

Two Years of
**CONGRESS RULE
IN MADRAS**

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PREFACE

This booklet is a bare enumeration of the events in the Administration of the Province of Madras during the two years since the Congress Ministry accepted office. No attempt is made to gloss the narration or emphasise the achievements. Facts are allowed to speak for themselves and figures to plead their own cause. A copious index is provided to facilitate the reader to refer to points which specially interest him.

S. RAMANATHAN,

Secretary,

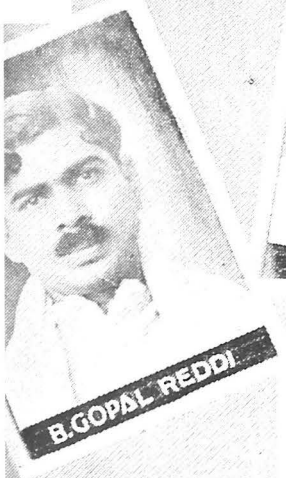
Madras Legislature Congress Party.

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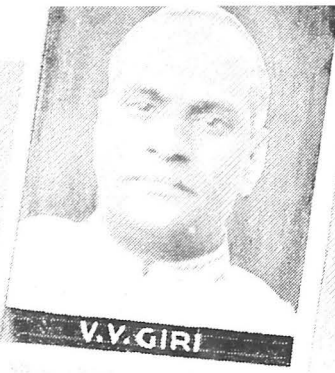
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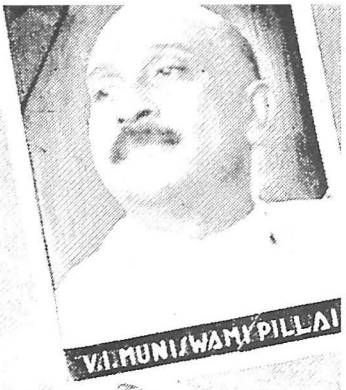
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V. V. GIRI



V. MUNISWAMI PILLAI



C. RAJAGOPALACHARI



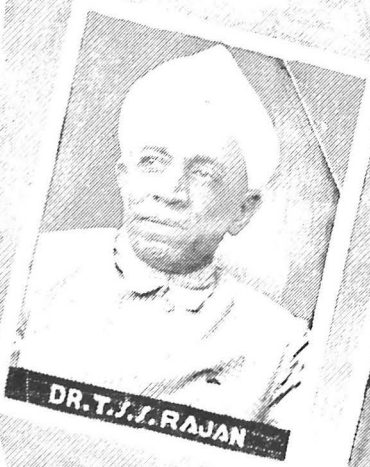
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T. PRAKASAM



YAKUB HAJAN



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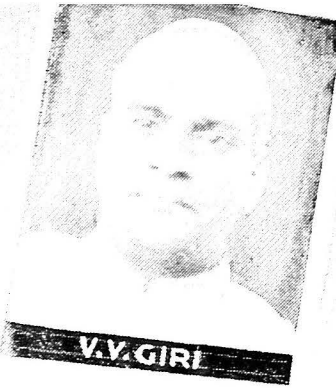
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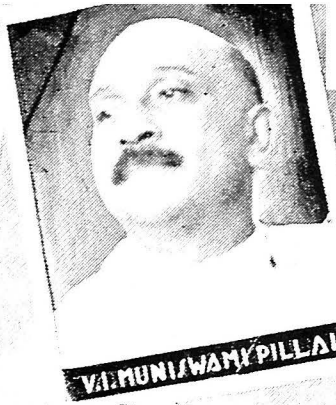
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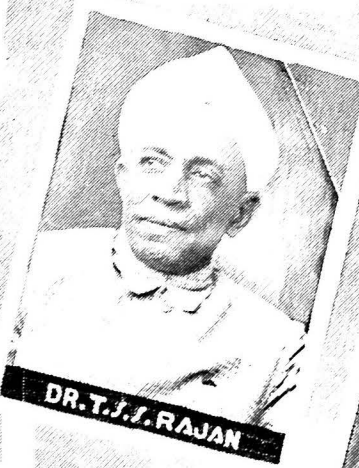
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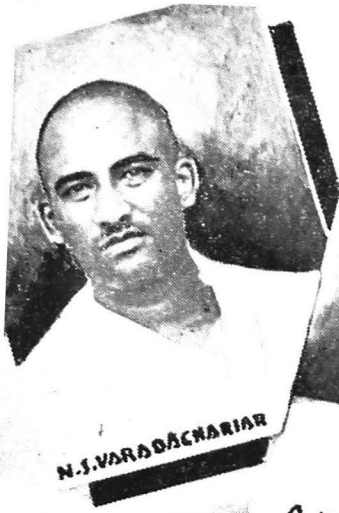
DR. P. SUBBARAYAN



DR. T. T. RAJAN



C. J. VAN



N.S. VARADACHARIAR



S. KALEJWARA RAO



T. VIJWANADHAR



M. BHAKTAVATSALAM



B.J. MURTI



A.T.M. M. MARACAIR



A.B. SHETTY



A. BAPINEE

Two Years of Congress Rule in Madras

1937-39.

PROHIBITION

The first great reform undertaken by the Congress Government in Madras was prohibition. The Prohibition Act was passed in September 1937. The Act penalizes the manufacture of, traffic in, and consumption of, liquor and intoxicating drugs in the areas in which it is introduced, but contains provision for the grant of exemption in cases where liquor or drugs are required for medicinal, scientific, industrial or such like purposes. Addicts who cannot do without liquor may be given personal permits authorising them, under strictly controlled conditions, to consume liquor.

The Act came into force in the whole of the Salem district on 1st October 1937 and was extended to the Chittoor and Cuddapah districts from 1st October 1938. It will be extended from the 1st October of this year to the North Arcot district and from that date Prohibition will be in force in a compact area of 23,819 square miles. It is about one-fifth of the total area of the Presidency and the consequent loss of revenue to the Government will amount in a full year to a sum of no less than two-thirds of a crore.

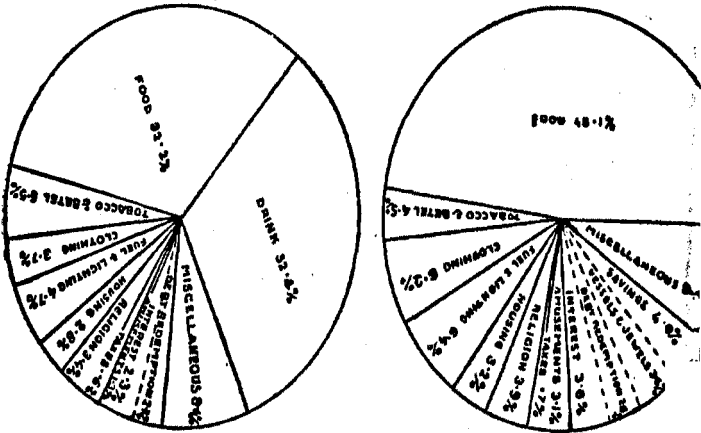
In order to make the introduction of Prohibition a success, it was essential to secure to the fullest possible extent the co-operation of non-officials. Accordingly taluk and village prohibition committees were formed consisting entirely of non-officials. Meetings of the taluk committees were held from time to time and they helped in (1) giving information to the police, (2) reporting every month to the Collector regarding the working of the Act in their taluk and (3) assisting the campaign in a variety of ways, particularly in maintaining touch with the village prohibition committees, keeping a watch on places in which breaches of the Act might take place, organising amusements and counter-attractions to drink, and encouraging thrift.

Distribution of expenditure before and after Prohibition.

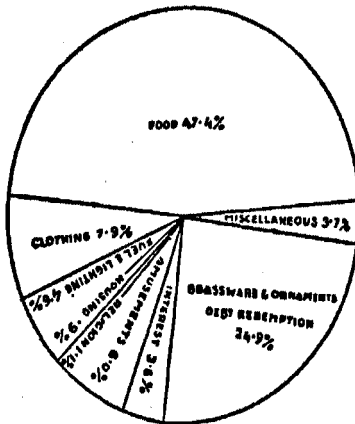
Stone workers—Dadugapatti, Salem Town.

Pre-Prohibition

Post-Prohibition



How the money previously spent on drink was utilised after the introduction of Prohibition.



(From "Economic Results of Prohibition in the Salem district" by Dr. P. J. Thomas.)

Offences against the Prohibition Act were comparatively rare. Licences given in the Salem district to tap trees for sweet toddy—a harmless non-intoxicating beverage—were not abused. The combined vigilance of the public and the police have successfully solved most of the difficulties.

In order to conserve the money spent on drink and drugs in pre-prohibition days, a thrift campaign was started. The campaign has been conducted through rural co-operative credit societies and special types of thrift societies. These are becoming very popular. The habit of saving money is also inculcated by oral propaganda.

Special efforts had to be made to provide the erstwhile addicts with amusements in the evenings as counter-attractions to drink. The types of amusements organised were "bhajanas", "kathaprasangams", folk dances, street dramas, reading of "puranams", gramophone recitals etc. Various agencies were used including village schoolmasters and members of rural co-operative credit societies and taluk and village prohibition committees. A campaign for reviving rural sports was inaugurated. Rural uplift and recreation schools were started in various centres in the prohibition districts to provide for the training of young men as "village guides" to carry on rural uplift work. The teaching of games was made the central feature of these schools.

All official and non-official reports regarding the working of the Prohibition Act show that Prohibition has been effectively enforced. It is indisputable that the standard of living among those who formerly constituted the drinking classes in the prohibition districts has been rising.

HARIJAN UPLIFT

The outstanding event during the two years was the throwing open of Hindu shrines to Harijans. Public opinion in favour of this reform had gathered such momentum that it was practically impossible to resist the innovation and on the 8th July 1939 a party consisting of Harijans and caste Hindus entered the temple of Sri Minakshi at Madura and offered puja at the innermost shrine with the willing consent and amidst the rejoicings of the Hindu population of the town. This event was followed by the throwing open of

other temples in the Madura, Tanjore and other districts. A few orthodox Varnashramites, however, could not reconcile themselves to the reform and filed civil and criminal suits against the temple authorities and reformers. The Government felt it necessary to condone the technical breach of the law involved in this reform and published an Indemnity Bill for protecting the participants in the event. In order to prevent harassment by interim proceedings in courts pending the passing of the Bill by the Legislature the Government have promulgated an ordinance in terms of the Indemnity Bill to take effect immediately.

Two important measures for the amelioration of the Scheduled Classes were passed. The Malabar Temple Entry Act provides for the throwing open of major temples to excluded classes if the step is favoured by the majority opinion among the non-excluded classes who are voters for the general constituency of the Madras Legislative Assembly in the revenue taluk in which the temple is situate.

The Removal of Civil Disabilities Act provides that no Harijan shall be prevented, merely by reason of his caste from enjoying any social or public amenity to which other classes of Hindus have access or which is maintained for the use of the public from out of State or local funds and that no court of law shall recognise any such disability.

A sum of Rs. 11.24 lakhs was spent in 1938-39 on the amelioration of the condition of the scheduled classes. A sum of Rs. 12.43 lakhs will be spent in 1939-40 for this purpose. The amount spent on the construction and repair of wells, pathways, burial grounds, etc., was Rs. 1.67 lakhs in 1938-39 which was much more than the expenditure for the year 1937-38. The expenditure for 1939-40 for this purpose will be Rs. 1.83 lakhs. The amount provided for advancing loans to members of the Scheduled Castes was Rs. 77,100 in 1938-39 and in 1939-40 will be Rs. 69,300. A grant of Rs. 24,900 was made last year towards the cost of maintenance of the pupils of these Classes in the various hostels. The grant in 1939-40 for this purpose amounts to Rs. 37,400.

The Government have refused recognition and aid to schools which declined to admit Scheduled Class pupils. Scholarships are granted to Scheduled Class pupils for elementary, secondary, collegiate, special, commercial,

professional and industrial education. Scheduled Class pupils pay no fees in public elementary schools and can on the production of poverty certificates obtain half-remission in Arts and Professional Colleges. Separate schools for the Scheduled Classes are also run by the Government. Books, slates, etc., are supplied free to pupils in such schools. Small grants for clothing, etc., are also made to deserving pupils in aided and other institutions. Still further concessions are granted by some local bodies including total fee exemption and the supply of books and slates, free of cost. Deserving Scheduled Class pupils are exempted from the payment of fees for the Secondary School Leaving Certificate and other Examinations.

