to review progress and to deal with problems left over from this sitting.

THE CITIZENS' PART

(14) After I have said so much about the problems of the administration, I may be permitted to say a word to emphasize the importance of educating the public for co-operation with authority. I venture to hold that this is as vital a condition of well-being for the City as the efficiency of the administration and the benevolence and wisdom of the Corporators. The most excellent plan for sanitation and cleanliness is bound to turn out a farce if housewives persist in emptying their rubbish-trays

heedlessly into the public streets and fond grandmothers have no scruples about letting their darlings ease themselves on road-edges. Even our educated fellow-citizens cannot claim to be wholly free from blame in regard to civic rectitude. Their street-corner confabulations, totally unmindful of the needs of traffic, have become a feature unflattering to our civic sense. Road manners and public decencies are so forgotten. The basis of well-being in a community is an active and constant consideration in every one for the neighbourhood. This today is a quality not so commonly observed as it used to be some 15-20 years ago. Our ancient law-givers like Āpastamba have outlined rules for users of highways and foot-paths, inspired by the most thoughtful consideration for the weak and the sick, the load-carrying and the anxiety-ridden.

(15) How are we to persuade our fellow-townsmen and fellow-townswomen to show better regard for the rights of the public,—to refrain from acts which foul the public road and pollute the public air,—to have a finer appreciation of the rules and regulations prescribed by sanitary and engineering authorities? If nothing can be done in this matter by anyone, let us bid good-bye once for all to all hope of civic improvement. But I do not think the matter is so hopeless. There surely are some citizens with good sense and a sensitive conscience in every part of the City. They should make it their responsibility to develop a keen and active sense of citizenship in their neighbourhood. The institutions constituting the present Convention are, I submit, a convincing sign of the existence of purposeful public spirit in the citizen-body. We have to think of ways of adding to their strength so that they could play their part effectively as a liaison agency between the general public and the Corporation authorities.

(16) We must have one citizens' organization for each recognized area, to carry on civic work—both educative and reconstructive,—either solely or as one of its main activities. The organizations should all, as far as possible, work according to a common set of rules and principles. They must meet periodically, inspect their areas according to a programme, keep watch over repairs and improvements in public works, report defects noticed and improvements suggested to the local authority; and as not

the least important of its duties, it must persuade the local population to observe the spirit of the rules and bye-laws of the Corporation as regards civic conduct. These organizations must keep clear of the party politics of the State and the nation and must scrupulously pursue an independent line, restricting their activities to purely municipal concerns. Our political leaders are coming to see the harmfulness of importing party and group politics into the field of municipal life.

(17) Ratepayers' Associations have been in existence for some decades in Bangalore. Even so far back as 1885, there seems to have been an Association in the old City area, with some leading merchants and retired officials as members. I very well remember a Ratepayers' Association functioning in Basavangudi under the leadership of the late Mr. M. S. Puttanna for some time, and of the late Professor B. Venkatanaranappa for some time. But they lacked the strength of large membership and their existence was not continuous. Our people in those days believed in a personal approach to men in authority. Anyone who had a grievance saw the officer concerned as a private individual and obtained relief as such. This proceeding could not meet the general needs of the community. Within the last few years, however, with the growth of the extensions and the increase of difficulties side by side with population, there has been more civic activity; and the time seems to be ripe for concerted action to give permanence to local organizations engaged in civic work wholly or even partly, and to facilitate their continued functioning.

MUNICIPALITY AS A NURSERY OF DEMOCRACY

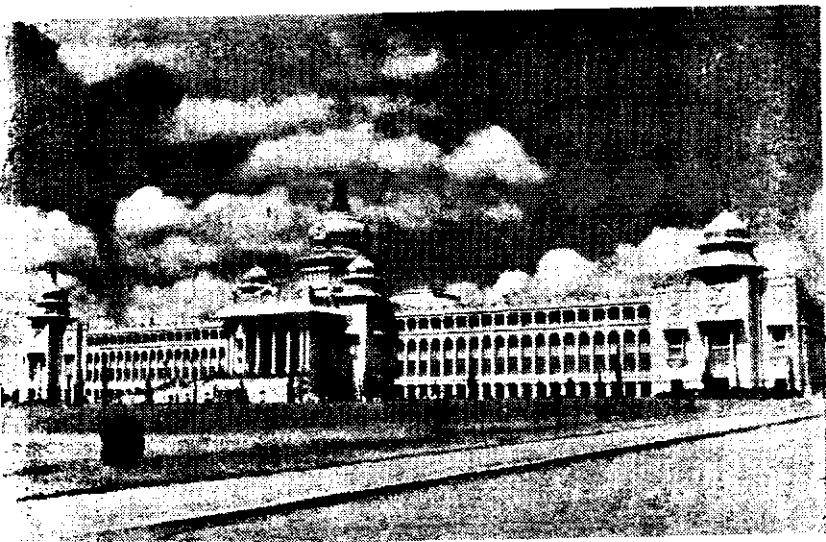
(18) Our older patriots like Ranade and Gokhale and Sir Pherozeshah Mehta held that the municipality is the training-ground for democracy, and that its success is the sure proof of the people's fitness for institutions of responsible government. After our experience of municipalities for some seventy years, it is not easy to hold that we have achieved any notable degree of success in the field of municipal administration. In most cases, municipalities have just managed to keep themselves in existence. This must partly at least be attributed to the unwillingness of Governments to earn for themselves the ignominy of being de-

scribed as undemocratic and reactionary. Governments have largely followed the policy which the British Government adopted towards the Indian States—the policy of winking. Governments must have had other reasons of their own, too, for adopting this attitude. To the question whether our municipalities have performed the services expected of them, the answer is one that cannot be made with any degree of enthusiasm.

(19) The general significance of our present move is the recognition of the need that there is for a body representative of general citizenship to support and assist the elected members of the Corporation in the service of the community. Representative democracy, as distinguished from direct democracy, is only a partial instrument for its purpose. It is impossible that an elected representative can effectively and with equal effectiveness represent *all* the needs and *all* the sentiments of *all* the classes and *all* the grades of life in his constituency. That obviously is an impossible condition. It is therefore most certainly to be desired, wherever possible, that the members of the community should themselves keep vigilance over the way in which their needs are being served by the Corporation and should supplement the efforts of the elected representative. Unless the general mind of the community comes actively to supplement the effort of the formal representative, there can be no hope of the democratic system rising to the maximum of its capacity to render satisfaction. In other words, elective or indirect democracy cannot suffice by itself. It needs the corrective and supplemental collaboration of primary or direct democracy which is the general body of citizens not directly sharing in formal authority.

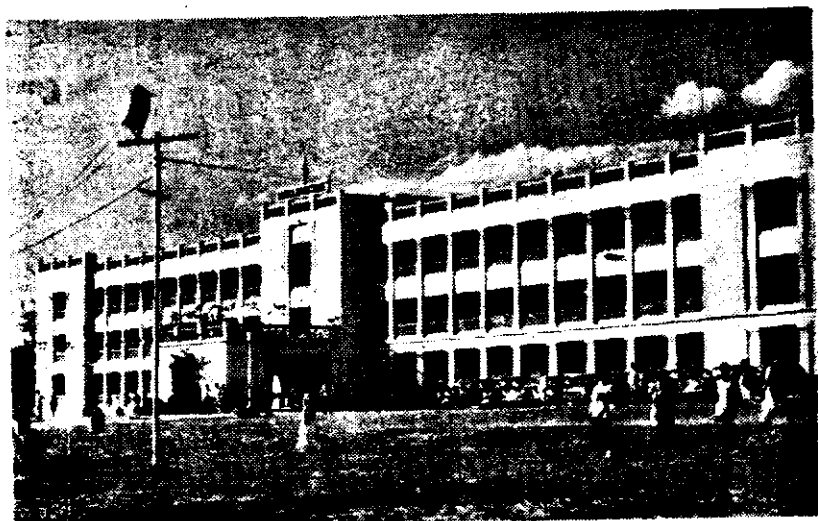
(20) It is no ordinary good luck for a movement to have for leader a citizen of the eminence of Mr. N. Madhava Rau. The public are accustomed to receive from him the gifts of first-hand experience of administration and insightful knowledge,—the gifts of balanced judgement and circumspect wisdom. His life has been a record of devoted and fruitful service to the country in many capacities. His report of 1954 on the needs of the growth and welfare of Bangalore is a charter of felicities to citizens. We cannot do better than take our stand on the recommendations of that far-visioned and comprehensive Report. I have already

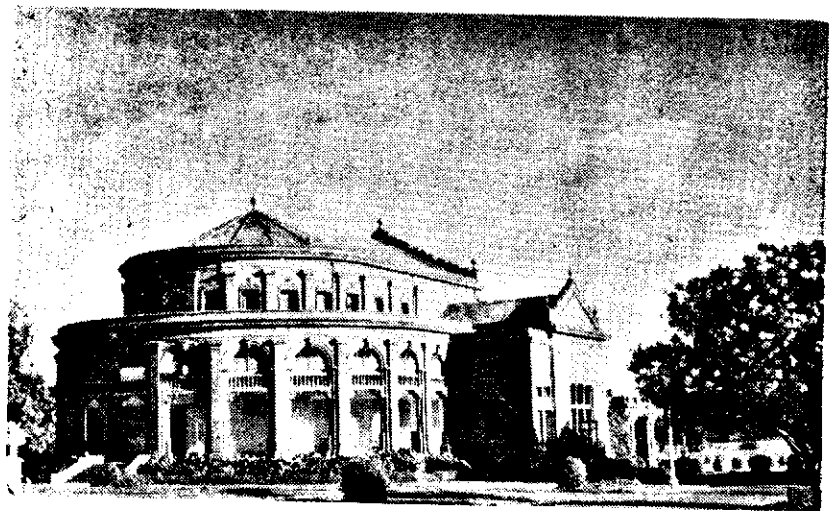
given you an idea of his deep interest in this Convention. There is no exaggeration in my saying that I feel fully confident as to the outcome of this Convention when it is under his guidance. Let me now assure you once again of a hearty and warm welcome to the Convention, and wish it all the success which its aims and purposes deserve.