Members of the Scheduled Classes are given concessions in the matter of employment in Government service by the reservation of one out of every twelve appointments, by raising of the age limit to 27, and by lowering of the general educational standard in their case. When a Scheduled Class candidate for employment is an undergraduate or a graduate, no age limit is to be insisted on.

The Government assist the Scheduled Classes to acquire house sites by bearing half the cost themselves and by collecting the balance in easy instalments. Considerable extents of land, both in the ordinary and in newly disafforested areas have been reserved for and assigned to the Scheduled Classes in addition to the unreserved areas for which also they can apply. They are also given concessions by being allowed to pay the value of wet land assigned to them at a price fixed by the Collector and in instalments. Co-operative Societies have been specially organised for the benefit of the Scheduled Classes to enable them to obtain loans for agricultural and general purposes and to secure leases of Government lands.

An advisory committee has been constituted for each district to advise the Collector on all matters relating to the welfare of the Scheduled Classes. A Provincial Advisory Board has also been formed to co-ordinate the work of the District Committees and to advise the Commissioner of Labour.

DEBT RELIEF

The Madras Agriculturists Relief Act which came into force in March 1938 was intended to scale down the debts

of agriculturists, to reduce the rate of interest on their future debts and to write off the arrears of rent due to zamindars, janmis and other landholders. Upto the end of March 1939, debts amounting to Rs. 2,86,67,677-0-4 were scaled down by courts to Rs. 1,52,09,419-3-4.

A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs was set apart for the grant of loans to agriculturists to pay off the scaled down debts in the budget for 1938-39 and a sum of Rs. 75 lakhs was set apart for the same purpose in the budget for the current year. To enable the debtors to pay off the debts as scaled down under the Agriculturists Relief Act, Debt Conciliation Boards have been set up for each revenue division under the Debt Conciliation Act of 1936. A Bill to amend the Agriculturists Relief Act so as to remove the difficulties experienced in its working, will shortly come up before the Legislature.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT

Credit facilities to agriculturists have been increased by reorganising co-operative credit societies, and starting loan and sale societies for securing reasonable prices for agricultural produce.

The Government have increased the guarantee of the debentures of the Central Land Mortgage Bank to Rs. 200 lakhs. The guarantee includes both principal and interest. The Government have also agreed for the present to bear the cost of the Government staff employed by land mortgage banks. The Government have been giving temporary accommodation to the Central Land Mortgage Bank under certain conditions. There is no district which is not served by one or more land mortgage banks.

READJUSTMENT OF THE TAX BURDEN

Land Revenue and Excise have been the two major sources of revenue of the Madras Government. Out of a total revenue of 16 crores of rupees these two sources have been yielding 9 crores. The excise revenue was collected almost entirely from the poorest classes of the people, who could scarcely afford a single square meal a day. The system of taxation hitherto in force weighed heavily upon those who were least able to bear the burden, while those in comparatively better circumstances were left off with light taxation. The Congress administration felt it necessary to

bring a more equitable allocation of the tax burden.. This reallocation was brought about by a two fold policy, on the one hand of giving up the taxation of the poorest and on the other of levying fresh taxes which will weigh upon all classes of people according to their ability to pay. Prohibition which will in course of time involve the giving up of four crores of revenue is calculated to bring about the first objective, of relieving the very poorest in the land of an unjust tax collected by unconscionable means by tempting them with drink and thereby bringing about their physical, mental and moral deterioration.

The second objective of the imposition of fresh taxes which would weigh upon each individual in proportion to his capacity to pay was accomplished by securing legislative sanction for the following taxes:

Electricity Duty:—The Madras Electricity Duty Act, 1939, imposes on licensees in the Province, a duty of six pies on every unit of energy sold by them at a price of more than two annas per unit.

Motor Spirit Taxation:—The Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939, levies on all retail sales of motor spirit a tax at the rate of one anna and six pies per gallon, in the case of petrol and at the rate of six pies per gallon in the case of motor spirit other than petrol. The tax will be paid by the retail dealers.

Taxation of Entertainments:—The Madras Entertainment Tax Act, 1939, levies on all payments for admission to any entertainment, a graded tax based on the payments made for such admission. The tax ranges from three pies where the payment, excluding the amount of the tax, is not more than two annas, to two rupees where the payment is nine rupees eight annas. Municipalities and other local bodies which were previously levying a tax on entertainments will be compensated for their loss.

Tobacco Tax:—The Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Licensing) Act, 1939, imposes on every retail or wholesale dealer in manufactured tobacco, such as cigars, cheroots, beedies and snuff, a tax at rates based on his turnover. A wholesale dealer, manufacturer, broker or commission agent has also to pay an annual licence fee at specific rates.

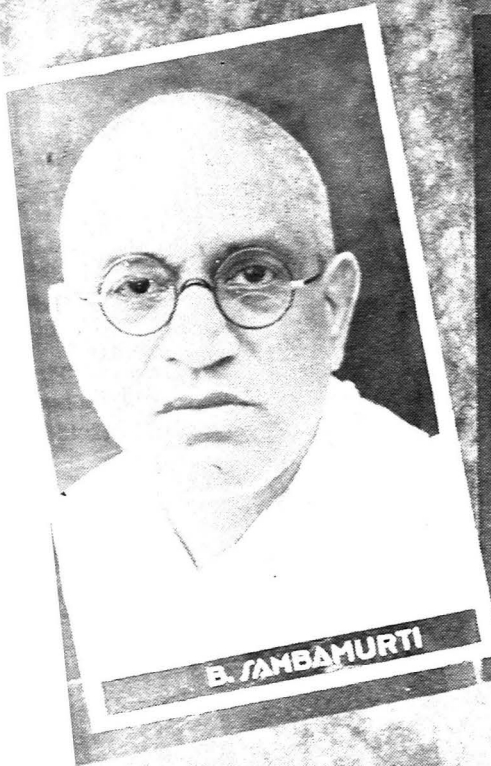
General Sales Tax:—The Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, imposes on every dealer a tax of five rupees per month if his annual turnover exceeds ten thousand rupees but does not exceed twenty thousand rupees and a tax of one-half of one per cent. of such turnover if his turnover exceeds twenty thousand rupees. An agriculturist who sells the produce grown on his land is exempt from payment of this tax. The sale of bullion and specie, of cotton, of cotton yarn and of any cloth woven on handlooms and sold by persons dealing exclusively in such cloth will also be exempt from the tax. The sales of hides and skins will be taxed at only one point. In the case of finished articles of industrial manufacture a rebate will be allowed of one-half of the tax levied where such articles are sold for delivery outside the Province.

There was some misunderstanding at first among the merchants that trade would be adversely affected by this tax. But it is now generally understood that consumers will also bear the burden of the tax, wherever necessary, that the tax levied is light, and that the yield of revenue therefrom will enable the Government to introduce Prohibition throughout the Province and to adopt other ameliorative measures which will bring general prosperity to the people and stimulation to trade and industry. The opposition to the tax may be said to have largely died down.

Estimate of Revenue from the new taxes:—The estimate of the revenue that the Government expect to receive in the current year is Rs. 15.84 lakhs from the tax on the sales of motor spirit, Rs. 5.09 lakhs from the Electricity Duty, Rs. 3 lakhs from the tax on entertainments, Rs. 16 lakhs from the tax on tobacco and Rs. 33 lakhs from the General Sales Tax. After excluding the charges of collection, the total net yield of all the taxes for this year may be estimated as something like Rs. 65 lakhs. The revenue for a full year from these taxes may come to about Rs. 134 lakhs, without taking into account the charges of collection.

LAND REVENUE CONCESSIONS

In addition to remissions granted in view of adverse seasonal conditions, land revenue concessions in the following forms were granted during the years 1938-39 and 1939-40:



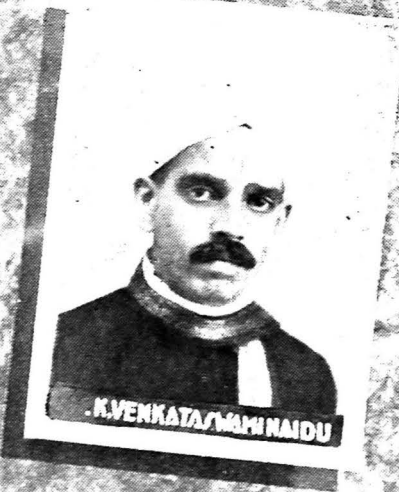
B. SAMBAMURTI



Dr. U. RAMA RAO



P. VENKATESWARA MURTHY



K. VENKATALAKSHMI NAIDU

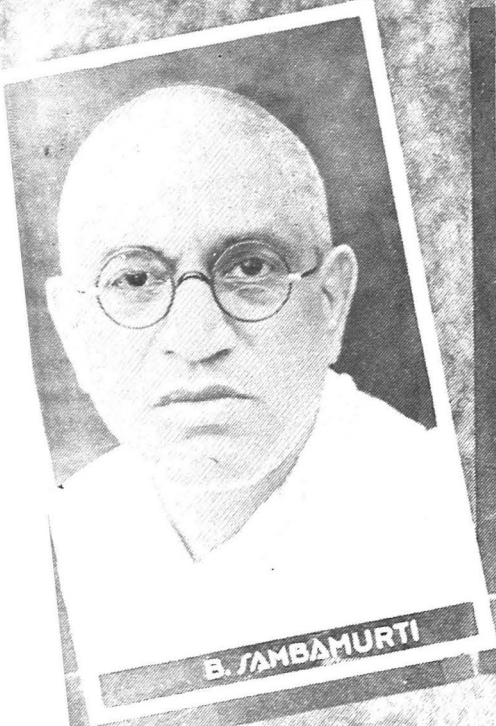
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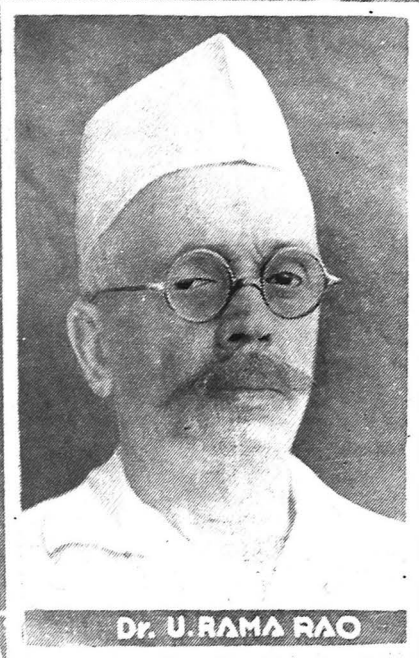
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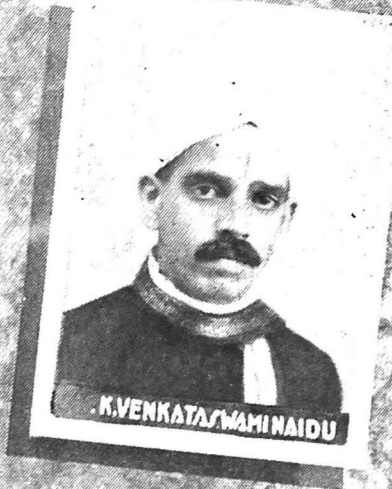
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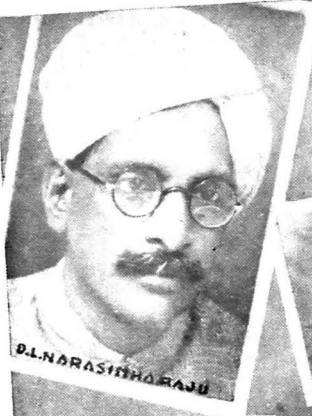
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J. RUKHMI LAKSHMI



K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU



P.L. NARASIMHA RAJU



D. JOCI NAIDU



S. RAMASUNDARA RAO



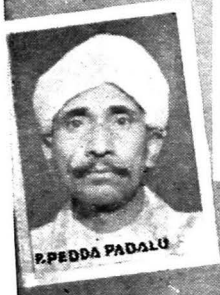
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N. RAJAMMA RAJ.



S. GURUVULU.



P. PEDDA PADALU



C. NARASIMHAN.



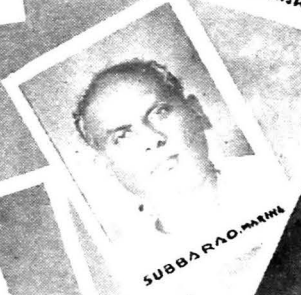
BHASKARA RAO.



K. V. RAO



D.K. RAMESWAMI



SUBBARAO.



K.V.R. SWAMY



K. VENKATARAO.



M. PALLAM RAJU.



LAKSHMANA SWAMY.



G. VENKANNA.



G. ARPANA RAJU.



D. ARPANA RAJU

(1) The cancellation of the percentage enhancements imposed at resettlements on dry, wet and garden lands in certain tracts resettled after 1914.

(2) The grant of a remission of 2 annas in the rupee in the wet assessment in the remaining areas in the Presidency.

(3) A temporary reduction of water cess from Rs. 6-4-0 to Rs. 5-12-0 an acre for a first crop, with corresponding reductions for other crops in the East and West Godavari and Kistna districts and in the deltaic tracts of the Guntur district.

The concessions thus granted amount to Rs. 71.4 lakhs each year.

FAMINE, FLOOD AND CYCLONE RELIEF

Famine: Due to the failure of the monsoon in many parts of the Bellary, Anantapur and Kurnool districts in 1937, there was severe agricultural distress and widespread unemployment. Five test works were opened in the Bellary district and they were in operation till the end of 1937 when they were converted into relief works. Famine conditions having continued in the next year also, the number of relief works had to be increased and in August 1938, there were 16 relief works and 2 test works functioning in the district. The maximum average daily attendance at these works was 50,391 in the middle of August. Over 20,000 persons were in receipt of gratuitous relief. In Anantapur, employment was provided by opening road and tank works and the District Board also started road works with the aid of the grants sanctioned by the Government for the purpose. There were in all 6 relief works and 3 test works functioning in the district including those opened in the Hindupur and Penukonda taluks. The maximum average daily attendance at these works was 22,360 in the latter half of July, 1938. Over 18,000 persons were in receipt of gratuitous relief. The situation in parts of Kurnool district was also unsatisfactory. There were in all four relief works and one test work functioning in the district in July 1938. The daily average attendance at these works was 12,294 at the beginning of July, 1938. The average number gratuitously relieved was 3,047.

Owing to the prevalence of famine conditions the position of the weavers in and around Uravakonda in the Anantapur district and Yenmiganur and Nagaldinne in the Bellary district, became very difficult and centres for affording relief to them were opened in these places. The maximum number relieved at these centres was 819 in Anantapur and 14,806 in Bellary.

To meet the scarcity of fodder for cattle, arrangements were made for the collection of hill grass and its sale at Government depots at concession prices. Permission was also granted for the free removal of grass from, and for free grazing in, several forests in the adjoining districts. A District Forest Officer with the necessary staff was appointed solely for the purpose. A sum of over Rs. 38,000 was spent on fodder operations.

Land revenue remissions ranging from $37\frac{1}{2}$ to 100 per cent were granted in 418 villages in the Bellary district, 441 villages in the Anantapur district and 87 villages in the Kurnool district. The realisation of the uncollected balance in the villages for which remissions were granted was postponed to the next fasli.

The total expenditure on famine relief operations including grants to the District Boards of Anantapur and Kurnool to expand their ordinary programme of public works for the financial year 1938-39 came to a total of about 25 lakhs of rupees. In addition to this direct expenditure, land revenue had to be remitted in the areas affected by famine. The remissions amounted to about Rs. 15 lakhs and over and above this, collections amounting to Rs. 4 lakhs were suspended.

Consequent on the failure of crops in parts of the Coimbatore district there was unemployment among the labouring classes and the opening of relief centres was decided upon. Nine relief works were in operation in the Coimbatore district during the week ending 27th May 1939 with 46,179 workers. 16,721 persons were on gratuitous relief. Loans amounting to Rs. 3,88,460 were distributed in famine affected areas in the Coimbatore district upto 27th May 1939. Orders were issued postponing for one year the collection of loan instalments due in fasli 1348 in certain villages of the Bellary

district in view of the famine conditions prevailing in the district. The total amount spent on famine relief operations during the first half of 1939 was Rs. 7 lakhs.

Famine Code Revision: As representations were made that the working of the Famine Code caused much hardship and dissatisfaction, the Government appointed a committee of officials and non-officials to recommend the necessary changes in the provisions of the Code and to suggest measures for the prevention or mitigation of famine. The Report of the Committee is under the consideration of the Government.

With a view to relieve unemployment among the agricultural and labouring classes in areas affected by adverse seasonal conditions, the Government have exhorted the District Boards to regulate their programme of public works in such a manner as to serve as a means of relieving distress.

Flood: Heavy rainfall caused floods in several districts in the eastern parts of the Presidency in November 1937. Nellore, Madras, Chingleput, North Arcot, and Tinnevely were the districts affected. The Collectors concerned were asked to report on the extent of the damage and to place funds at the disposal of the tahsildars to help the poorest classes who had been rendered homeless by the floods. Relief was also afforded from the money available with the Collectors under the "Discretionary Grants." A sum of Rs. 8,605 was subscribed by the public in response to an appeal issued by the Hon'ble the Prime Minister for the relief of the victims of the floods.

Early in October 1938, certain taluks of the Vizagapatam district were seriously damaged by floods in the Vamsadhara river. The Government immediately placed funds at the disposal of the Collector for the relief of distress. Steps were taken to provide free timber and leaves for the construction of houses to those whose homes were destroyed by the floods. Grain depots were opened in the affected areas. Special staff was sanctioned to carry out the work of affording relief to the victims of the floods.

Cyclone: There was a severe cyclone in November last and East Godavari, West Godavari, and Kistna districts suffered most. Vizagapatam and Guntur districts escaped

with slight damage. His Excellency the Governor issued an appeal for a fund for relief purposes and the contributions received till the end of June 1939 amounted to nearly a lakh of rupees. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 63,000 has been allotted to the districts affected by the cyclone. The nucleus of a reserve fund for relieving distress that may be caused by cyclone in these districts in future has been formed.

VILLAGE RECONSTRUCTION

Rural Water Supply:—A comprehensive scheme of protected water supply for rural areas has been introduced. The scheme is financed entirely out of provincial funds and is to be spread over a period of ten years. In order that the scheme may not be held up for lack of finance, the Government have constituted a special fund with an initial contribution of Rs. 18 lakhs. Seventy-two of the boring sets maintained by the Department of Industries and Commerce are employed on making borings under the Rural Water Supply scheme and so far some 400 borings have been put down for this purpose through the agency of the department. The Government sanctioned last year 15 more hand boring sets to expedite the work.

Rural Medical Relief:—To extend maternity relief to the rural population, sanction was accorded for the appointment of midwives in most of the rural dispensaries. The Government have sanctioned the payment of subsidies for 42 new rural dispensaries and for the employment of 203 midwives in existing dispensaries. The conditions of employment of medical practitioners in charge of subsidised rural dispensaries have been improved. The ban imposed on these practitioners that they should not stand for election to local bodies or take part in political movements has been removed. It has been provided that at least three months' notice should be given of any contemplated closure of a rural dispensary. The concession regarding the grant of leave to the rural medical practitioners and to the nurses and compounders attached to the rural dispensaries has been extended. A revised scheme of training of compounders has been given effect to and the standard of educational qualification required for admission to the training has been fixed as a pass in the Secondary

School Leaving Certificate Examination. The training extends over a period of one year as against nine months under the old scheme.

Radio for Villages:—In pursuance of the policy of Government to install Radio Receiver Sets in rural areas, sets were installed in 70 villages. To look after the work of installing and maintaining these sets, a Provincial Engineer for Broadcasting was appointed with the necessary assistants. Laboratory and workshop facilities at a cost of Rs. 25,000 have been sanctioned for carrying on research work and also for adopting commercial sets for use as village receivers.

District Periodical Conferences:—The District Conferences which supplanted the District Economic Councils are meeting once in each quarter to discuss matters of general importance affecting the welfare and administration of the district.

Government of India grant:—The Government of India grant sanctioned for rural improvement work was utilised for the improvement of rural water supply, rural sanitation, village communications, starting co-operative societies for the consolidation of holdings, and encouragement and development of loan and sale co-operative societies by making free grants towards part of the cost of godowns.

Revival of Rural Games:—A scheme for the organisation of village sports in selected villages in each district has been sanctioned. The object of the scheme is to stimulate interest in indigenous games which require no expensive apparatus. The scheme has been worked in the Salem district by the Special Development Officer and in other districts by the Police sub-Inspectors.

TENANCY REFORM

A joint committee was constituted by the Legislature in September 1937 with the Hon'ble Sri T. Prakasam, the Revenue Minister, as Chairman to enquire into and report on the conditions prevailing in zamindari and other proprietary areas and to suggest the necessary legislation.

The Committee produced a monumental report. It recommended that declaratory legislation is necessary de-

clearing the tenant to have the proprietorship of the soil and giving him full rights of ownership subject to the liability to pay rent to the landholder. The Committee also recommended that the rate of rent fixed in the year previous to the Permanent settlement should be adhered to.

The report of the Committee was fully discussed in the Legislature and a resolution was adopted in both the Houses recommending to the Government that legislation on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee should be undertaken.

AGRICULTURE

Arrangements have been made to transmit as rapidly as possible the results of the researches conducted in the Agricultural College, Coimbatore and in the Government farms to the ryots by increasing the number of demonstrators. There is now one demonstrator for each taluk. Exhibitions are held on important festive occasions and lectures delivered. Advice is given and demonstrations conducted on the control of pests and disease. Special attention has been paid to the demonstration of the usefulness of putting up field bunds in the Bellary and Anantapur districts. A new orientation has been given to propaganda and demonstration activities in the Second circle by the formation of Agricultural Advisory Committees.

Three new strains of paddy sufficiently tested for higher yields both in the research stations and on the fields for which they are intended, have been distributed for general cultivation.

White sugar has been made with success from palm juice. Work on malting cereals is in progress and paddy has been found to malt very satisfactorily and give a product low in fat and with an aroma. Experiments were made in blending this with cholam malt for infant and invalid food and it is found possible to produce a food with a lower fat content which can be expected to last longer.

Experiments on the reclamation of alkaline lands in Kitalai taluk of Trichinopoly district were continued. There was a marked improvement in the soil of the treated plots.

A grant of Rs. 18,000 has been accepted from the Government of India, for a scheme of research on insect pests of sugarcane to be carried on at Anakapalle and Gudiyattam, the principal sugarcane research stations in this Presidency, and the Government have sanctioned the employment of the entomological staff necessary for carrying out the research at those stations. The provisions of the Madras Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act were extended from the 1st December 1938 to the East and West Godavari districts with a view to the eradication of the fungus disease known as budrot of palmyrah. The Government have notified their intention to extend the Commercial Crops Market Act in respect of cotton to the taluks of Nandyal and Adoni. The attention of the proprietors of gins and presses has been drawn to the evils of the 'pool' system under which high rates are charged by the factories for ginning and pressing cotton and they have been warned that the Government would resort to legislation to remove the evils of the system and afford relief to the grower of cotton if the 'pool' system is persisted in.