Secretariat Offices, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore

Legislators' Home, near Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore





Public Library, Cubbon Park, Bangalore



Image of Sri Vedavyasa at Gokhale Institute, Bangalore



Front View of Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Narasimharaja Colony, Bangalore

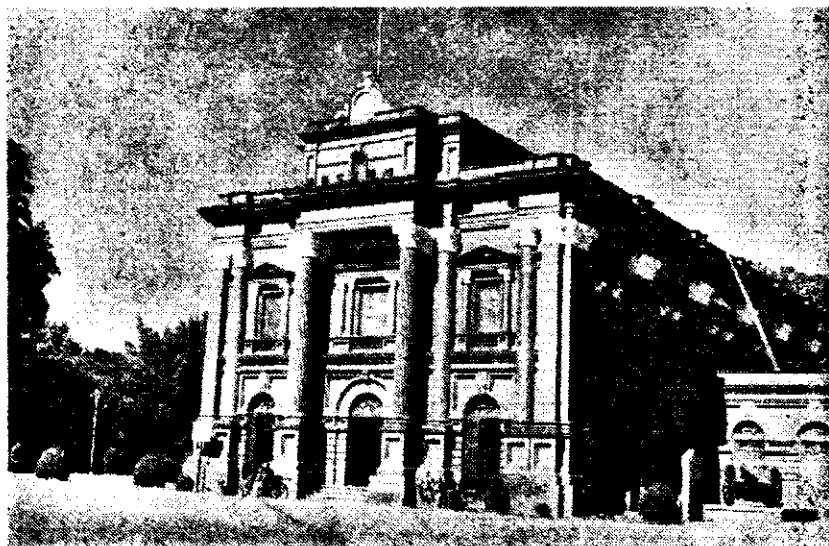
Images of Valmiki, Lava and Kusha at Gokhale Institute, Bangalore

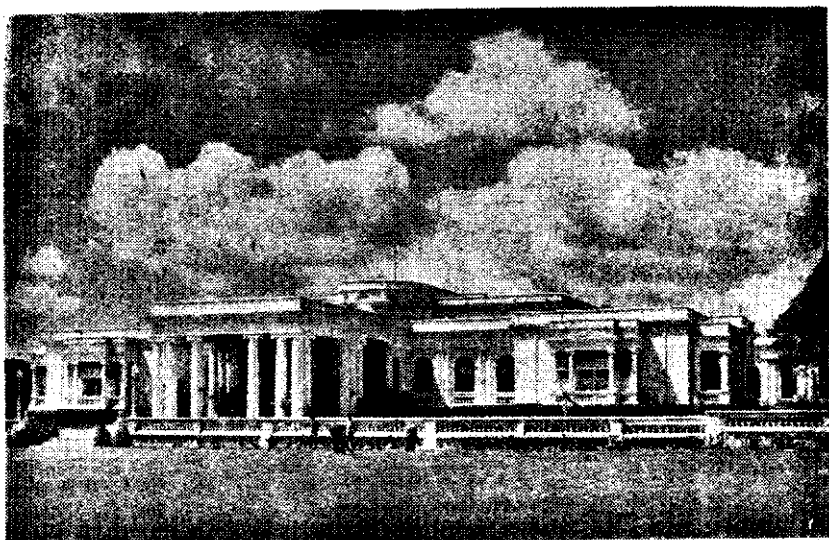




Indian Institute of Science, Malleswaram, Bangalore

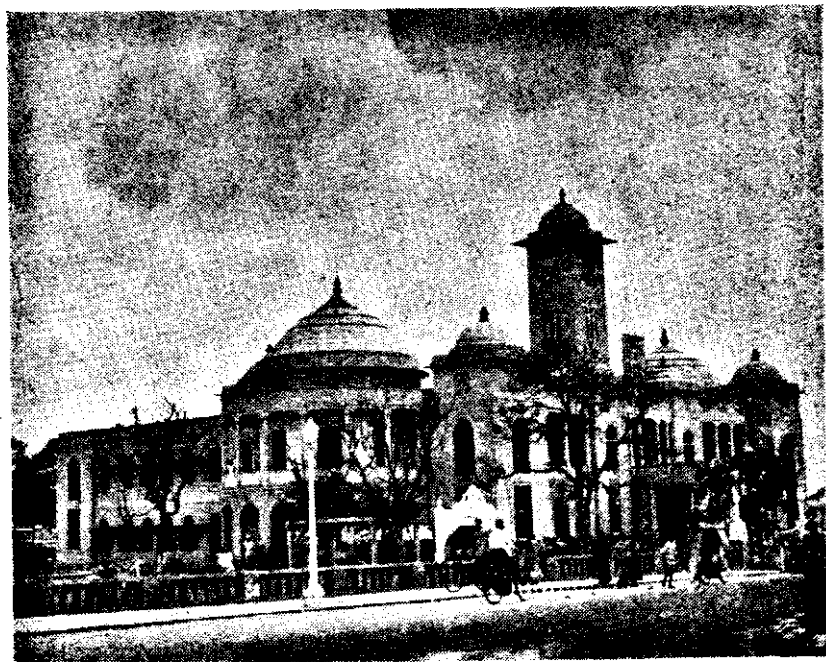
Museum, Cubbon Park, Bangalore





The Residency, Bangalore

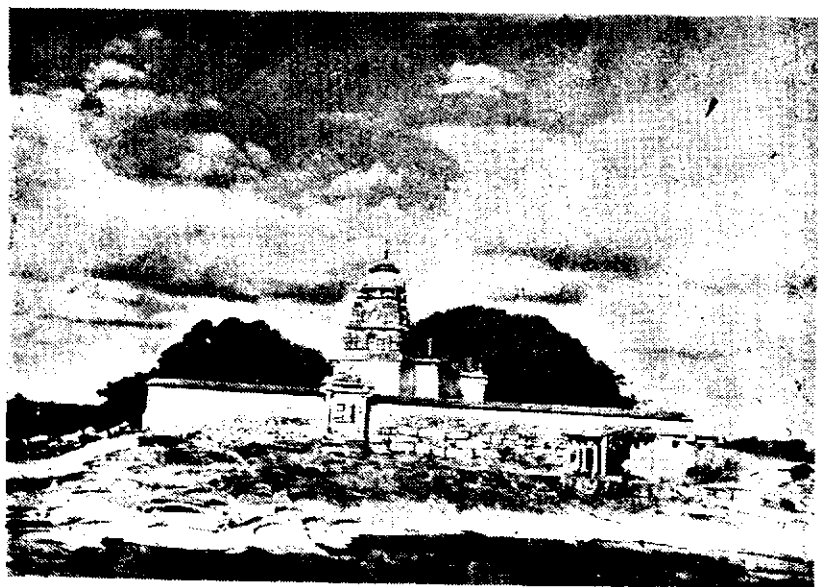
Corporation Offices, Bangalore





Kempegowda Tower near Kempambudhi Tank, Bangalore

Bull Temple, Basavangudi, Bangalore





Puttanna Chetty Town Hall, Bangalore

St. Mary's Church, Bangalore



Daly Memorial Hall

Cenotaph Road, Bangalore-1, where the library and office of the Mythic Society are situated.

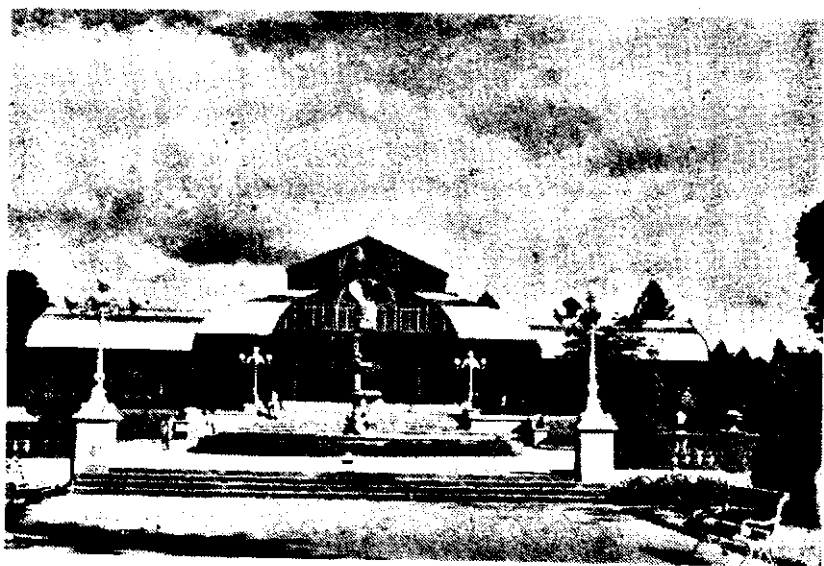
Founded in 1909 the Society is engaged in the promotion of the study of Anthropology, Archæology, Architecture, Mythology, Philosophy and other allied subjects in India and more particularly in Mysore.





Mysore Chamber of Commerce Building, Kempegowda Road, Bangalore

Glass House, Lal Bagh, Bangalore



APPENDIX—III
THE CITY AND THE GOOD LIFE

PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH

BY

MR. N. MADHAVA RAU

There is a saying, attributed to an ancient Greek philosopher but expressed in different forms through the ages in all lands, that "men come together in cities to live; they remain together to live the good life." The idea is that the city offers physical comforts, a healthy and attractive environment and wide economic, social and cultural opportunities. Unlike rustics who dwell in the villages, the inhabitants of a city are said to be "civilized," that is to say intelligent, cultured, well-mannered and politically advanced. This concept of the good life in the city may be as remote from realities as the picture that we sometimes conjure up of rural life as one of primitive innocence and idyllic bliss. But it sets forth succinctly the ideals that even in modern conditions a city should strive for, though it may not realize them in adequate measure.

Our national plans call for industrialization on a large scale and envisage a rapid increase in the number and population of our urban centres. Unless this increase is properly regulated, it is certain to undermine such good life as may have been achieved in our towns and cities. There is enough evidence already, and more is accumulating from year to year, to show that unplanned urbanization is leading to serious and almost intractable difficulties. The Planning Commission have said:

"As the national economy has become more closely integrated, the economic, social and political importance of towns has increased. In the nature of things, much of the developments in the past has been of an unplanned character. Large towns have attracted to themselves new industries and services, and the problems of providing housing and other amenities have become increasingly acute. Rise in land values, speculative buying of land in the proximity of growing towns, high rentals and the development of slum areas are features common to most towns. Few municipal

administrations have been able to cope with the problems which have thus grown cumulatively."