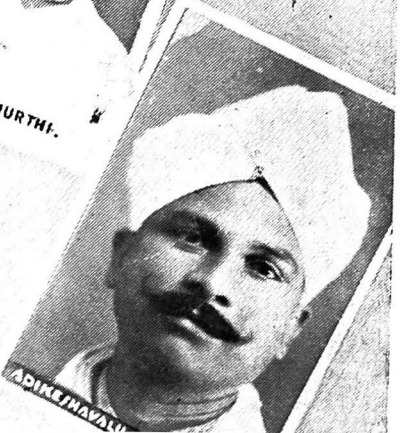
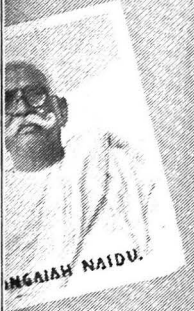
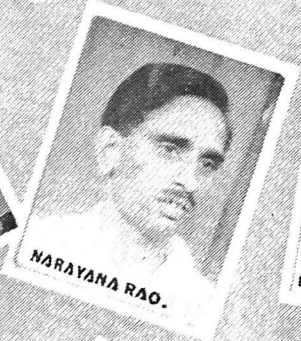
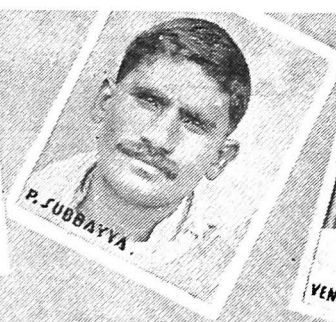
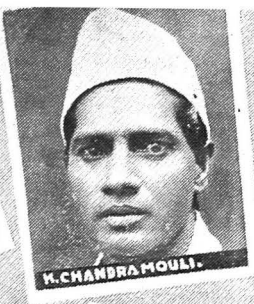
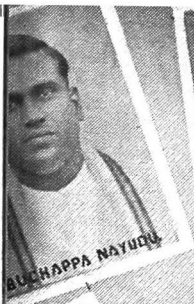
The Presidency Marketing Officer was deputed to study the Ceylon market for rice and report on the measures to be taken for the export of rice from this Presidency to Ceylon. Four posts of Agricultural Demonstrators have been sanctioned for attending to the development aspect of the marketing work. Marketing surveys of a number of commodities have been completed. Producers' Associations have been formed for marketing oranges, grapes, mangoes and eggs. The grading of several agricultural products with a view to improving their marketability is under investigation. Virginian tobacco in the Guntur district has been graded and produce worth about a lakh of rupees exported.

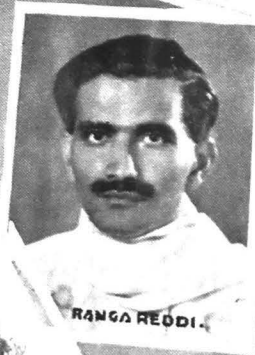
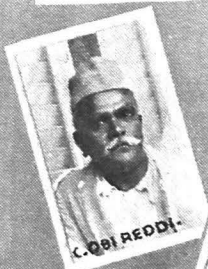
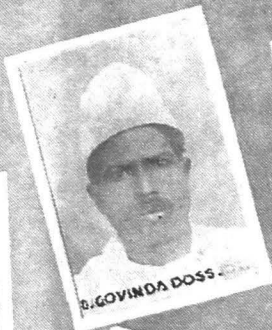
A special scheme for bee keeping was inaugurated in the Chittoor district with a Demonstration Central Apiary, and 96 live colonies have been distributed to the ryots. Stipends have been sanctioned for the training of a few Koya boys in agriculture. Help has been rendered to a scheme of colonisation by unemployed graduates, undertaken by the Annamalai University. Two graduates have started work and have brought 20 acres of land under cultivation.

As a measure of retrenchment, the post of Superintendent, Agricultural Research Station, Koilpatti was abolished and in his place an Upper Subordinate was employed as Farm Manager.

LIVESTOCK

The work of livestock improvement was transferred to the Veterinary Department on 1st April 1938. The Government have ordered that expansion of veterinary relief should in future be by providing for more tour parties. It has also been directed that wherever proposals are made for the opening of dispensaries, the local bodies concerned should make a contribution of not less than 50 per cent towards the recurring charges and initial equipment of the dispensary. To improve the quality of livestock, cattle breeding farms have been opened. The Government have raised the qualifications prescribed for admission to the Diploma Course to a pass in the Intermediate Examination. With a view ultimately to employing a cheaper agency to attend to the castration of bulls and the minor ailments of cattle, which are at present being attended to by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, the Government have sanctioned the institution of short courses for the training of "Stockmen" at the Veterinary Hospitals at Saidapet, Rajahmundry and Coimbatore, four candidates being entertained in each institution. The Government have sanctioned the proposals of the Chief Conservator of Forests for the grant of a remission of annas four per animal to such of the Sugalis in the Kurnool and Cuddapah districts as have kept their 'pentas' in a sanitary condition to the satisfaction of the Forests and the Veterinary Departments. Sanction has been accorded for the opening of three additional billets during 1939-40. The Government have approved the proposals of the Director of Veterinary Services for giving practical training in Milk Inspection, Animal Nutrition, Veterinary Dietetics, care and management of cattle etc. at the Hosur cattle farm to the final year B.V.Sc., students of the Veterinary College. Orders have been passed that breeding bulls maintained on the premia scheme should be treated free of charge at the Veterinary institutions.





FISHERIES

The Government have sanctioned the reopening of four fish curing yards on the West Coast which were closed in 1931. In order to effect economy in expenditure on fish curing yards, it is proposed to manufacture salt on the West Coast instead of buying salt at Tuticorin and transporting it to the Malabar coast. The vitamin survey of Madras fish oils led to the discovery of four more Indian fish with 3 to 18 times the vitamin A potency of cod liver oil. Sufficient knowledge having been gained of the vitamin A contents of several common South Indian fish, a scheme has been formulated to popularise the manufacture of medicinal fish oil in fishing villages as a cottage industry. The presence of vitamin A in appreciable amounts in the Malabar sardine suspected in 1933 was confirmed. Sardine oil is the commonest and cheapest fish oil produced in Madras and the presence now definitely proved of vitamin A in the oil is of great commercial importance as the oil can be utilised for food and medicinal purposes. The Government have approved, experimentally for a year, of a scheme to demonstrate at important fish curing yards the best method of extracting medicinal shark liver oil under village conditions as ascertained by experiments at Tanur.

The Government have had under consideration the future of the Fisheries Department and the possibility of effecting economies in the expenditure incurred in its administration. They have decided that the Department should continue as a separate entity for the present. As regards expenditure, the Government have passed orders closing the Tanur Research Station and abolishing a number of posts considered to be superfluous. The fish farms at Mopad and Praema have also been closed and the staff employed in them disbanded. The post of the Assistant Director of Fisheries (Coast) has been abolished and in its place a new post of Sub Assistant Director of Fisheries has been created. The post of Research Assistant attached to the Ennore station has also been abolished.

New schools have been opened for the children of the members of the fishermen community.

FORESTS

Minor forest produce is being collected departmentally wherever possible in order to secure increased revenue. Lac cultivation has been continued in Madura and Salem North and is sought to be extended to Chittoor. Sealing wax, shellac and lac varnish were prepared and experiments in the manufacture of various other products have been continued. Wooden poles have been supplied to the Electricity department for use after treatment with ascu and crusoli. Efforts are being made to increase the production of cheap fruits like tamarind, jambu and wood apples, to extend the planting of myrabolams, and to lease out or plant departmentally suitable areas for the cultivation of arecanut, cinnamon and cardamom. Experimental plantations are being opened on the Nilgiris and the Palnis to extend the cultivation of green wattle for tanning bark. Investigations are being conducted into the possibilities of utilising charcoal in the form of charcoal gas to replace petrol in motor vehicles. The production of camphor, three ply-wood, three-ply boxes, picture frames, wooden reapers and plugs is under consideration. As local *acaram* is being fast replaced by imported wattle and *acaram* imported from other parts of India, instructions have been issued to start plantations of *acaram* in suitable areas in reserved forests near road sides for supply to tanners. The possibilities of further expansion of cinnamon cultivation in the forests is being examined. An officer was deputed to Ceylon to study the production of cinnamon and its preparation for the market and his report is with the Government. Under contracts entered into with the South Indian Railway, large quantities of sleepers valued at Rs. 4 lakhs have been supplied. The sale of sandalwood has expanded to 1,248 tons and a revenue of Rs. 7.64 lakhs has been realised.

Grazing fees in reserved forests were reduced by 50 per cent from the 1st of April 1938. This concession involved a loss of about Rs. 3 lakhs a year to the provincial revenues. The concession has also been extended to certain panchayat forests and its extension to others is being considered. This may ultimately mean a reduction of another Rs. 1.25 lakhs a year in the amount of rent paid by forest panchayats. A Provincial Fodder and Grazing Committee has been

appointed to investigate the reclassification of waste land outside the Government forests; to select areas fit for production of fodder or management as grazing grounds and to advise the Government on the best agency for the management of such lands and to indicate lines of improvement. In addition, a Special Grazing Officer has been appointed to advise on all matters connected with grazing in reserved forests. The rotational system of grazing has been introduced in some areas in order to make the ryots realise the advantages of such grazing which gives time for the grass to rest and recuperate and make better fodder available.

Considerable areas of land have been disreserved for assignment to the Scheduled Classes and other landless people. The areas include 639 acres of the Dalli forest in the Coimbatore district, 119 acres of the Thaiyur Panchayat forests, 108 acres in Kattu Gudalur forests, 232 acres in the Kattur Panchayat forests, a small area in the Wenlock downs in the Nilgiri district, and 341 acres in the Nandibanda reserved forest in the Salem and North Arcot districts. The last mentioned area is intended for assignment to toddy tappers who lost their means of livelihood as a result of the introduction of Prohibition. Nearly 300 acres of panchayat forests near Avadi are also being disreserved for assignment to a colony on the lines of the Dayalbagh colony in Agra. A Tree Planting Day has been instituted in all the districts to encourage the people to plant trees which may ultimately serve their agricultural and domestic needs and to that extent relieve the pressure on reserved forests. Some villages near Kotagiri have started village fuel plantations.

A school for the more intensive training of foresters and guards who are already in service, has been started in Nilambur.

With a view to increasing the area under the cultivation of flower plants, the Forest Department has been asked to place forest lands at the disposal of the Agricultural Department and others interested in the matter. The collection has been ordered of such species of plants as may yield essential oils, for the purpose of conducting experiments by the Director of Industries and Commerce.

Proposals for the formation of a 'Wild Life Sanctuary' in the Mudumalai Forests of the Nilgiri division have been approved by the Government.

The Government have under consideration a proposal to encourage the plantation of 'Pytherium' to help the manufacture of 'insecticide' and also 'Mink Farming' for the purpose of developing the fur industry on the Nilgiris.

Cinchona: The rules relating to the grant of loans under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists Loan Acts were amended so as to permit the grant of loans for the cultivation of cinchona.

With a view to effecting economy in the administration of the Cinchona Department, the packing of quinine drugs has been centralised at the Penitentiary, Madras, as an experimental measure for a period of three months from April 1939. As the results proved satisfactory, this arrangement is to continue.

The post of Personal Assistant to the Director, Cinchona Department, has been converted into a post of Manager on a reduced scale of pay.

IRRIGATION

There was a steady expansion of cultivation and the area irrigated by Government irrigation works in the Province increased by over 2 lakhs of acres in 1937-38. Special steps were taken to establish closer contact between the ryot population and the officers of the department and suggestions made by the ryots for improvement of irrigation received the most careful consideration. No project was hitherto classified as productive unless the return from it reached 6%. This percentage was reduced to 4 and many projects which were classified as unproductive and discarded before are being re-examined to see which of them would prove remunerative under the new test.

The Tungabhadra Project:—Substantial progress was made with the negotiations for starting work on the Tungabhadra project. In spite of several difficulties this matter which had been hanging fire for a long time was brought to a head during 1938-39 and at a conference of the representa-

tives of Madras and Hyderabad Governments held in November 1938, an agreement was reached according to which both the Governments will utilise a part of the available Tungabhadra waters, the determination of the exact shares of the respective Governments interested being left over for future settlement. The intention is that a joint reservoir should be constructed at Mallapuram in the Bellary district for the use of both the Governments. The possibility of utilising the reservoir for the generation of electricity is being considered.

One of the problems which must be solved in this connection is the question of the crop or crops to be grown in the project area. The final selection of the most suitable crops must depend upon several factors, the most important of which are the nature of the soil and the habits of the ryot population. Having regard to these, the Government have enlarged the scope of the soil experiments at Siruguppa and have also sanctioned a separate experimental scheme under which the ryots will be allowed their own crops with practically no interference from Government officers except by way of general advice. The results of these experiments are awaited.

The Bhavani projects:—The Government have ordered the detailed investigation of the Upper and Lower Bhavani projects. The latter in its present form is expected to cost 267 lakhs of rupees and is designed to irrigate the entire project area of 207,000 acres in the second crop season, (October—February) thus allowing the ryots to grow commercial crops like cotton throughout the area if they so desire. Under this scheme, the division of the ayacut into zones and the attempt to supply water during the first crop season are to be abandoned, with the result that the ryots will be at liberty to grow a green manure crop for which no charge will be made during the South-West Monsoon period when the project channels will be closed.

Permission to pump water:—A sugar-cane zone was formed in the East Godavari Delta to ensure an adequate supply of cane to the Vuyyur sugar factory and permission was given to pump water from the canal and the river to enable dry lands outside the delta to grow cane.

Other schemes: Standing permits were ordered to be issued for a period of five years for the irrigation of dry lands under the Lower Coleroon Anicut system in the Tanjore district. Improvements were sanctioned to the Pilagur river channel in the Chingleput district and the Rameswaram Channel in the Cuddapah district. The construction of masonry works was undertaken in the Konala and Anulla Agraharam scheme in the West Godavari district. The excavation of field channels has been left to the ryots as desired by them in certain places. In response to the representations of the ryots and the Municipal Council, Ellore, the Ellore channel has been ordered to be opened a month earlier than usual.

The Government have approved of the expenditure of Rs. 12,500 on the construction of an anicut across the Hebbahalla river in the Kollegal taluk, Coimbatore district. A ruined tank in the Titakal village, Anantapur district, has been ordered to be restored at a cost of Rs. 8,000. An expenditure of Rs. 5,000 has been sanctioned for protecting the right margin of the Vamsadhara river in Calingapatam village limits, Chicacole taluk, Vizagapatam district. Water is supplied to 2,400 acres in the Godavari Western delta for raising garden crops. To facilitate transplantation, water was supplied from the Periyar lake beyond the dates originally fixed. The proposal to remodel the Achanta channel and its branches in the Godavari Western delta and to construct a regulator to ensure adequate and timely supply of water has been accepted. The Papagani Reservoir Project will be re-examined by Government.

Repalle tank in the Jammalamadugu taluk, Cuddapah district, was receiving an insufficient supply of water. It is proposed to excavate a spring channel from the Chitravarti river to irrigate the tank ayacut, the tank bed and some other dry lands. An estimate of Rs. 27,930 has been sanctioned in this connection.

To improve the supply of water to the tanks in the Nellore district, a proposal has been accepted at an estimated cost of Rs. 31,000.

ELECTRICITY

It is the policy of the Government that as far as possible, hydro-electric surveys and projects should be under their sole charge. The Pykara and Mettur hydro-electric systems continue to work satisfactorily. The total number of units generated under all Government systems during 1938-39 was 131.1 million units as against 77 million units in 1936-37 and 101.3 million units in 1937-38. The net revenue realised from the Pykara system in 1938-39 was 17.5 lakhs as against 14.2 lakhs in 1936-37 and 15.2 lakhs in 1937-38.

The Mettur system commenced operation only on 1-11-37 and the net revenue in 1938-39 was 3.6 lakhs. A review of the needs of the Pykara power area indicated that additional generating plant was necessary and a scheme costing 45 lakhs of rupees was sanctioned by the Government. A fourth generating unit was completed and brought into use in March 1939 while a fifth is under erection. It is expected that this will be completed by September 1939. The Mukurti dam was completed early in 1938 and it impounds 1,400 m.cft. of water. The original Pykara scheme operated at 66,000 volts but an ultimate change of 110,000 volts was visualised and provision made accordingly. The change-over had to be made without any restriction of load and this meant that the operations were not only complicated but required considerable time and care. Part of these operations was completed some time ago, but by far the most important of the operations were undertaken only recently. The change-over has now been completed without any difficulty.

The Papanasam hydro-thermal scheme is in progress.

Thermal Stations.—The Government have decided to generate and supply energy in bulk from thermal stations with a view to develop markets for electric power. Thermal stations at Vizagapatam, Bezwada and Cocanada are already working.

The electricity undertakings worked by the Municipal Councils of Virudhunagar, Dindigul, Pollachi, Karur and Palni which were managed by Government were handed over to the respective municipal councils as they had reached a profit-making stage.

Extensions were made to rural distribution lines for agricultural and other purposes and the Government sanctioned schemes for the extension of supply of electric power to the Chittoor, Salem, North Arcot, Chingleput and Trichinopoly districts.

Reduction of Electricity Rates:—In view of the public agitation for the reduction of the rates charged by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation the Government took up the question with the Corporation and in June last an agreement was arrived at under which the Corporation made appreciable reductions in their rates of supply to consumers. It is expected that the reductions will result in the profits of the Corporation being diminished by about 2 lakhs of rupees a year. In addition to this the Corporation will also have to pay the Electricity duty amounting to about Rs. 2½ lakhs.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Cottage Industries:—The Madras State Aid to Industries Act was amended so as to make it more useful in practice by liberalising the terms 'Cottage' and 'Village' industries. The term 'cottage industry' as redefined will cover any industry carried on by a worker in his own house, while 'village industry' will mean any industry which forms the normal occupation, whether wholtime or part time, of any class of the rural population of the Province. A new clause has been added to enable the Government to assist a village industry in any manner which may be considered suitable by the Provincial Government. The effect of these amendments is that cottage industries have been rendered eligible for receiving grants for any purpose relating to their improvement, whereas, formerly, a subsidy could be granted only for the conduct of research or the purchase of machinery. Since July 1937, loans were granted by the Government to persons carrying on the toy-making, and bee-keeping industries and a subsidy was granted to a button manufacturers' co-operative production and sales society. A loan of Rs. 100 was granted to two families in Nugur taluk, East Godavari district, to assist them in reviving the silk spinning and weaving industry carried on there.



MAPI PILLAI

P. NATEJA MUDALIAR

K. BHAKYAM IYENGAR

DR. P.S. PRINIVASA IYER

MUNHA MUDALIAR

M. ANNAMALAI PILLAI

A. RAMALINGAM

V.M. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR

B.T. JEHADRIACHARIAR

RAMALINGA REDDIAR

K. KULASEKARAN

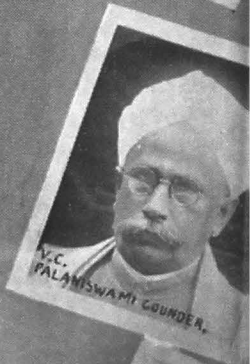
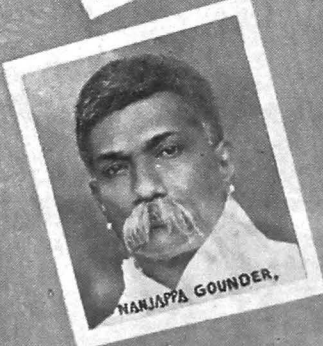
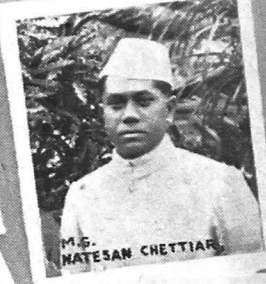
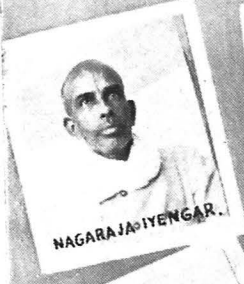
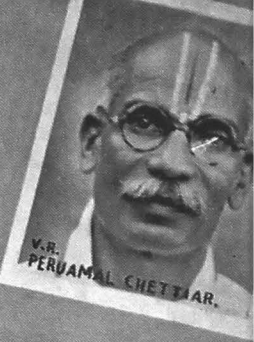
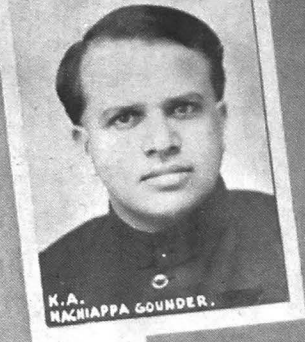
V.J. JAYU PILLAI

NYAM

VENKATASUBBA REDDIAR

CHIDAMBARA NYAR.S

M. TITARAMA REDDIAR



With a view to encourage the production of handloom cloth, the Madras Sale of Cloth Act was enacted, and the Khadi (Name Protection) Act was extended to this Province. In each of the budgets presented by the Congress Ministry provision has been made for rendering special assistance to the Khadi industry, a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs being set apart for the purpose in each budget. Grants have been made to the All-India Spinners' Association to enable it to finance the designing, manufacturing and supplying of gins, bows with guts, spindles with thin pulleys, speed wheels, vertical and horizontal charkas, fly shuttle looms and fittings and also for the conduct of research work in carding, spinning and printing, dyeing and weaving, and for the training of a number of workers and the employment of these workers as instructors in the villages with a view to increasing the efficiency of the artisans and of the implements used by them. In addition, the All India Spinners' Association is granted a subsidy to cover possible losses caused by inexperienced workers in the initial stages and also to enable it to give adequate wages to the spinners and other artisans. The grant is based on the actual increase in the production effected during a year. Special provision has been made for the organisation of hand-spinning centres in the Bellary and Kurnool districts and in Mopland.

Hand-made paper.—The Government having found that the possibilities of developing a hand-made paper industry in some areas of the Province are reasonably promising in view of the fact that grasses and leaves of certain plants which are available in plenty and have hitherto been regarded as of little economic value can be employed as raw material for the manufacture of pulp, ten students were deputed to Wardha to receive instruction in the hand-made paper industry. Two training centres have been organised for the industry, one at Madras and the other at Peddakadubur near Adoni in the Bellary district. The centres are working satisfactorily and further centres may be established next year.

Oil-pressing.—Ten candidates have been deputed to Wardha for training in oil-pressing.

Jaggery manufacture.—With a view to finding employment for the former toddy tappers, successful demonstra-

tions of the manufacture of improved jaggery from coconut and palmyra sweet toddy were carried out by the Department of Industries in the Salem district and it was shown that a superior quality jaggery could be prepared from coconut sweet toddy and that the jaggery is suitable for refining into sugar. A demonstration of the manufacture of improved jaggery from date palm juice has also been held in the Cuddapah district.

Malted foods and sandpaper:—The Government have recently sanctioned the construction of a small scale plant for the preparation of malted foods from cholam and other cereals and also the conduct of experiments with a view to the evolution of suitable plant for the manufacture of sandpaper as a cottage industry.

Cumbly and carpet industries:—Assistance has been rendered to the woollen cumbly weaving industry of the Ceded districts and of the Kistna and West Godavari districts as well as to the Ellore pile carpet industry.

Sericulture:—There has been considerable progress in sericulture. Endeavours have been made to evolve a hardier race of worms that would yield cocoons of a superior quality with richer silk content, and a series of experiments and researches have been conducted with a view to (i) enhancing the rearer's and reeler's income and (ii) bringing down the cost of production of raw silk. Attention is now being concentrated on the production of cross-breed seeds which are proving very popular in Kollegal owing to the benefits derived by the rearers in the shape of (i) increased yield of cocoons, (ii) richer silk content, (iii) shorter period required for rearing, (iv) higher prices realised, (v) greater resistance to disease, and (vi) reduction in the quantity of leaves required to produce one pound cocoons. A programme has been drawn up under which it is hoped to supply the entire seed requirements of the Kollegal taluk in the form of cross-breed seeds within a period of five years.

Ericulture:—The question of developing ericulture, which is the culture of silk worms that feed on castor leaves, is receiving active consideration and a scheme for installing a waste silk plant, which will absorb a considerable quantity of eri cocoons, is under preparation.