This description would apply to Bangalore as much as to other Indian cities. The population of Bangalore which stood at about 4 lakhs in 1941 increased to 7.78 lakhs in 1951 and must be over a million today. The Bangalore City Development Committee, 1954, reported:

"The population has been increasing at a rate which has made all these efforts (i.e. new layouts and extensions) wholly inadequate. The demand for housing accommodation is so great that people are building on any vacant land that is available, and huts and houses are being constructed, often without needful permission, on strips of so-called revenue lands in the midst of the City. It is said that some 11,000 families have found improvised accommodation in such structures."

Parts of the City are becoming over-crowded, and slum areas (92 according to official reports in 1954) are increasing. The augmentation of water supplies has been totally insufficient to meet the needs of a fast-growing population.

When we are told that the population of the City has passed the million mark (official estimates vary from 1.2 to 1.4 millions), that the City has extended beyond Kempegowda's prophesied boundaries and that it is growing in industrial, commercial and political importance, we are apt to feel that we are citizens of no mean city. We are, however, uneasily conscious of the fact that this expansion is resulting in a perceptible lowering of civic standards.

The authors of the Second Five Year Plan have observed:

"In recent years much thought has been given to problems of rural planning; similar attention has now to be given to the complex problems of urban development and re-development. Unless there is adequate forethought and planning, industrial progress will be accompanied by social and other problems in urban areas."

NEED OF MASTER-PLAN

They have recommended, among other measures, that each State should have a phased programme for the survey and pre-

paration of master-plans for all important towns. The Bangalore Development Committee emphasized the urgent need for such action in respect of our City. Without a master-plan, the growth of the City cannot be properly regulated. Pending the preparation of such a plan, certain *ad interim* measures were suggested to prevent the worsening of existing conditions. These measures included greater control over private building activities, conservation of open spaces including private agricultural lands, prevention of indiscriminate housing developments and formation of new slum areas, and prescription of street alignments and building lines for important streets. The City's problems arise for the most part from the undue concentration of industries, administrative activities and military establishments in and around the City. Unless this is checked and new activities are diverted to other towns or rural parts, planned development of the City will become impossible.

The optimum size of a city cannot be dogmatically determined. In the eighteenth century, the town of Bednore was said to be "the most opulent commercial centre of the East, eight miles in circumference and full of rich dwellings." But the number of houses fell short of 99,000—the full complement required for a Nigger or City. When Bednore fell to Hyder, he had new houses rapidly built to make up the deficiency, and named the city Hydernagar after himself. In spite of Hyder's attempts to enlarge and beautify the city and enhance its importance by making it his own subsidiary capital, Hydernagar soon became a deserted village. Giantism in town-building is by no means a modern failing.

The ancient Greeks went to the other extreme. They conventionally regarded a population of 5,000 as optimum for a city. "This was the number of people who could hear the voice of a single orator and so participate in the active political life of the day."

OPTIMUM SIZE OF A CITY

The parish meeting in England and other countries which follow the English tradition is a relic of complete democracy in which an assembly of the whole people of the area manage their affairs directly. In the U.S.A. even some bigger urban communi-

ties govern themselves similarly under what is known as the town meeting system. But apart from such curious survivals of an older order, local government is carried on in the modern world, even in small units, by councils of elected representatives. These institutions are now the recognized instruments and authentic symbols of democracy at all levels. Their acceptance as a substitute for direct democracy has made it possible for wide areas and large aggregates of population to be administered by a single governing body elected by the citizens. But there are limits to which a city can expand without adverse effects on the efficiency and democratic functioning of its municipal institutions.

A noted English writer on municipal administration has said:

"In a city with a population of more than, say, half a million, the city council finds great difficulty in maintaining a close contact with the citizens. The Town Hall, the councilors and officials seem to become remote and aloof, and the citizens see the city government as 'they' rather than 'we'. However good the intentions of the governors may be, the bureaucratic element tends to prevail as the size of the city becomes really large."

A TWO-TIER ARRANGEMENT

One way of countering this tendency is to adopt a two-tier system which provides, in addition to the major council for the city, a lower tier of elected councils exercising minor functions in their respective areas. This system is widely applied in the structure of local government in rural areas and also in some cities. In London, there are 28 Borough Councils sharing administrative responsibility in their Boroughs with the London County Council which exercises jurisdiction over the whole metropolis. In our conditions, however, the adoption of such an arrangement is both difficult and unnecessary. In Western cities, the administration of Education and Police are important sections of local government to which a very large proportion of the city revenues is devoted. In our cities, these two important spheres of administration lie outside the purview of city authorities—one (Police) completely and the other (Education) for all practical purposes. The remaining city functions could well be performed by a single

elected council without a lower tier of inferior statutory bodies whose creation would involve more problems than it is likely to solve.

Though the statutory framework might be left undisturbed, except for such changes as may be needed to ensure greater co-ordination between the Corporation and the City Improvement Trust Board, the administrative machinery of the Corporation has to be re-oriented with reference to the present size of the City. The Commissioner type of organization, with executive authority discharged from one central office, might have served its purpose when the City was smaller in size and population. But the merger of the Civil and Military Station with the City and the phenomenal increase of population in recent decades have made some readjustments palpably necessary. It is said, though I am not in a position to confirm it, that the delegation of powers to the heads of departments and others is inadequate. But a liberal delegation of powers alone will not serve to lessen the widening gap between the citizen and the municipal authorities.

The pamphlet issued by the organizers of this Convention urges "the localization of municipal administration in certain ordinary matters of everyday interest for each locality or division of the City under the general guidance and control of the Corporation." This will, on the one hand, promote the operational efficiency of the municipal departments and, on the other, it will enable the public to contact municipal and other local authorities more easily than is now possible. To a certain extent the need for the localization of municipal administration of the City has already been recognized in the present set-up. It is understood that the subordinate establishments of the Municipal Commission of the former C & M Station are still working in the Mayo Hall buildings and that some of the current work of the 19 divisions which constituted the C & M Station is transacted in these buildings. Some 7 or 8 sub-offices have been opened in different parts of the City by the Health Department and the work of the field crew of this Department is directed and supervised by these sub-offices. In Malleswaram, a Range Office has been constructed with the intention of eventually housing in it

all establishments handling the current municipal business of the area.

RANGE OFFICES

What is now recommended is that the idea underlying these arrangements should be fully and consistently worked out. The Corporation should establish fairly full-fledged Range Offices in different parts of the City, as the Electricity Board, the Post Office and some of the Banks have done in their respective fields. The Range Office should be under the over-all charge of an Assistant Commissioner, with an Assistant Engineer, an Assistant Health Officer and an Assistant Revenue Officer, and the usual-subordinate staff. The demarcation of functions between the Range Office and the Head Office should present no great difficulty. All so-called "staff" functions such as planning, initiation, direction, review and compilation should be performed at the Head Office. The bulk of the "line" duties, such as for instance issue of bills, notices etc., collection of municipal dues, routine inspections, deployment of field workers, payment of salaries to municipal employees, receipt of applications and complaints from the public etc. should be entrusted to the Range Officers. A municipal sub-treasury, a sub-store depot, a parking ground for municipal vehicles and an emergency workshop would be useful adjuncts to a Range Office. It would be an advantage to locate sub-offices of the Electricity Board and Water Supply Division also in the same building and to spare a room of two in it for the use of a Ratepayers' Association.

I am not one of those who feel aggrieved by the Union Government's refusal to allow the Corporation to build its head offices near the Gandhi statue. A part of the money which it was intended to spend on the construction of an imposing building for the Corporation Offices may well be utilized for putting up suitable structures for the Range Offices. Meanwhile, they may be located in private rented buildings. The transfer of the officials allocated to the Range Offices should relieve the pressure on accommodation in the present Corporation Offices and the Mayo Hall.

It is presumed that the Range Officers will have powers delegated to them to deal adequately with all cases arising within

their sphere, making it unnecessary for them to refer to head quarters for instructions except where it is really necessary to do so. Relieved of a mass of routine work, the Commissioner and the heads of the municipal departments would then be able to devote greater attention to matters of real importance and to over-all supervision.

The psychological benefits of the arrangement here suggested should not be overlooked. Coming frequently into contact with the citizens, municipal officials will come to feel that they are members of the public and not merely cogs of a bureaucratic machine. They will realize that their work must be viewed in the light of the popular reactions, favourable or otherwise, that it evokes. On their part, the people will cease to think of the Corporation as an abstraction or, perhaps, as a debating society discussing controversial topics or distant goals, and will come to regard it as a body serving them in a concrete way with visible agencies operating in their own neighbourhood.

Apart from geographical decentralization at the operating level, some functional decentralization at the centre may also be necessary. When the distribution of water supply in the City is completely taken over by the Corporation, it might be desirable to create a special Engineering Branch or Department to look after the water supply and drainage systems. Street cleansing and collection and disposal of city refuse has become such a big job as to justify the constitution of a separate department for this and allied services under an executive officer accustomed to organize and handle large labour forces. The professional and trained staff of the Health Department will then be able to devote attention to their appropriate duties in connection with investigation and education and enforcement of the numerous health and sanitary regulations of the municipality which remain for the most part a dead letter today.

THE GOOD LIFE

The good life that a city is supposed to foster cannot be achieved by a well-organized system of administration alone. The citizens must pull their weight. In their individual capacity and by voluntary effort in organized groups, they must contribute their share to the realization of the good life. Sir M.

Visvesvaraya once observed: "We have learnt the virtues of subordination and humility. What we have yet to acquire is capacity for co-operation, for working in harmony in large numbers." Apathy and complacency only betray our weakness. If the Corporation fails to do its job, the fault in the last resort will be largely ours.

The pamphlet before us sets out three modes of popular co-operation, namely (a) by keeping the authorities acquainted with public needs and grievances, (b) by watching the progress of improvement work, and (c) by educating the public as regards their duties and responsibilities in respect of sanitation, road safety, road manners etc. This enumeration is, of course, purely illustrative.

There are a number of Ratepayers' Associations and other civic bodies in the City performing such functions. Some of them have a record of good work to their credit; but others seem to be functioning spasmodically. It is necessary to energize these Associations, and to establish new ones in areas where they are wanted, so that they may serve as centres of serious and continuous civic effort. This Convention may perhaps formulate a set of model rules and programmes for their guidance. Essential items must be distinguished from those of an optional character. The effort should be to provide a broad framework within which all the Associations could carry out their essential functions on a more or less uniform basis and additionally pursue any activities in which they might be specially interested. Some central organization would be necessary to co-ordinate and review the work of these local Associations and study questions pertaining to the city government as a whole.