Medium and large scale industries:—Since July 1937, Rs. 40,750 was sanctioned in the form of loans under the State Aid to Industries Act, whilst the Government agreed to take up shares to the amount of Rs. 55,350 in four companies. The Government granted a loan of Rs. 7,200 to the proprietor of a gold-thread factory in Kumbakonam. A loan of Rs. 800 was sanctioned to an applicant in Coimbatore for equipping his workshop for the manufacture of patent articles including malted biscuits and malted food products. A loan of Rs. 6,500 was granted for developing the manufacture of envelopes at Madras. A loan of Rs. 2,000 was granted for the manufacture of bread and allied food-stuffs at Nellore. A loan of Rs. 500 for the manufacture of improved types of hand-pounders in South Kanara was granted, and another loan of Rs. 3,000 was sanctioned to the proprietor of a bone mill at Ennore for developing his bone crushing industry. Loans of Rs. 1,000 each have been granted for the development of ivory carving and the manufacture of electrical fittings on a small scale. A loan of Rs. 16,800 has recently been sanctioned for developing the dairy industry in Tinnevely. The Government have taken shares to the value of Rs. 17,850 in the Kollegal Silk Filatures Limited, and have agreed to take shares to the value of Rs. 7,500 in a joint-stock company for the manufacture of surgical wadding and antiseptic dressings, and shares to the value of Rs. 10,000 in the Indian Canning Industries Limited, Bezwada for the development of the fruit preserving industry.

The possibility of producing industrial alcohol has received the attention of the Government and the report of the special committee which was appointed to study the material already collected and to make definite recommendations, is at present under the consideration of the Government. The question of the development of the magnetite iron ore deposits of the Salem district has been examined and the further steps to be taken in the matter are under consideration. The question of the manufacture of fertilisers and especially of ammonium sulphate in this province is under preliminary examination. The Government have sanctioned the conduct of a survey of the oil crushing industry at a cost of Rs. 2,500. Steps have been taken to prevent the short-reeling of cotton yarn.

Schemes for the establishment of cotton spinning mills in the Ceded districts have been drawn up and are under consideration.

Industrial Education:—The Government have set up a Technological Diploma Examination Board to control the conditions under which young men seeking the diplomas of the School of Technology or other central technological institutions are trained and examined. A course in ceramics extending over a period of three years has been introduced in the Government School of Arts and Crafts. The leather working course in the Leather Trades Institute for providing instruction in the shoe-making and the manufacture of simple leather goods has been expanded into a two years' course. One of the ways of opening up new avenues for the unemployed is to select a number of youths and give them intensive training for comparatively short periods in such small-scale industries as they might be able to establish and develop in or around their own homes. A step in this direction has been taken in providing courses of training in casting and metal work at the Government School of Technology and the Government Industrial School at Calicut. As a preliminary to considering further ways of providing more specialised courses of training which will enable students to set up small establishments of their own, an officer of the Department of Industries and Commerce was recently deputed to undertake a tour of Northern India in order to study the development of industrial education in the Punjab and the United Provinces in this direction. The same officer will shortly proceed to Japan in order to study the organisation and technique of the cottage and small scale industries in that country. On his return it is hoped to draw up a number of schemes for the introduction of new cottage industries which will afford new subsidiary occupations for the agriculturists. A contribution of Rs. 5,000 per annum to the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore for a period of three years was sanctioned.

Research and Experimental Work: The preparation on a laboratory scale of toilet creams, brilliantines, hair oils and dentifrices has been undertaken at the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut. The object of these small scale experiments is to

determine whether creams, brilliantines or other cosmetic articles such as will find a ready sale can be produced at the Institute and if the results of the experiments are satisfactory, it is intended to take up the commercial manufacture of the products since this would not only extend the industrial utilisation of some of the raw materials available in the province, but also enable small concerns to be started and additional employment created, while the present volume of imports of cosmetic products would be reduced. Further, the commercial manufacture of the products in the Institute will expand the scope of the training at present given to the students. The experiments so far taken up have given promising results, and it is hoped shortly to place on the market a dentifrice manufactured at the Institute.

In view of the resources of the province in essential oil bearing materials, and the desirability of exploiting them to the fullest extent, experiments on the manufacture of essential oils have also been initiated at the Kerala Soap Institute. The object of the scheme of experimental work is to develop the essential oil industry and incidentally to provide at a reasonable cost some of the essential oils required for soap manufacture in this province.

Experiments in the manufacture of insecticides, fungicides and sprayers are in progress at the Kerala Soap Institute. A tree banding compound has been evolved for the purpose of preventing ants and other creeping insects from mounting the stems of fruit trees and destroying leaves, flowers, fruits etc. A leach killer has also been prepared for protecting those working in plantations situated in higher elevations where owing to the dense growth of vegetation and absence of the sun's rays, leaches thrive. A few other preparations have also been made on an experimental scale.

During the last two years experiments have been carried out at the Leather Trades Institute, Madras on (i) the pickling of hides and skins, (ii) the Madras tannages with a view to introducing modifications that would result in a shortening of the period of the tanning process and so reduce the cost of tanning, (iii) the possibility of replacing the imported wattle bark by indigenous tanning materials, (iv) the utilisation to greater advantage of synthetic tanning, (v)

the preparation of suitable leather for water buckets and (vi) improved methods of curing. If these experiments, which are still in progress, yield successful results, the benefit to the tanning industry will be not inconsiderable.

Industrial Museum: It is generally recognised that industrial museums would be of benefit to cottage and other industrialists by bringing them into touch with buyers who might otherwise be unaware of their existence. District museums have been established or are in process of establishment in the West Godavari, East Godavari, Cuddapah, Guntur, South Kanara, Tinnevely and North Arcot districts. In course of time it is hoped that each district will have a commercial museum of its own, linked to the central museum which is being established at Madras.

Statistics: Statistical work in Madras is not only increasing in volume and importance but is becoming increasingly specialised. A census of the educated unemployed was carried out in the Vizagapatam, Anantapur, Chittoor, North Arcot, Tinnevely and Malabar districts. An investigation into the family burgets of industrial workers in Madras City has been carried out and the results of the inquiry have been published for general information. The compilation of a cost of living index for Madras City was taken up and the index is published in newspapers each month. Arrangements have been made for the compilation of a monthly wholesale price index for Madras City. Arrangements have also been made for the publication once a week of the prices of important commodities at selected centres in the Province through the All India Radio at Madras and Trichinopoly. The question of the publication of daily prices through the Radio is under consideration.

Swadeshi: Orders have been issued requiring Heads of Departments to give preference to Indian manufacture in the purchases made on behalf of the Government. Local bodies and institutions receiving aid from the Government have been asked to give preference to articles manufactured in India when making purchases for their use. Orders have also been issued making the purchase of jail made articles compulsory for departments requiring such articles. Orders have been issued to the effect that (1) blacklead pencils required by

Government should be purchased from the Madras Pencil Factory; (2) Indian made tape should be used for flat-file boards; (3) superior sealing wax which was hitherto imported should be obtained from the Forest Department. Soaps manufactured in the Kerala Soap Factory are being purchased for departmental requirements. Orders have been passed that 50% of the stock of woollen blankets in each Government medical institution may be gradually replaced by thick cotton Khaddar blankets and that the additional stock of 10% required to meet unforeseen circumstances may also be Khaddar blankets. The Government have also directed that tinctures, chemicals, and other pharmaceutical products manufactured in India should be purchased for use in Government medical institutions provided they are of the standard quality and their price is equal to or less than that of similar foreign products.

LABOUR POLICY

The policy of the Government in regard to labour disputes is based on the recognition of the paramount need for internal settlements. There is a tendency among workers to precipitate strikes without exhausting all methods of conciliation. The events which led to the closing of the Choolai Mills and the strikes at Nellikuppam, Samalkot and Ranipet bear testimony to this unfortunate circumstance. Since the present Government came into power, many labour disputes were settled by Government intervention. The Trades Disputes Act, 1939, was freely resorted to for the purpose of appointing Conciliation Boards and Courts of Inquiry.

The Government have directed that representatives of Trade Unions consisting of employees of the Government should be permitted to attend conferences called by the Government for the discussion of matters concerning the welfare of labour, that such representatives should be treated as on duty during the period of their absence from work for such purpose, and that full wages should be paid to them.

Labour Legislation: Legislation relating to the settlement of labour disputes and the recognition of trade unions will be shortly introduced in the Legislature. The proposed measure will supplement the provisions of the Trade Disputes

Act, 1929. Failing internal settlement of a dispute, the Commissioner of Labour will act as the Chief Conciliator and try his best to effect an adjustment of the differences between the parties. If his attempt fails, it is proposed that the dispute may be referred to a Court or a Board at the instance of either party. It is further proposed to constitute judges of the District Courts in the moffusil and of the City Civil Court in Madras as Industrial Courts to which the dissatisfied party can take the dispute. The decision of this Court will be of a recommendatory character.

It is proposed to include provisions for the appointment of a Board of Arbitration when both the parties to a dispute agree thereto or when the Government consider it desirable. Trade Unions whose membership exceeds a certain percentage of the workers will be recognised and it will be obligatory for the employers to consult such unions in matters affecting labour.

Unemployment Insurance : It is proposed to pass an enabling measure to afford relief to the unemployed.

Maternity Benefit : The Madras Maternity Benefit Act was recently amended with a view to secure for women workers a maternity allowance for some weeks before and after confinement. Certain defects in the Act which enabled the employers to evade the grant of the benefit have been removed.

Housing : Active steps were taken to encourage industrial housing in the industrial areas of the Province. An attempt was made to provide houses for industrial workers at Madura on a co-operative basis, with the assistance of Messrs. Harvey & Co., Ltd. Building operations for the colony commenced recently at Tirupparankunram. Proposals to have similar colonies at Papanasam are under consideration. A co-operative society was organised at Coimbatore for building houses for workers.

The Government have sanctioned the construction of new quarters for the labourers on the Government Cinchona plantations with provision for protected water supply and adequate lavatory accommodation at a cost of Rs. 1,24,600. Proposals have been made to the planters for the improvement



AMJITHAMMAL



L. KRISHNA SWAMI BHARATI



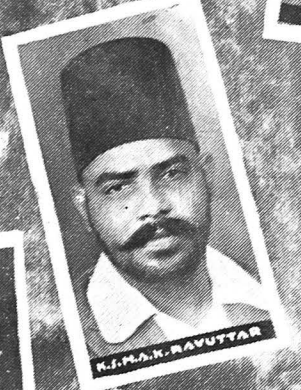
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J. SARASWATHI



Y. RAJESWAR



K. S. MA. K. RAJUTTA



J. C. BALAKRISHNAN



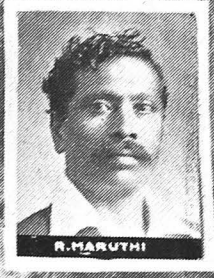
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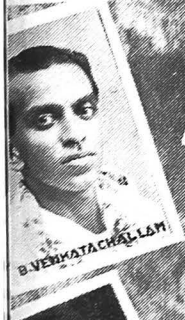
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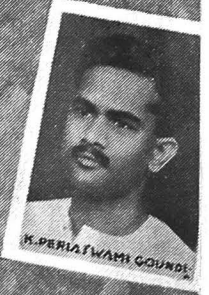
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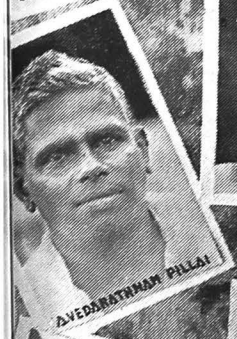
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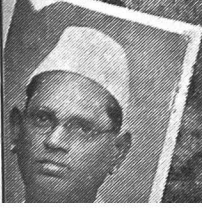
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K. PERIASWAMI GOUNDER



A. VEERARATHNAM PILLAI



R. MARIMUTHU



P. VENKATASAMA IYER



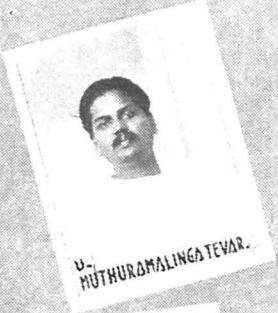
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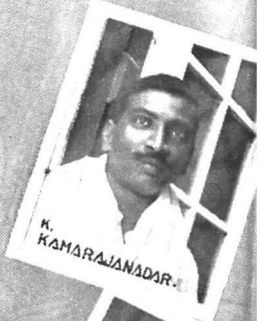
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U. MUTHURAMALINGA TEVAR



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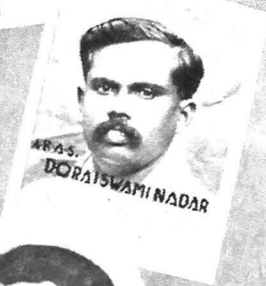
K. KAMARAJANADAR



LAKSHMI AMMAL



JEBAMONEY MASILAMANI



A.R.S. DORAISWAMI NADAR



P. CHINNAMUTHU



K.P. YEGHEWARA SARMA



J.L.P. ROCHE VICTORIA



SATTANADA KARAYALAR



T.S. CHOCKALINGAM PILLAI

	No. of strikes settled by Conciliation.			No. of strikes settled by reference, under the Indian Trade Disputes Act, 1929.			No. of strikes settled by reference to arbitrator or Board of arbitration	No. of strikes settled by other means (i.e. by negotiation by private individuals or between the parties themselves)	Total
	By the Hon'ble Minister for Industries and Labour (a)	By the Labour Commissioner, Dt. Magistrate or other officials. (b)	Total (c)	To a Board of Conciliation. (a)	To a Court of Enquiry (b)	Total (c)			
During the period of the present Ministry (i.e.) from Middle of July 1937 to 30-6-39...	8	10	18	2	9	11	6	61	96
During the preceding two years (i.e.) 1935—36 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	14
1936—37 ... (upto the middle of July 1937)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	28

Explanatory Note: In columns 2 (a) and (b) is included only the number of strikes successfully settled by the intervention of the Hon'ble Minister for Industries and Labour or by the Labour Commissioner or other officials. Cases in which the intervention of the Hon'ble Minister or the Labour Commissioner or other officials was unsuccessful and which were settled ultimately by other means are included in column 5.

of the conditions of labour in the plantations on the Anamalais.

General: The rule-making powers under the Indian Factories Act are freely used to improve the conditions of labour. It has been made obligatory for owners of factories to provide first aid appliances on a proper scale. Owners of factories have been asked to keep records of periods of sickness of the operatives other than casual labour. Any recipient of state aid under the State aid to Industries Act other than 'Cottage' and 'Village' industries, has to ensure a minimum standard of labour conditions to the employees in his concern, the Government's decision as to what constitutes the minimum standard being final.

With a view to ensure more effective supervision of factories, the Presidency which had hitherto been divided into five circles, has now been divided into six.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Honorary Medical Officers:—One of the first measures of medical reform effected by the Government was the extension of the system of appointing Honorary Medical Officers. It resulted in a reduction of expenditure on medical relief and afforded greater opportunities to independent practitioners of medicine to acquire training and experience in State hospitals. Local bodies have been requested to adopt the system in their medical institutions. They have been asked to provide four to six additional beds in the medical institutions where the system is introduced according to the amount saved by the introduction of the system. The tenure of honorary officers has been limited to five years so that the benefit of such training may be given to as many medical men as possible.

The abolition of invidious distinctions between different classes of medical practitioners was another important measure of reform introduced by the Government. The Madras

Medical Registration Act was amended so that all medical practitioners, irrespective of their qualifications, may be classed together in a common register. The medical schools in the Province were closed and a uniform standard of medical education in colleges was introduced. The Central Board of Indian Medicine will be reconstituted and some of the members will, hereafter, be elected.

Public Health Act:—A comprehensive measure to improve the public health of the Province by providing for the proper enforcement of suitable measures in regard to epidemics, protected water supply, sanitation and similar matters was passed by the Legislature. A draft bill for the registration and control of pharmacies, compounders, etc., has been prepared and is under the consideration of the Government.

For promoting public health and extending medical relief in rural areas, the Government have under consideration a scheme of Health Co-operative Societies. The Societies will organise a medical establishment with a qualified doctor, a compounder, and a dispensary and will carry out public health and sanitation work with the help of organised squads of young men in the village.

Improvements to Hospitals:—The Administration of the General Hospital has been reorganised and a Deep X-Ray Therapy Department has been opened in the Government Hospital for Women and Children at Madras. 'C' class paying wards have been opened in the General and the Royapuram Hospitals. Hand-pounded rice was ordered to be used as an experimental measure in six Head-Quarters Hospitals. Since the Superintendents of these hospitals recommended it as more nutritive and better relished by patients than the polished rice formerly supplied, the Government have decided to extend its use to other hospitals. Radon treatment was introduced for the first time in five District Head-quarters Hospitals.

Medical Education:—The Stanley Medical School, Royapuram, was converted into a college.

With a view to improving the Medical College, and the King George Hospital at Vizagapatam, the Government sanctioned certain extensions and improvements and as a result, provisional recognition of the M.B.B.S. Degree of the Andhra University has been secured. Post Graduate courses in special subjects like Radiology and a revised scheme of training for compounders have been instituted.

In the three Medical Colleges in the Presidency, 49 seats have been reserved for women students.

The scheme of 'public health' training has been extended to practitioners of Indian Medicine in charge of rural dispensaries. The Government have allowed the admission of Women L.I.Ms. for post graduate clinical training in the Government Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital, Madras. The Government have taken over the management of the Training School for Health Visitors and have appointed a Woman Medical Officer to be in charge of it. The School was hitherto conducted by the Indian Red Cross Society.

The Nursing service in Government Hospitals has been reorganised and provision has been made for the employment of male nurses.

Orders were passed restricting the privilege of private practice allowed to medical officers in Government employment. Consulting practice is allowed so that the benefit of the experience and skill of Government Medical Officers may be available to the general public.

Leprosy and Tuberculosis Relief.—Leprosy institutions which were serving mostly as asylums for burnt out cases of leprosy past the stage of infection, are being changed into hospitals for treatment in the infective stages. Additional beds have been provided in the Tambaram Tuberculosis Sanatorium and a half grant of Rs. 60,874 has been given towards the cost of buildings and initial equipment for the Sanatorium which was opened recently at Perundurai.

Anti-malarial schemes.—The Government have accepted the offer of the All India Research Fund Association of

Rs. 40,000 a year for five years for utilisation on anti-malarial schemes subject to the condition of the Government providing an equal sum. The scheme for the free distribution of quinine was extended to certain villages in the Nellore and Kodur taluks. The scheme for the investigation and control of Malaria was started in the Pattukottai, Wynad and Ennore areas. A Malaria survey in Yercaud, Salem district, was also carried out. To make quinine available to the poorer sections of the community, the price of cinchona febrifuge tablets was reduced from Rs. 10 to Rs. 8 per lb. and that of quinine sulphate tablets from Rs. 19 to Rs. 17.

EDUCATION

Wardha Scheme : Three officers of the Education Department were deputed to undergo a course of training in the Vidya Mandir Training School, Wardha. A training school on the Wardha model was opened at Coimbatore on the 10th of July. A batch of 42 teachers will be trained this year, and when they go back to their respective schools, these schools will be gradually transferred into Wardha or Basic Schools.

The Government have sanctioned the appointment of 200 additional teachers in Panchayat schools in the current year, the Government giving a grant of Rs. 180 per annum in respect of each teacher. In selecting teachers preference will be given to those who know some handicrafts which they can teach in the school.

Elementary Education : By an Act of the Legislature District Educational Councils were abolished with effect from 1st June 1939. In their place, Taluk Advisory Education Committees have been set up to assist the Educational Department in dealing with questions relating to elementary education in each taluk.

The rules under the Madras Elementary Education Act were amended to safeguard the interest of teachers and to give them greater security of tenure. The important changes made are that not less than 85 per cent of the teaching grant to a school or of the scale grant must be paid to the teachers employed in it by way of salary; that no deductions should be made from the pay of teachers except by way of deductions

for provident fund, etc.; that every teacher employed in an aided elementary school must have a Service Register which will set forth among other things the terms of his appointment and the reasons for terminating his service; and that no grant can be paid to a school which does not pay its staff regularly in accordance with the terms of the Teachers' Service Registers.

Rules have been issued for reorganising and recognising Associations of Elementary School teachers and of Elementary School Managers, and Taluk Unions of Elementary School teachers.

Secondary Education : Instructions were issued that all high schools in uni-lingual areas should begin the use of the mother tongue as the medium of instruction in the IV Form in the school year 1938-39 and continue it in successive years in Forms V and VI. Hindustani has been introduced as a subject of study in Forms I to III in 225 High Schools in the Presidency.

The number of centres at which the public examination under the S.S.L.C. scheme is held, has been increased from 215 to 252.

Collegiate Education : The Government have sanctioned the opening of B.Sc. courses in the Government Victoria College, Palghat, from the academic year 1939-40. Regarding qualifications for appointments to Provincial and Subordinate Services, it has been explicitly decided that there should be no discrimination between the Universities in this Presidency and the necessary amendments to the statutory rules have been issued.

Concessions to Minorities : Scholarships which were granted to Muslim pupils of Malabar studying in the lower classes have been extended to the higher standards also.

Local bodies have been permitted to incur expenditure from the Elementary Education Fund for the free supply of books and slates to the poor pupils of the Scheduled Castes and of the Muslim community.

Students and Politics : According to the Madras Educational Rules as now amended, no one convicted of an

offence will be banned from admission into any school or college. Students are under no restrictions as to participation in politics, except that they are prevented from taking part in electioneering campaigns and that they are enjoined to maintain the internal discipline in educational institutions.

Teachers and Dress: Members of the teaching staffs in schools and colleges, both under public and private management, were given the liberty of wearing while on duty whatever dress they chose provided it was in conformity with the ideas of decency current in society.

RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

A comprehensive measure which will replace the present Hindu Religious Endowments Act is under preparation. The object of the legislation is to bring all temples, choultries and other charitable institutions under the direct control of the Government and entrust their administration to a department of Government.

The Tirumalai Tirupathi Devasthanams Act was amended so as to place greater responsibility on the Management with regard to the public health measures in the area under its control. The amendment also permits the utilisation of the temple funds for certain purposes germane to the objects of the institution.

An Oriental Institute has been just opened at Tirupathi with the specific object of conserving and diffusing knowledge of ancient Hindu culture through research and instruction. The utilisation for such a purpose of the surplus and hoarded capital of the temple will be in keeping with the traditions of religious institutions. The services of eminent scholars have been secured to take charge of the Sanskrit, Telugu and Tamil departments. Schemes are getting ready for the erection of suitable buildings for the Institute and the Hostel.

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

Amalgamation of bifurcated district boards.—After the abolition of taluk boards, the functions of those boards devolved on district boards. The creation of district boards with smaller jurisdiction was considered necessary to cope

with the additional work and many of the larger district boards were accordingly bifurcated. As soon as the Congress Ministry assumed office, it was confronted with a number of district boards with deficit budgets, which, after paying the overhead charges, could not provide even the minimum essential amenities in the direction of rural water supply, communications, etc. Such a state of affairs showed that bifurcation was not the correct policy to be followed. The Government therefore decided to amalgamate all the bifurcated district boards and by 15th November 1938 the amalgamation was complete.

Abolition of nominations:—Nominations to the bifurcated district boards were resorted to by the previous Government without limit virtually to give representation on the boards to minority communities. It was however found that in actual practice, the power of nomination was misused for converting a minority party into a majority party and *vice versa*. As soon as the Congress Ministry assumed office, legislation was undertaken to oust the nominated members from office and to provide for the representation of minority communities by co-option by the concerned district boards. On the amalgamation of bifurcated district boards even the co-opted members ceased to hold office with the result that all the members of district boards are now elected.

Introduction of colour box system at elections to local bodies:—Before the Congress Ministry assumed office there was no provision for illiterate voters to vote secretly at elections to district boards, municipalities (including the Corporation of Madras) and a great majority of 'ex-union' panchayats. In order to afford such voters facilities for voting secretly, the 'coloured box' system of voting was introduced.