There are, as we know, some active Municipal Councillors who wish to keep in touch with the citizens in their own and other constituencies. The Associations would be useful media for this purpose.

MUNICIPAL RESEARCH

In America and other Western countries, there are municipal research bureaus attached to the local chambers of commerce or other civic organizations. They employ a staff of trained persons who study municipal problems objectively and convey their sug-

gestions to the municipal authorities. They also furnish the facts to citizens in brief periodical publications, by news releases and occasionally more elaborate reports. Sometimes, the Ratepayers' Associations themselves carry on such researches. At the present stage, it would perhaps be unrealistic to expect our chambers of commerce or our Ratepayers' Associations to undertake any elaborate research work of this kind, because such work, if it is to be of real value, must be done by trained workers with wide enough research experience. The employment of such workers involves considerable expenditure. There is no reason, however, why a serious beginning should not be made by systematically collecting, analyzing and publishing facts relating to important aspects of the city administration. The work of the Study Circle of the Gokhale Institute shows that something could be done in this way even by a small group of lay workers devoting some of their spare time to such studies. The Corporation should facilitate these studies by issuing upto-date reports on the working of its several departments and on the progress of important schemes, by maintaining a municipal reference library accessible to students of public affairs and, if necessary, by subsidizing important surveys undertaken by responsible private agencies.

The annual reports of Government Departments are notoriously uninspiring. While purporting to give a mass of facts and figures, they reveal little that an intelligent citizen wants to know. The Corporation Report suffers from the same defect, perhaps to an even more noticeable extent. A rational system of reporting, with the object of really enlightening the public, is required in all branches of public administration. Bangalore being a multi-lingual area, the Corporation reports should be prepared in English as well as in Kannada. The Municipal Library should contain not only a collection of the Corporation's publications, but those of all important cities in India and elsewhere, including their master plans. It should also obtain important journals on municipal administration and allied subjects published in English in the U.K. and U.S.A. and other countries.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

It is said that the Corporation is considering the question of setting up a Public Relations Bureau. This is a good idea. One

of the first things that the Bureau might do is to bring out a handbook on the municipal administration of Bangalore, explaining in detail the constitution and mode of functioning of the Corporation, its Standing Committees and executive agencies at all levels. Its press releases and periodical publications should be objective rather than propagandistic. A section of the Bureau will presumably deal with complaints from the public. This section should work directly under the Commissioner and should adopt procedures which will ensure that all complaints are promptly acknowledged and registered and followed up until they are disposed of and their disposal is intimated to the parties concerned. The Ratepayers' Associations would be specially interested in the working of the Public Complaints Section. These Associations would themselves be receiving complaints and suggestions from their constituents for processing and submission to the concerned authorities. They should adopt effective follow-up methods.

"The task of governing a *large* city," says a writer whom I have quoted earlier, "is fundamentally different from governing one of small or medium size. The great city of today is so large that it is difficult to evoke from its citizens or inculcate in them the spirit of community. People do not usually know their neighbours, and so the sense of neighbourhood, of belonging to the same place and sharing common interests, is lost." These are real difficulties, no doubt. But I feel that in many areas in our City, if not in all, there is still left a core of social homogeneity and community-feeling among our people. If this feeling is mobilized under proper leadership, there is every reason to hope that the private civic organizations which we are envisaging would be able to function actively and to good purpose.

To summarize what I have said:

The City has been expanding so rapidly that the preparation and implementing of a master plan has become vitally urgent. Until such a plan is available, some rough and ready scheme of land utilization must be adopted and suitable *ad interim* measures taken to prevent the worsening of present conditions. Concentration of industrial, administrative and military activities in and around the City should be halted. A basis must be laid for bringing municipal agencies and the citizens into closer con-

tact with each other. For this purpose, the opening of Municipal Range Offices in different parts of the City and the vitalizing of voluntary civic organizations where they exist and creating new ones if necessary have been suggested.

In his opening speech to which we have all listened with great interest, the Chairman of the Reception Committee has made a rapid but illuminating survey of some of our outstanding civic problems, not only in their practical aspects but in the light of the general principles of local self-government. He has in fact provided a large part of the groundwork for our deliberations. I am sure that other delegates will have their own suggestions to offer. Our time is limited. But if we follow a business-like procedure, it should be possible for us to formulate at least tentative opinions on the various subjects brought to our notice. It is important that we should agree on some means of continuing the work that we are inaugurating today, so that it may lead to some tangible results in due time.

APPENDIX—IV

NOTE FOR THE SUBJECTS COMMITTEE

(1) The Working Committee has recommended that all Members of the Reception Committee, including Honorary Members, are to be taken as delegates constituting the Convention for its formal proceedings.

(2) To furnish definite items of business, the delegates have to appoint a Subjects Committee.

(3) The Reception Committee's suggestion is that the Subjects Committee may consist of from seven to nine members.

(4) The Conspectus of the Convention has specified two subjects as fundamental: (i) Localizing the municipal administration and (ii) organizing public vigilance and co-operation. Drafts on these two subjects and consequent matters will be placed before the Committee.

(5) Subjects have also been suggested by a few constituent bodies of the Convention:

I. The following six subjects have been sent by the SAMSKRITI KENDRA of Malleswaram:—

- (i) Uniform Policy of Taxation on Immovable Property;
- (ii) Readjustment of Electoral Constituencies;
- (iii) Basis of Budget Allotment;
- (iv) Putting an end to cattle-breeding in public places;
- (v) Congestion and insanitary conditions of Corporation Markets and Stalls of Private Vendors; and
- (vi) Inadequate Bus Facilities.

II. THE JAYANAGAR VIII BLOCK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION has sent the following resolution:—

"It is more than ten years since the layout of the Jayanagar Extension was formed. Arrangements have not so far been made to hand over the area to the Corporation as contemplated in the City Improvement Trust Board Act. The inclusion of the First and Second Blocks of the Jayanagar Extension in the Corporation has created disparity among the sister-blocks, particularly with regard to civic amenities. The Eighth Block in particular, which is situated at the southern end of Bangalore, has not been

provided with even primary facilities like free supply of water, adequate street lighting, maintenance of roads and drains, burial ground and educational and medical facilities. The development of the VIII Block has been hindered for want of these facilities. The residents of the Block therefore desire to be included within the Corporation limits, in the hope of getting the above facilities. Therefore they resolve to request the Government of Mysore to take immediate steps to have the area included in the limits of the Corporation of the City of Bangalore."

III. The JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE OF BANGALORE RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION has suggested the consideration of certain aspects of the Rent Control Bill.

The Subjects Committee will have to consider these matters and any others that may be brought to its notice with the permission of the President.

(6) The resolutions as recommended by the Subjects Committee will be submitted to the Convention for adoption in the afternoon session.

(7) The following rules have been framed by the Working Committee for the business proceedings of the Convention:

- (i) All Members of the Reception Committee, the President and the Honorary Members will have the right to join in the deliberations, to speak and to vote.
- (ii) The President may invite any among the invited guests to take part in the proceedings.
- (iii) Members of the general public may, with the permission of the President, speak at the meeting.
- (iv) On all matters, the decision of the President will be final.

(8) The time available for work is limited. That calls for economy of time in speeches and a constructive practical attitude in discussions. We have every confidence goodwill and sympathy will be forthcoming from all.

(9) The Subjects Committee will meet for its work in the G.I.P.A. hall at 2 p.m. and close before 3-30 p.m.

(26-6-1960)

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN INDIA

GOKHALE MEMORIAL LECTURES—1960

BY

PROFESSOR M. VENKATARANGAIYA

[Professor M. Venkatarangaiya, M.A., Retd. Professor of Politics in the Andhra and Bombay Universities, delivered three illuminating lectures on Local Self-Government in India in commemoration of Gopal Krishna Gokhale in the hall of the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Bangalore, on 23rd, 24th and 25th of June 1960. The lectures will be published in *extenso* separately. The following is a summary.]

I

THE PAST OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

We have to understand by local self-government the administration of (i) a locality—a village, a town, a city or any other area smaller than the State; (ii) by a body representing the local inhabitants; (iii) possessing a fairly large amount of autonomy; (iv) raising a part at least of its revenue through local taxation; and (v) spending the proceeds on services which are regarded as local, as distinct from State and Central services. This concept with its five features is as applicable to the past as it is to the present.

In speaking of the past of local self-government in India, we may note that there is the earlier past extending from the most ancient times to the middle of the nineteenth century, and more recent past from about 1850 down to the present day.

Local self-government in the earlier past was more widespread, more real and more successful than in the more recent past.

It was more wide-spread because almost every village,—and India was then much more a land of villages than today,—had its institutions of self-government. It was more real because the control exercised by the central government over village affairs was less, and the activities undertaken by the village community were more numerous. It was more successful because the sense of community was much stronger then than now. Towns also had certain institutions of self-government.

By 1850 there was disintegration of community life in the village, partly due to the preceding conditions of anarchy and

partly due to changes—economic and administrative—produced by British rule. Self-government disappeared from both villages and towns, and when after 1850 the British embarked on measures of local self-government, they had to start from a clean slate.

The evolution of local self-government in the days of British rule from 1850 onwards started with the idea of local services being maintained out of the proceeds of local taxation. Then came separate local bodies for administering these services,—first in towns, and later in rural areas like districts. It was only from about 1920 that village panchayats were set up.

The process of democratizing these local bodies was rather slow. At first there were only officials and nominated non-officials on them. Elective elements were introduced on a larger scale as a consequence of Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882. The battle as to whether the chairman should be an official, a nominated non-official or an elected non-official went on for a longer time. When it was solved in favour of an elected chairman, the question whether he should have executive powers also came to the forefront, and the opinion gradually grew in favour of separating the deliberative and policy-making function from the executive function.

Along with this arose the problem of local autonomy. Government was averse to conferring real autonomous powers on local bodies. It continued to exercise rigid and all-round control. Even by 1947 when the British withdrew from the country, there was not much of local autonomy.

The democratization of rural bodies proceeded at a slower pace than that of urban bodies.

India became free in 1947. During the last twelve years there have been some significant changes in Government's policy towards rural bodies. Stress has been increasingly laid on the rôle of village panchayats. Legislation was passed in all States to make them universal. A new idea—the idea of democratic decentralization—obtained prominence. Its result is a considerable expansion of the functions of rural bodies. Developmental functions regarding agriculture, animal husbandry, cottage industries,

social welfare etc. are being now included among the activities of these bodies. Besides village panchayats, two other authorities at a higher level—the panchayat samitis and zilla parishads—are being created, and all these are being organized on a hierarchical basis. These are the significant developments after we established our independence.

II

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT AT PRESENT

The present structure of local self-government may be studied under the heads of (i) units of administration; (ii) constitution and organization of the local bodies set up to administer them; (iii) their functions; (iv) their finances; and (v) the nature of control exercised over them by the State.

In forming the units of administration, the distinction between urban and rural areas is recognized in all the States. In urban areas there are Corporations, District Municipalities and Borough Municipalities. In rural areas there were, till recently, only two sets of bodies—the village panchayats and the District Boards. As a result of the scheme of democratic decentralization, the present tendency is to have Panchayat Samitis as intermediate bodies. There is a controversy as to whether the three-tier system is desirable.

Most of the local bodies are wholly elected though, on some, there is a nominated element or a co-opted element or an *ex-officio* one. Elections are in most cases on the basis of adult suffrage. On some bodies there is provision for the representation of special interests like labour or special institutions like a university.

The large majority of local bodies have elected chairmen. Exceptions to this are found only in a few. In some States, and in several local bodies, the chairman merely presides over the body and discharges certain social functions. In such cases, the executive powers are exercised by a State-appointed Commissioner or Administrative Officer. Even where the Chairman is the executive authority, the tendency is to give him the help of a whole-time executive officer, or to make him share his power

with standing committees. There is provision for committees in all local bodies, but they do not have the same importance in our country as in England, except in the case of the newly constituted panchayat samitis and zilla parishads.

Executive officers appointed by State Governments are either *ex officio* as in the janapada sabhas of Madhya Pradesh or special appointees as in the case of municipal corporations. Of the two the latter is to be preferred.

The services rendered by the local bodies relate mostly to public safety, public health, sanitation, medical relief, education, roads, public works and public utility undertakings. It is only very recently that government realized that planned development requires popular participation, and this has resulted in developmental functions being entrusted to rural bodies.

Local bodies derive their revenues from a variety of sources like different kinds of taxes, income from markets and other institutions maintained by them, public utility undertakings and government grants. In spite of this variety, their finances are inadequate for the services they are called upon to render. Part of this inadequacy is due to the unwillingness of local bodies to make the fullest use of taxation powers conferred on them, and part of it is also due to the slackness in the collection of taxes levied. Inadequacy of financial resources is responsible for the transfer to state governments of some of the services hitherto rendered by local bodies; but this move towards 'provincialization,' as it is usually called, is generally considered to be a retrograde step.

Local self-government implies the enjoyment of a fairly large amount of autonomy by local bodies. But there has been no change in respect of the autonomy conferred on them even after the disappearance of foreign rule and the establishment of Swaraj. State control extends over all aspects of the work of local bodies. There is minute control over their finances—powers of taxation, expenditure and budgets. The recent legislation on Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishads shows how State governments continue to distrust local bodies and their capacity to manage their affairs.

III

THE FUTURE OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

In surveying the future of local self-government in our country, there are two preliminary questions to be answered. One is whether it will have a future, and the other is whether it deserves to have it.

It will have a future provided that democracy continues to be the form of government in our country. Local democracy cannot flourish if the country becomes subject to a military dictatorship or to some kind of totalitarianism.

Whether it deserves to have a future depends on all of us recognizing that, if democracy is to function properly and effectively, local government is absolutely necessary. It is only when citizens have adequate opportunities of participating in local government that they will develop all those qualities which the citizen in a democracy should have. It is the best instrument for giving relief to overburdened central government and for avoiding the evils of bureaucracy; and it is also the best school for imparting political education. For all these reasons it may be concluded that it deserves to have a future.

If so, what are the problems that we are called upon to solve if the local government in our country is to have a bright future and produce better results than it has so far done?

Some of these problems relate themselves to the machinery of local self-government and some others to the men and women on whom rests the responsibility for working the machinery. These two groups of problems are to be studied separately.

So far as machinery is concerned, there are not very many problems requiring our attention. In regard to administrative units, one change that is needed is the introduction of a two-tier system in the government of urban areas and of larger panchayats. The constitution of Statutory Ward Committees for each of the wards in a city or a town and the delegation of important powers to it will not only enable a larger number of citizens to participate in local government, but will also make administration more efficient. It will be conducive to the promo-

tion of the interests of each ward and each hamlet included in a big village.

As regards the constitution of local bodies, adult suffrage should become the rule, and nominated and *ex-officio* elements on local bodies should disappear.

In respect of organization, the principle of separating the executive from the deliberative body should be applied to all local authorities except the smaller panchayats.

The present move to considerably enlarge the functions of rural boards is to be proceeded with at a slower pace and with more caution. There is a risk involved in entrusting them with all administrative functions as has been recommended by certain committees. In the case of urban bodies, any enlargement of functions is not called for; but they should pay more attention to the drawing of master plans for the cities and towns they administer and give priority to slum clearance, housing and other schemes which improve the physical surroundings of the people.

Finances have to be considerably improved and, if local bodies are to enjoy real autonomy, it is necessary for them to have certain independent powers of taxation. State grants are no doubt necessary, but too much dependence on them is detrimental to local autonomy.

The future of local government depends not only on improvements in the machinery of administration, but also in the character and quality of the people who are in charge of it. At the stage at which we have arrived, we have to consider the problem of local government more as an educational and moral problem than as a political one.

The responsibility for the proper use of machinery in local government rests, first, on the local electorate and, next, on those who sit on local bodies as members.

The electorate must have a living faith in democracy to start with. They must take active, continuous and intelligent interest in the affairs of their locality. They must co-operate with the municipal council and the panchayat in the discharge of their civic duties. They should not be influenced by private or group

interests in what they do. It is only when they have a high sense of public duty that the local government machine will work in a democratic way. Otherwise "boss" rule or "oligarchic" government will become inevitable.

Greater responsibility rests on those who happen to be members of local bodies. Mere love of power or the desire to use power for private profit influences several members. It is this that leads to corruption. The introduction of caste, communal and party considerations in the management of local affairs should be avoided. Here again what is needed is a sense of public duty.

Local self-government has many achievements to its credit in our country. With a public-spirited electorate and with public-spirited members on local bodies, what it can achieve will be better and more substantial.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY

BY

MR. C. N. SHAMA RAO

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I

Bangalore has become one of India's most important cities. The Japanese Ambassador calls it the "Osaka of India." It has been and continues to be the centre of development of every type of modern activity and advancement—administration, trade, commerce, banking, industries big and small, education, culture, religion, University, research, medicine, law, recreation, amusements, military strategy, communication and what not.

Situated in the centre of the Deccan Table-land on an elevation of 3,000 ft. sea-level, it is beautiful naturally and possesses a very salubrious climate. Empires may come and go, but Bangalore promises to continue to be one of India's foremost and flourishing cities. Neither floods nor earthquakes are likely to affect it. In the words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (1-4-60), "Bangalore has a peculiar charm of its own and is one of the most famous cities of India. It has grown to be one of the most important scientific and industrial centres of India."

Its phenomenal growth dates from near the end of the 19th Century, after it became the Capital of the Mysore State and the residence of the British Military and the Resident. Since the Second World War, it has received an international status and has undergone a new orientation in its growth and development. It has improved further since India obtained independence, and more so since 1957 when it became the Capital of New Mysore. Its growth is being greatly accelerated and it bids fair to go higher up for quite some more decades in spite of attempts which may be made to prevent further concentration of people.

Unfortunately, however, it has no ample water resources near at hand. Perennial rivers are at distances varying from 60 to 80 miles. Water has to be secured only by pumping from large reservoirs or rivers over long distances and over heights varying

from 450 ft. upto 1,700 ft. or so. Thus its public water supply has never kept pace with its developments in other directions.

1896-1925

1. Prior to 1895, unfiltered water was being supplied from the local tanks in Bangalore on the Karanjee system. In 1892, Dewan Sir K. Seshadri Iyer directed that a protected water supply at a rate of 2 cft. or $12\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head per day may be arranged from the Arkavathy stream with a new reservoir called the Chamarajendra Reservoir (Hessarghatta) built across it and water pumped up over 450 ft. head and conveyed in a main 8 miles long to the highest point, 3,084 ft. near the present Tata Institute of Science. This water was filtered in the slow sand filters and then delivered to Bangalore since 1896. The first cost was Rs. 19.5 lakhs.

2. This scheme was intended for three decades of growth from about 1.58 lakhs in 1901 to 2.50 lakhs. In 1910, the slow sand filters were replaced by Rapid Mechanical Filters of the Jewell Filters Company. In 1921 the Steam Pumps at Soldevanhally Station were replaced by Centrifugal Pumps and 550 H.P. Electric Motors.

3. Hats off to the then statesmen and engineers! Yet, judged from modern standards of public health and sanitation, a rating of $12\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head daily against double that really required, has to be regarded as insufficient, from the very inception. But the City began growing much faster. The 250,000 figure was reached within 21 years from 1901. Rationing of supplies started, as early as 1918, delivering only between 10 and 9 gallons per head. The situation became acute in 1925 for a year when the Hessarghatta lake went almost dry. Another irrigation tank in the Eastern Water Shed (Pennar Stream) called the Yele Mallappa Setty Tank 12 miles from Bangalore was pushed urgently to service and this H-Tank and Y-Tank could give about 3 to 3.5 million gallons a day until 1933, by which time the population had risen up to 350,000. In short, the suffering from 1918 to 1933 was almost intolerable as even the barest essential domestic needs could not be met.

1926-1933

4. The Visvesvaraya Committee was constituted by Govern-

ment, only as late as in 1926 (G.O. No. 4001-5 of 8-5-1926), to concert measures for placing the Bangalore water supply on a more permanent and satisfactory basis. In their opinion, given on 14-5-1929, a daily minimum per capita supply of 30 gallons is necessary as reasonably adequate, including a water-borne sewerage system to meet the needs of the population in future. They recommended the construction of a Dam and Reservoir at Thippagondanhalli on the Arkavathy with a first stage capacity of 2,334 meft. and capable of 3,038 meft. storage at the final stage. This place is 16 miles from Bangalore and involves a total working head of 960 to 970 feet of water. The work of this Thippagondanhalli Reservoir Scheme was started in 1929 and the first stage completed at a cost of about 59 lakhs in 1933-34.

1933-1942

5. The initial supply of 5 to 6 MGD was arranged from 16-3-1933 through a 24" single main, with necessary filters, pumps etc.

6. The population in Bangalore increased from 307,000 in 1931 to 406,000 in 1941. The first stage works could not give even 15 gallons per head per day (though conceived in terms of 20 rising to 30 gallons per head per day). Once again rationing was started from 1939, and, from 1941, the old Hessarghatta system was also added on to supplement the supplies.

1944-1947

7. The Second World War added an extraordinary influx of population to Bangalore. By 1947 the estimated population was about 7 lakhs. Additional works of adding a 16-mile duplicate main, filters, pumps, etc., were started in 1942, and by 1948 the capital outlay rose from 59 lakhs to 1.22 crores. The daily per capita supply, however, fell down again to below 12.5 gallons.

1949-1958

8. A kind of stalemate has resulted in daily pumpage from 1949 to 1958, the total daily pumpage being about 12 million gallons from both the H and T Reservoirs. But the estimated population in 1958 is over 11.5 lakhs. The daily per capita supply has again fallen to 11 or 10.5 gallons.

1957-1960

9. *Estimates for improvements delayed:* In 1946, detailed estimates were made to improve supplies from T Reservoir, from 10 to about 16 MGD, for Rs. 69 lakhs. They were not sanctioned till 1953-54. These works were nearly completed only in 1959. The final stage of storage of 3,038 mcft. is finished and new pumps etc., added. The final linking of the Duplicate Main with the 30" special pipe is not yet completed. However, since 1959, a daily supply of about 17.5 MGD is being given. But the State Statistician of Mysore has stated that the estimated population was 13.39 in mid-June 1959. On this basis, the per capita supply (gross, including all needs) is only about 13 to 13.6 gallons.

10. Once again a detailed scheme was given for about Rs. 2 crores, to implement the supplies from the Thippagondanhally Reservoir to its final complement of a daily supply upto 25 MGD from the 16 MGD stated above. This subject has been on the anvil from 1955 or even from June 1953. A 36" Drain Triplicate Main and additional plant have been proposed. Just in 1960 it was ascertained that the State Cabinet has approved the scheme for Rs. 2.5 crores. But technical clearance does not yet appear to have been received from the Centre for this work nor any grants. This work will take not less than 4 years for completion, even after final sanctions are given. Till that extra supply becomes available, the present daily supply of about 18 MGD alone will have to meet all the needs upto about 1964-65. By the time, therefore, that 25 MGD from T and 3 MGD from H or 28 MGD in all gets delivered in Bangalore, the population will in all likelihood increase to over 17 lakhs, judged from the estimate made by the State Statistician, and the daily per capita supply will again tend to be only from 15 to 13 gallons until a new source of supply comes to its rescue.

11. The following statement gives approximate figures (subject to correction by the Department) of Bangalore's population, yearly and daily supplies, and capital costs of works so far done and proposed:—

(i) Though the daily supply has increased from 1.78 million gallons a day in 1901 to 18 MGD in 1960, the population also

has increased from 1.59 lakhs to over 14 lakhs in 1960. Thus in spite of all good intentions set down on paper, the actual per capita supply has in fact been between 10.5 and 13.5 gallons. In the worst period, Bangalore had to put up with only 9 to 10 gallons for several years.

(ii) The capital costs have increased from Rs. 21 lakhs in 1901 to nearly Rs. 3 crores in 1960, including H & T Schemes. Yet no satisfaction has accrued in material comforts of securing decent quantities of water needed for essential life, and hardly any to meet the increasing standards of life with modern advancement in material civilization.

(iii) For giving even the minimum needed for industries, trade and general cleansing, etc., refusal rather than compliance has been the practice.

(iv) For fire protection, there is practically neither an adequate supply nor a well conceived scheme.

(v) Lastly, this survey discloses a sad state of both complacency and delay. Often these delays are to be seen even in preparation of schemes and projects. But, more than that, sanctions are also delayed. In short, therefore, the history of Bangalore water supply is a sad one of chronic scarcity and suffering.

II

PRESENT POSITION

The present position has already been generally indicated. (Par. 8 and 9).

Sri S. K. Patil, Union Minister for Food and Agriculture, is reported to have said in Delhi on 22-3-1960: "India is passing through a new phase, where even the habits of our farmers are changing for the better. Not only is the population increasing—which is neither under your control nor mine,—but the people are eating more and better food."

The above phase is more than literally true in this Bangalore. Not only is the population increasing at an extraordinary rate, but people are demanding greater comforts in life. Their standards are also very definitely increasing ever since even 1946. Only, the water supply is woefully lagging behind.

As per accepted standards of water supply practice, the per capita supply rate should also increase with the growth of a city.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY: 1900—1965

YEARS	1901	1931	1934	1941	1947-48	1951	1952-58	1959-60	1961-65
1. Bangalore's Population	158,976	306,476	360,000	406,760	700,000	778,977	8 to 11.5 lakhs	13.39 to 14.3 lakhs	15 to 17.5 lakhs
2. Yearly Supply in Mil. Gals.	650	1251	1738	2030	3080	3965	4265-4368	6500 (app.)	6600 (app.)
3. Daily Average Supply (MGD)	1.78	3.20	4.77	5.60	8.50	10.90 (app.)	11.7 to 12.1	17.5 to 18.0	18.0 to 18.5
4. Per Capita per Day, in Gals.	11.0	10.4	13.30	13.80	12.0	14.0	14.0 to 10.50	13.50 to 13.60	12.0 to 10.60
5. Sources of Supply	H. Tank Arkavati	H & Y Arkavati	T. Res. Arkavati	T & H	T & H	T & H	T & H	T & H	T & H
6. Capital Costs of Plant in Rs. lakhs	21	38.32 in 1932-33	59.0	69.7	117	145	155+75 230 (app.)	250 (app.)	250+250 500 (app.)

Supplies made over one year include fluctuations in seas. Summer always means severe hardship both to the supplier and to the consumer, due to inadequacy in system.

But for Bangalore, the practice seems to be the other way around. The laying of the Triplicate Main for improving the daily supply from 16 to 25 MGD estimated at Rs. 2.5 crores is being agitated for since the beginning of the Second Five Year Plan. Even technical clearance does not yet appear to have been received from the Centre, and we are in the last year of this Plan period. The laying of this additional main and extra filters, clarifying systems and pumps, etc., will surely take at least five years, at the earliest, before Bangalore can see that extra supply. By that time, the extra population will again bring down the daily per capita to the scarcity rates. Also from 1959 to 1965 once again, the per capita gets reduced every year, because the maximum daily supply possible is only 18 to 18.5 MGD. The precarious position of our water supply can be imagined better thus. An interruption of electric power on one day for 8 hours means a cutting down of the supplies, over the already inadequate rationing, by two hours each day and for 15 such days. Supposing a pump breakdown or pipe-line damage occurs also in this period—which God forbid—the situation will go entirely out of control.

Seeing the extraordinarily difficult conditions, to secure adequate water supply to Bangalore, recommendations have been made to arrange a steady daily supply of 30 gallons per head at least for the present as well as future growths in and around Bangalore though, according to modern standards, the per capita supply should be of the order of 40 to 50 gallons for a city of this magnitude. But the complacency or lethargy or unnecessary controversies over the arrangements to get such supplies in time, or rather well in advance, tends to make long-term proposals appear as short-term ones and those again, as immediate problems. Lastly, even these immediate problems get so much further delayed, that Bangalore seems to be fated only to get the time-ordained $12\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head of water, dictated by the venerable old Dewan Sir K. Seshadri Iyer in 1892, against 3 times that rate which a metropolis like Bangalore needs.

Finance no doubt is a consideration. But money is now four times as cheap as formerly and a way can be found provided there is a will.

THE CITY OF BANGALORE

BY

MR. K. S. RAMASWAMI

Representative, THE HINDU, Bangalore

Bangalore, one of the big cities of India, is the principal city of the Mysore State and headquarters of the State Government. Founded in the 16th Century by the feudal chief Kempe Gowda, the area round about the Fort particularly on the north was the base of the present city. Owing to its favourable geographical position, its salubrious climate and its growing importance as an international city, Bangalore has developed into an important industrial centre and a cosmopolitan city and has won reputation as a city known for enlightenment and culture.

The civic administration of the city of Bangalore is carried on by the Bangalore Corporation. The city covers an area of about 36 sq. miles and has a population of nearly 14 lakhs; and it is stated to be the fifth biggest city in India. Prior to 1949, the present Bangalore City was divided into two different municipal areas, namely the Bangalore City Municipality and the Civil Station Municipal Commission. In 1949, these two municipal administrations were merged into one, the present Bangalore City Corporation.

Four watch-towers were constructed by Kempe Gowda at each of the four cardinal points of the city, namely, Kempambudhi tank bund, Lal-Bagh quarry, Ulsoor tank bund and Vaiyali Kaval (near the present Raman Research Institute) to mark the limits upto which, he prophesied, the city would extend in course of time. This prophecy has been more than fulfilled; and at the present day, thanks to the good work by the City Corporation and the City Improvement Trust Board and the Mysore Housing Board, houses have sprung up far beyond these towers.

Municipal administration in Bangalore began some time about 1862. There were then two distinct bodies, the Cantonment Municipality and the City Municipality. It is interesting

to be told that, as early as 1867, there was a proposal to amalgamate the two institutions and this became a *fait accompli* 82 years later! Water supply from the Hessarghatta tank was arranged in 1896 for the City as well as the Civil and Military Station, and electricity for lighting and power in 1905. The supply of water to Bangalore was augmented in 1933 by the construction of a reservoir across the Arkavathy at Thippagondanahalli, about 22 miles from Bangalore. As the city expanded and the work of the Municipal Council increased, the Government constituted a City Improvement Committee, which later developed into the City Improvement Trust Board. After the amalgamation of the Civil Station Municipal Commission with the City Municipality under the name THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BANGALORE in 1949, the jurisdiction of the Trust Board has been extended and the Trust Board today has laid out schemes for house construction, within a radius of three miles from the Corporation limits all round.

In 1952, the Government of Mysore appointed a committee—the Bangalore Development Committee—with *Pradhanashiromani* Sri N. Madhava Rau, Retired Dewan of Mysore, as Chairman, to examine all problems connected with the development of Bangalore and to draw up a comprehensive general plan of development both for Bangalore City and for some of the adjoining rural areas which may be expected to become parts of Greater Bangalore. The Madhava Rau Committee have brought out a masterly report. Persons interested in civic problems are sure to find valuable information and hints in the Madhava Rau Committee Report.

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

Bangalore has been acclaimed as the 'city beautiful'. The Prime Minister of India, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, has said: "the City of Bangalore has a particular charm and is one of the famous cities of India." Of late, owing to the concentration of people from the rural areas and from the adjoining States, the problem of housing has assumed great proportions and many slums have sprung up in this beautiful city. With the population growing beyond imagination, there are many problems to be tackled by the Government and by those who administer

the city. The citizens too have their important rôle to play in seeing that Bangalore continues to enjoy the reputation of being the 'city beautiful.' All people desire that the whole city "shall be beautiful; that meanness and squalor shall be done away, that the streets and squares shall be broad and clean and wholesome, with rays of abiding beauty glorifying them." Sir Mirza Ismail, one of the greatest Dewans of Mysore State, to whom the task of making cities, towns and villages beautiful was a religion and who, during his stewardship of the State, accomplished much in this direction, had the following words to those in charge of municipal administration and to the public in general; and if all steadfastly follow his words of wisdom, Bangalore City, and for that matter all places where people live, could be converted into places of happiness:—"Be active in municipal affairs. Don't sit at ease and leave to others the burden and heat of strife for better things. Be up and doing. The city has a claim upon us, and I will not praise a fugitive and cloistered virtue which shrinks from the dust and heat."

Sir Mirza Ismail added: "To the builders of a city which shall be the metropolis of joy, the dwelling-place of happy human folk, who can live with pride and dignity of purpose working out their mortal destiny; a city in which the laughter of little children is richer and braver music than temple bells; to be builders, I say, of such a city is a great and glorious service."

For the visitor, the points of interest in Bangalore are the following: Lal-Bagh, the Basavanna and the Gavi Gangadharaswara temples, the stately Vidhana Soudha, the Sir Puttanna Chetty Town Hall, the Maharaja's Palace which is almost comparable to the Windsor Castle in its architecture, the Chamara-jendra Park (till recently called the Cubbon Park) the Indian Institute of Science, the Raman Research Institute, the City Market and the Sir Mirza Oval, the many industrial concerns such as the Indian Telephone Industries, the Hindustan Aircraft, the Hindustan Machine Tools, the Mysore Government Soap Factory, the Government Porcelain Factory, the Bharat Electronics Laboratory, the Sri Jayachamarajendra Polytechnic and the Sri Shankar Mutt. The fountain at the Cubbon Park

and the several parks in the city, especially during June and September, present gorgeous sights.

MAKERS OF MODERN BANGALORE

Among the makers of Bangalore, particular mention should be made of the following administrators and public men: Sir K. Seshadri Iyer who provided drinking water to the city from Yele Mallappa Setty and Hessarghatta tanks; Rao Bahadur Arcot Srinivasachar, who was the first non-official President nominated by Government; Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya who planned the industrial suburbs; Sir K. P. Puttanna Chetty who was President of the City Municipal Council for a long time and who has endowed Bangalore City with a beautiful town hall named after him and which has recently been the venue of several international gatherings; Sir Mirza Ismail, who took great pains to beautify the City by improving public buildings and parks in particular; and philanthropists like Gubbi Thotadappa, Polepalli Subbiah Setty and Janopakari Doddanna Setty who have erected choultries, hospitals, halls, etc.

SOME PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED BY THE BANGALORE CITY CORPORATION

BY

THE CIVIC SURVEY GROUP OF THE STUDY CIRCLE, G.I.P.A.

DIVIDED JURISDICTION:—The area of Bangalore is under the jurisdiction of four authorities:

- (1) the Bangalore City Corporation,
- (2) the Bangalore City Improvement Trust Board,
- (3) the Revenue, Muzrai and other Departments of the Government of Mysore, and
- (4) the Military Department of the Government of India.

The Corporation has no hold over the areas belonging to the other Departments. There is no co-ordination between these several authorities. The absence of co-ordination has resulted in improper formation of localities and unauthorized constructions.

Take, for example, the lands under the jurisdiction of the Revenue Department. There are several pockets in the Corporation area which belong to the Revenue Department. All the areas surrounding Bangalore are also under the jurisdiction of the Revenue Department. Within the city, slums have come up on these areas. For the past thirty years, unauthorized constructions have been continuously growing outside the city too. This proves that the Revenue Department has not at all taken any steps to prevent the formation of these slums. The havoc caused by these slums are too much to be detailed here. It is high time that the Government should take immediate steps to transfer to the Corporation the authority over all the revenue lands within the city and over a few miles around it. The Revenue Department has created problems which it would require generations to solve. The over-all authority within a certain area must be that of the Corporation. It may consult the convenience of the other authorities when required.

2. EXTENSIONS FORMED BY THE CITY IMPROVEMENT TRUST BOARD:—Extensions formed by the City Improvement Trust Board should be transferred to the Corporation within a pre-

scribed time-limit. Delay in the disposal of sites and indefinite postponement will, on the one hand, result in the slow formation of extensions and, on the other, in hardship to the residents of the locality as there is not enough P.W.D. and health staff to attend to the routine work in these areas. The Trust Board collects taxes, but is unable to provide the required facilities. Moreover, if there is delay in the completion of extensions, there will be over-crowding within the city limits and unauthorized constructions come up around it.

It seems desirable that, instead of the present Trust Board, a permanent Town Planning Committee—with expert civil, sanitary and electrical engineers, health officers, architects and police officers—may be formed to examine the present conditions in respect of water supply, electric lights, health and medical facilities, formation of roads, etc., in various parts of the city and also to suggest suitable measures for their proper maintenance and improvement. They may also be asked to formulate plans for the future extensions of the city in a five-mile belt area. This prevents hurried, defective and uncoordinated planning and unauthorized constructions. This Committee may also be entrusted with powers to execute the plans.

3. **DECENTRALIZATION OF ADMINISTRATION:**—The administrative organization of the Corporation is far from scientific. Its organization is very much centralized and does not possess intimate knowledge of the requirements of various localities. It is also not within easy access to the public. The Commissioner and other departmental heads are not expected to visit every nook and corner of the city and attend to minor problems and routine work. They are there to have an over-all supervision, to collect statistics, study, think and formulate plans for the improvement of the city and effective administration. At present it is not so. A great part of the time of these highly qualified and highly paid officials is wasted in going round to enquire into minor grievances and irregularities. Quite naturally their attention is directed to the more vocal of the localities.

Convenient administrative units or divisions should be formed and a Divisional Officer placed in charge of each Division, with adequate sanitary and engineering staff to attend to the

routine work of the locality and also to collect and tabulate all the required statistics for reference. This will prevent rush of public complaints to the head office and also minimize undue pressure or influence of the elected representative. The elected representative will be indirectly compelled to be interested in the special requirements of his locality. He will bring into close contact the public and the authorities. The Divisional Officer will keep close watch over the affairs of the locality and attend to the immediate requirements. By this arrangement both the authorities and the public get educated in public work.

4. MAINTENANCE OF RECORD OF RIGHTS:—The Bangalore City Corporation has not maintained a proper and accurate Record of Rights. The exact measurements and boundaries of the lands belonging to the Corporation, other governmental authorities, and individuals in each Division of the Corporation are not accurately maintained. There have been several instances where the ownership of bits of lands is under dispute. This lack of care for the preservation of the Corporation property and maintenance of proper records is not a sign of good administration, and is a grave omission. The proper maintenance of the Record of Rights will facilitate the determination of the ownership of any particular piece of land or site or building or park at any time. There should be no ambiguity about it. Arrangements should be made to get day-to-day information from the concerned departments regarding the transfer of property. This is necessary in the interest of both the Corporation and the public. There should be separate files maintained, as in insurance department, showing the area, plan, assessment, past history and present ownership of each bit of land in the jurisdiction of the Corporation. This task of collecting information becomes easier with decentralization of administrative machinery.

5. WATER SUPPLY:—The population of Bangalore has doubled itself in the course of the last 25 years. The present figure stands at about 13 lakhs. The increase in population at this rate will create the toughest problem for the Corporation if it does not bring heavy pressure on Government to create other sources of water supply. Water is a daily requirement and the public are sure to launch a very great agitation if the problem is not taken up and solved in all seriousness. The Corporation

should, in consultation with Government, decide upon some project and get the work done straight away in as short a time as possible. This needs to be given the top-most priority.

6. CITY POLICE UNIT:—A specially trained city police unit should be constituted to prevent public nuisances and crimes. The sanitary staff cannot prevent nuisances. They can only educate the public. But this is not enough. There should be the fear of enforcement of law. Public nuisance in the city is on the increase. Though the slums are greatly responsible for this, even the educated and the well-to-do in our city cannot be said to have correct notions about behaviour in public places. There is a great need for careful psychological study and analysis coupled with proper measures to prevent these nuisances. It is felt that, through intelligent and thoughtfully directed films, this can be controlled to some extent.

The nature and variety of crimes in the city differ widely from those in rural parts. More education, intelligence, vigilance and experience are required on the part of the police to prevent or control the crimes in the city. The Corporation will do well to take up this question seriously with Government.

7. KEEPING THE PUBLIC PLACES CLEAN:—The conditions of the Bus Stands, Markets, Hotels etc., are appalling. They have brought discredit to the city administration in the eyes of the public. The callousness with which the requirements of the travellers are being looked after at the Bus Stand, the shabby arrangement of shops—some of them unwanted—in the markets (especially City Market), the totally neglected dirty hotels in the city,—these speak in no ambiguous terms of the inefficiency of the administrative machinery. The hotels in and around the Secretariat and the Municipal Office premises are unspeakably dirty. How long can such a state of affairs be tolerated?

8. ENCOURAGING THE CIVIC AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS:—The task of educating the public will become easier if civic and social organizations are encouraged. They should be given monetary assistance to run a reading room, a library and a small office. They should be encouraged to bring the inconveniences to the notice of the concerned authorities. A good central library may be built up and books relating to the administration of local

self-government, town planning, etc., collected with a view to foster the habit of study and research both among the officials and among the public. All the statistics relating to various aspects of the city life should be maintained.

9. SECURING GRANTS FROM THE CENTRAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS:—Both the Central and the State Governments have been encouraging the starting of new industries, without consulting the Corporation and heedless of the consequences. Industries are started without schemes for suitable housing accommodation for their employees. The expenditure of the Corporation increases as the city develops. Without adequate finances, the required amenities cannot be given. Therefore the Corporation should assert itself and demand that it should have a voice in all such new ventures. It should demand more grants and aids from the Central and the State Governments.

SLUMS IN BANGALORE

BY

THE CIVIC SURVEY GROUP OF THE STUDY CIRCLE, G.I.P.A.

Slums in Bangalore are horrible spots. They are the shame of the city. Pandit Nehru who had seen very little of these said: "You are also having Harijan Quarters, and one is shocked to see them." The contrast between the people of these areas and the rest of the city completely 'bowled him over', although he had seen hard things. He wondered how it does not move the Corporation of Bangalore City. If this is the impression that a man of the status of the Prime Minister of India who has very little time to spare for visiting such places gets, what might be the impression of a conscientious citizen in Bangalore who is a helpless witness of far worse spots!

According to the report of the Department of Statistics in Mysore, there are 92 slums in Bangalore Corporation area; and it is estimated that nearly one-eighth of the total population live in slums. Comment is needless. There are 13,000 huts, housing over 69,000 people. About 60% of these huts have been in existence for the past 15-30 years. Of these hut-dwellers, the major portion, that is, very nearly 70 to 80%, have come from outside the State.

The Department of Statistics has taken note of only the hut-dwellers. Slums in the interior parts,—that is, old town,—which have become very much over-crowded, have not been taken into consideration. The magnitude of the problem can correctly be gauged only if all such areas are also taken into consideration.

The Mysore Slum Areas (Improvement and Clearance) Act, 1958 defines a slum area as "an area in any respect unfit for human habitation, or (b) are by reason of dilapidation, over-crowding, faulty arrangement and design of such buildings, narrowness or faulty arrangements of streets, lack of ventilation, light or sanitation facilities, or any combination of these factors, detrimental to safety, health or morals."

But such slums cannot be cleared altogether. They can only be improved, in the first instance. Such areas, which are parts of the old city proper and where there is over-crowding, should

be improved by acquiring some houses and sites to create parks and build good roads. The areas where there are huts must be cleared of such huts and proper lay-outs formed eventually. These huts should not be allowed to remain. If these are allowed to remain under the pretext of 'mercy for the poor' etc., they are sure to become trouble-spots and the scheme of slum clearance will turn out to be a scheme for development of slums. Let no one judge that this is a merciless act towards the poor. Far from it, we wish sincerely that the poor must be helped to live in comfortable houses, in good localities, and not in such uninhabitable dwellings, not only bringing suffering upon themselves but also creating trouble and hardship for others.

Origin of these slums:—From the study of the slum areas for the past ten years, we are convinced that the slums have grown mainly on account of the following reasons:

(1) *Absence of Proper Records:* The Corporation area consists of plots belonging to (a) Municipal Corporation, (b) the Revenue Authorities, (c) the Military Authorities, and (d) Private owners. Huts have arisen on the municipal lands because the municipal administration is not quite efficient. The staff is either not efficient, or is afraid to deal with the problem. They are also not getting enough support or help from the higher authorities.

Moreover, the Corporation has not maintained correct records to prove conclusively the ownership of bits of land here and there. We have pointed out in several cases how the lack of such proof has led to several instances of claims by private people, and how unauthorized constructions have come up. This is a sorry state of affairs to which we are never tired of drawing attention. The Corporation should conduct a thorough survey of each division and maintain a correct record of the places belonging to the Corporation, Government, Military Department and private people. It should maintain separate and permanent files for each site recording the ownership, transfer of ownership, plan of the building, assessment etc. This will minimize unauthorized constructions and conversion of houses into over-crowded portions.

(2) *Revenue Lands:*—There are several pieces of land throughout the city area belonging to the Revenue Department.

inconveniences. Even Government and municipal peons and scavengers are rarely given suitable housing accommodation; and even when given, they are most often outside the city. But these labourers put up their huts in vacant lands in the city itself, paying small rents, settling in the huts and fighting for the conveniences with the Corporation. We cannot understand under what moral obligation the Corporation is to provide assistance to these hut-dwellers. We can very well understand that they are certainly under the obligation of the over-crowded slum-dwellers within the old city. It is only human sympathy which calls for providing conveniences to these hut-dwellers.

Unhealthy Influences of Slum-dwellers:—With the introduction of the adult franchise in the election to the municipal council and the legislature, the slum-dwellers have begun to play a very unworthy part. These slum areas are tacked on to some decent area. The result of the election depends upon the will and pleasure of these slum-dwellers. Interested parties influence them and bring them in large numbers to the polling station. They are sure of these votes.

If such areas are not tacked on to any other area, but are left independent, their own representative will get through in the election and he fights, not for the eradication of slums, but for getting more conveniences to them. He comes in the way of even shifting these huts to any other place. Thus the interference of these slum-dwellers, without any attachment of duty or responsibility, is a source of great danger.

THE LEGACY OF KEMPEGOWDA

KEMPEGOWDA, ancient chieftain of Magadi, founded the City of Bangalore in the year 1537. It was then a mere village ; but, with great foresight, Kempegowda prophesied the vast extension of our City. He put up four towers to mark the future growth of Bangalore. The Four Towers of Kempegowda can be seen as a monument to the foresight and sagacity of the founder of our City.

Today with the economic and social prosperity of our country and dynamic urge of our people, the City of Bangalore has not only achieved the limits fixed by Kempegowda but has far outstripped the Four Towers. We have a population of 14 lakhs with a metropolitan area of 40 square miles out of which 28 square miles are within the jurisdiction of the Corporation of the City of Bangalore. Bangalore has become the home of Education, Industry, Commerce and Government. Bangalore today is one of the seven largest cities in India and is becoming the focal point of activity in South India.

The Corporation of the City of Bangalore is proud to manage the affairs of this large metropolis.

Corporation of the City of Bangalore

BANGALORE IS OUR HOME TOWN

We are very proud of our City and we want to make it a modern metropolis. To reach this goal we want

- * BETTER WATER SUPPLY
- * A GOOD SYSTEM OF UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE
- * EFFECTIVE SEWAGE DISPOSAL
- * BROAD AND WELL MADE ROADS
- * BRIGHT STREET ILLUMINATION
- * WELL RUN MARKETS AND SHIPPING CENTRE
- * DESTRUCTION OF PESTS LIKE MOSQUITOES
- * CONTROL OVER EPIDEMIC DISEASES
- * HOSPITALS, MATERNITY HOMES
- * CHILD WELFARE CENTRES, NURSERY SCHOOLS
- * CHEAP EDUCATION OF A GOOD STANDARD
- * PARKS AND GARDENS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES
- * PLAYGROUNDS FOR SPORTS

**THIS IS THE JOB OF THE
CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BANGALORE**

It is YOUR Corporation and YOUR Local Government

With your help, co-operation and blessings we in the Corporation can and will fulfil the tasks allotted to us.

WHAT THE CITY CORPORATION HAS DONE

Do you know that the Bangalore City Corporation....

1. Runs 8 Schools.
2. 10 Maternity Homes and 19 Child Welfare Centres.
3. Has established 23 Markets out of which Sri Krishna-rajendra Market is one of the biggest Markets in South India.
4. Maintains 450 miles of roads.
5. Has established and runs some of the finest parks and gardens in the country.
6. Has provided, under the Second Five-Year Plan, for the complete underground drainage of the City.

WHAT THE CORPORATION PROPOSES TO DO

Here are a few projects which the Corporation has in mind....

1. Construction of a Multipurpose Stadium at a cost of Rs. 14 lakhs.
2. Establishment of a Modern Slaughter-house at a cost of Rs. 12 lakhs.
3. Comprehensive project for sewage disposal at a cost of Rs. 138 lakhs which will be taken in the Third Five-Year Plan period.
4. Modernisation, re-surfacing and widening of 112 miles of roads at a cost of Rs. 40 lakhs.
5. Cement concreting or paving all foot-paths of Bangalore City at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs.
6. Construction of 2 Major High Schools, one at Chamarajpet for Boys and the other in Civil Area for Girls.
7. The metering of all water connections in the City.
8. Construction of 2 modern Swimming Pools, one at Malleswaram and the other at Ulsoor.
9. Midday Meal Scheme for Corporation School Children.

ARE YOU A GOOD CITIZEN?

India today is one of the largest democracies in the world. The future of our democracy, however, depends upon the example set by large cities like Bangalore and by the active consciousness, assistance and civic sense of our citizens. Are you a good citizen? Answer the following questions :

1. Have you a thorough knowledge of Bangalore, its history, geography, economics and social structure?
2. Are you aware of your rights and duties as a citizen of Bangalore?
3. Do you know the laws governing the city organization and the bye-laws of the Corporation?
4. Have you taken a licence for your trade?
5. Have you obtained a building licence for your house?
6. Are you paying your taxes in due time?
7. Are you helping to keep your neighbourhood clean?
8. Do you bring public nuisances and other complaints to the notice of the authorities?
9. Do you vote at the Corporation elections?

If the answer to all these questions is "Yes", then, dear friend, you *are* a good citizen.

Corporation of the City of Bangalore

Telephone: 70882

Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs

Narasimharaja Colony, Basavangudi, Bangalore 4

(Founded: February 1945. Registered under the Societies Act.)

Object: EDUCATION FOR GOOD CITIZENSHIP

The GOKHALE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS is an independent, non-party and non-communal organization endeavouring to serve as a centre for the education of the public for democratic citizenship.

It has been devoting itself to (i) the unbiassed and scientific study of public questions, (ii) the practising of public spirit through civic vigilance and social service, (iii) the pursuit of humanistic culture through the study of the good and the great in literature and history, and (iv) the promotion of public welfare in all ways possible.

It has a working auxiliary in its Study Circle comprising a large number of students and young men.

The Institute's hall houses the statues of Valmiki and Vyasa, the national poets of India, and the portraits of great political thinkers and poets of Europe from Socrates and Plato to Mill and Green as well as of the great patriots of India from Raja Ram-mohun Roy to Mahatma Gandhi.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- (1) Library
- (2) Reading-Room
- (3) Sunday Study Class.
- (4) Popular Lectures in both English and Kannada on Saturdays
- (5) Civic Surveys
- (6) Symposia and Conferences
- (7) Committees to prepare Memoranda on Legislation and other Public Questions
- (8) Correspondence on Public Grievances with the Authorities
- (9) Cultural and Social Programmes
- (10) Publication of books and periodicals in both Kannada and English

The Secretary will be glad to furnish information.