Adoption of the franchise for the Madras Legislative Assembly as the franchise for local bodies:—The franchise for the local bodies in this Province was a restricted one; whereas that of the Madras Legislative Assembly was fairly wide as it extends to all adult literates. Legislation was undertaken to assimilate the franchise for the Corporation of Madras, District Municipalities and Local Boards with that for the Madras Legislative Assembly. This resulted not only in the widening of the franchise for local bodies but also in



KARUNAKARA MENON.



Dr. CHANDOO.



P. RAGHAVA MENON.



AHMAD ABDUR RAHIMAN



HAJEE P.I. KUNHAMMAD KUTTY



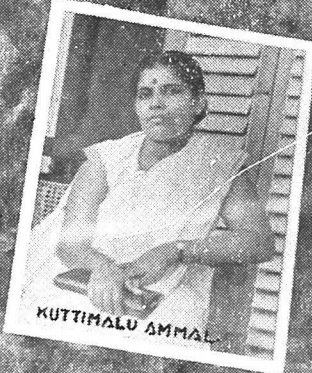
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SANKARAN NAMBU DIRI PAD.



GOVINDAN NAYAR.



KUTTIMALU AMMAL.



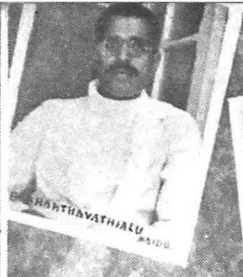
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N.R. KARANT.



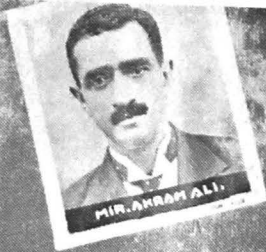
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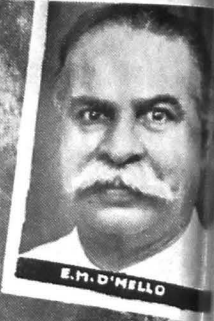
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J. RAJA RAO.



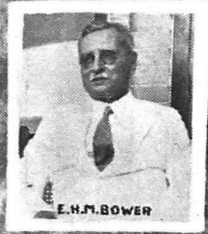
MIR. ANRAM ALI.



E. M. D'NELLO



F. GROUJE PIONIDES



E. H. M. BOWER



ZAMINDAR - BODIRAMA KANUNGO



J. M. LALUAN



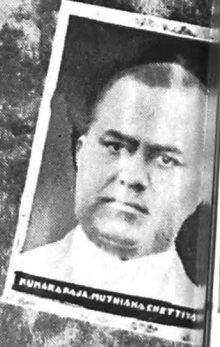
K. K. UMAR KHAN MOHD.



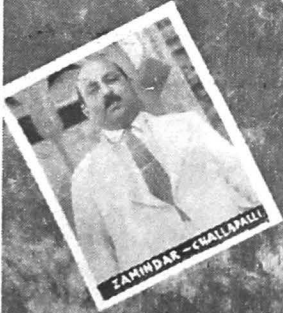
K. C. SATHYANARAYANA REDDY



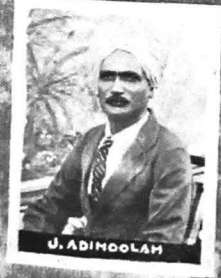
P. M. ATHANGAL



K. M. NARAYANA MURTHY



ZAMINDAR - CHALLA PILLAI



J. ADINOOLAH



MR. CHAMMAI



an appreciable reduction in the cost of preparation of their electoral rolls.

Avoidance of expenditure:—The Government advised local bodies to avoid expenditure from their funds on presenting addresses and have informed them that such expenditure should be met by public subscriptions.

Prevention of misappropriation of funds:—As cases of misappropriation of panchayat funds by Presidents and retention of funds in their hands in violation of the rules have increased, it is proposed to make it clear that a President will be removed from office if he fails to produce the cash balance before any inspecting officer even in the first instance.

Amendments to Contract Rules:—The rules for entering into contracts by local boards were not well defined and gave scope for the exercise of nepotism. There were frequent complaints of wide-spread corruption so much so that there was a clamour for the entire abolition of the District Boards as incapable of improvement. A well-defined set of rules to call for open tenders and accept the lowest tender subject to considerations of efficiency was therefore necessary. The necessary rules were accordingly issued and these have been working satisfactorily. Corruption has been put down to a large extent and the cry for the abolition of the District Boards is now very feeble.

Provincialisation of Assistant Engineers:—Closely connected with contracts was the control of the Assistant Engineers who are the Chief Checkmeasuring officers. A notification was issued on the 6th June 1938 constituting the Assistant Engineers' service into a provincial service. Rules have since been framed, and brought into force after obtaining the approval of both the Houses of Legislature thereto. The Assistant Engineers who are highly qualified men, are expected to give of their best in the discharge of their duties unhampered by political or other considerations. It may be added that the communal rotation principle has been embodied in the rules.

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AND TRAFFIC CONTROL

Road Fund and Seven Years' Programme:—Although petrol cess was being levied from 1930 the receipts were being utilised without an organised programme and only a few districts were benefited by it. A programme for Rs. 119 lakhs spread over seven years had been prepared making an equitable distribution of the available funds among the several districts. The sanction of the Board of Communications and the Government of India was obtained and the programme put in execution from 1937-38. The various works are in different stages of execution. For some of the larger works included in the programme such as the Godavari bridge at Alamur, the estimates have been prepared and are under scrutiny by the Chief Engineer.

Supplemental Programme:—It is now found that in the programme originally prepared the petrol cess receipts were under-estimated and according to the present estimates, based on actuals for the last two years, there will be an excess revenue of 35 lakhs in the seven year period covered by the programme. A supplemental programme has been prepared for utilisation of this sum. Detailed lists of works have been sent to the District Boards concerned for their remarks. After considering their replies, the programme will be placed before the Board of Communications and the sanction of the Government of India obtained.

Motor Vehicles Taxation Act:—The Motor Vehicles Taxation Act has been amended so as to authorize the levy of tolls on bridges or roads newly constructed by Government or Local Bodies so that a part at least of the expenditure can be recouped by such tolls and the savings made available for other works.

Five Years' Programme for village Communications:—Previously the development of new roads and village communications was being influenced by political and party considerations and funds were not being utilised to the best advantage of the district. The Government have ordered the preparation of a well defined five years' programme for the improvement of village communications with due regard to the necessity, urgency and capacity of the district board

concerned to maintain them and arranged in the order of urgency and its submission to the Government through the Collector of the district. Programmes from some of the District Boards have already been received and approved by the Government and the programmes of other districts are being received. These programmes will ensure an orderly development of village roads according to the needs of the area and their urgency irrespective of party considerations.

Utilisation of Railway Cess Funds on Capital Works:—

On account of the widespread depression in recent years, the loss of revenue on the introduction of Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, and the destructive action on roads of the high speed modern heavy motor vehicles, the resources of the District Boards have been seriously strained even to maintain the existing services not to speak of undertaking new ones. The annual tolls revenue before 1931, the year in which tolls were abolished, was 65.4 lakhs but the proceeds from the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act available for distribution to the local bodies in 1938-39 was only 44 lakhs. Several of the District Boards had some accumulated revenue in the shape of Railway Cess Funds. On account of the existing rules discouraging the spending of these Railway Cess Funds, they were not being utilised even for capital works. The rules have now been relaxed and the District Boards have been advised, subject to limitations, to utilise these funds on works of permanent utility. Already several District Boards have taken advantage of this relaxation and undertaken works of importance.

*Fixing of Establishment Schedules:—*District Board Engineers were previously working without much technical guidance and nobody was inspecting their offices. There was practically no co-ordination and the knowledge or experience gained in one district was not utilised in the others. A Special Engineer for Road Development was appointed to inspect the District Board Engineers' Offices, co-ordinate their work, give them necessary technical guidance and scrutinise their estimates costing from Rs. 10,000 to one lakh on all roads except trunk roads. In the case of trunk roads, such guidance is to be given by the Superintending Engineers of the Public Works Department. As a result of this, considerable improvements have been effected in the working of

the District Board Engineering departments. The materials used for road maintenance are of higher quality, and the maintenance of records in the District Board Engineer's office has been greatly improved. Standard designs for masonry works especially in reinforced concrete have been worked out and considerable economies effected in bridge designs with due regard to safety. The District Board Engineers are being given guidance even in the initial stages of preparation of estimates and the estimates are now being prepared with far greater rapidity than before. The gang cooly system to maintain important roads and village roads has been introduced throughout the year. The cumulative effect of these reforms can be seen in the near future in increased efficiency of communications at a lower cost. There has already been a considerable reduction in the cost of several bridges and still greater economies will be obtained in course of time.

PORTS

The Government ordered that the Vice-Chairman of the Port of Tuticorin should be elected instead of being nominated. The Madras Minor Ports Fund Act of 1938 was passed into law and about 45 lakhs of rupees from the balances in the Ports Fund were transferred to the general revenues. At the same time several improvements were sanctioned to the important ports in the Presidency.

At Masulipatam, the rates of landing and shipping fees were revised and a Marine Police Force was sanctioned to check the pilfering of cargo between ship and shore. An estimate of Rs. 30,000 for the construction of a wharf wall of 1,000 ft. length was sanctioned.

The limits of the port of Calicut were altered and a revised estimate amounting to Rs. 10,000 was sanctioned for extending and flooring the stacking platform.

A sum of Rs. 41,000 was sanctioned for the extension of a wharf wall and the reclamation of an additional area for wharves at Ponnani.

The Government have constituted an Advisory Committee to co-ordinate the various activities connected with the administration of the Negapatam Port.

The proposal of the Presidency Port Officer to introduce a system of licensed pilots at the ports of Azhikol and Calicut in the Malabar district was approved.

Orders have been passed sanctioning an estimate for dredging and depositing by a Grab Dredger at the port of Tuticorin.

The Government have ordered that provision should be made in the Minor Ports Fund Budget every alternate year for cutting the bar channel at the port of Tirumalavasal so as to keep the channel and bar in a satisfactory condition.

Sanction has been accorded for the continuance of the reduced rates of towage at the port of Mangalore for another year.

The Government have sanctioned an estimate amounting to Rs. 18,000 for hand dredging the channel to the wharf at the port of Malpe and constructing masonry retaining walls to prevent the silting up of the channel.

Landing and shipping fees at 12 annas per ton were being charged at Cuddalore in respect of cement. The Government have sanctioned the reduction of the fees to 4 as. per ton in order to equalise them with the fees charged at Negapatam.

A revised estimate amounting to Rs. 6,95,000 was sanctioned for the extension of the groynes to the full required length at Cocanada.

The Head of the Minor Ports Department had hitherto been an officer of the Government of India who was not only the Presidency Port Officer but also Principal Officer of the Mercantile Marine. As minor ports are under the control of the Provincial Government, it was decided in June last that the Presidency Port Officer should be a whole time servant of the Provincial Government and that the system of having an officer who would be under the dual control of the Provincial and the Central Governments should be discontinued.

COURTS

As a measure of economy, whenever litigation decreased, courts were abolished. In doing so the important consideration that the litigant public of the locality concerned should not be put to inconvenience was borne in mind.

A proposal to appoint honorary judicial officers is under the active consideration of the Government.

The Government have sanctioned the introduction in certain districts of a scheme by which the present police prosecuting staff will be replaced by a cadre of prosecuting officers, called Assistant Public Prosecutors, who will be recruited from the Bar.

The system of selecting honorary magistrates has been revised and their term of office has been reduced from three to two years.

The scale of fees of law officers in the mofussil has been revised. Enhanced fees will no longer be paid in special cases. The daily fees of Public Prosecutors have also been reduced.

PRISON REFORM

The Government adopted a special scheme of releasing under certain conditions selected prisoners before the expiry of their terms of imprisonment. Under this scheme, more than 2,000 convicts were released.

Buttermilk and increased quantities of salt are being given to prisoners since August 1937. Fuller's earth is also supplied to enable them to wash their clothes. Hand-spinning and hand-weaving have been introduced as the main industry in the Presidency Jail for women at Vellore. Special facilities have been provided for Muslim prisoners to say their prayers. Prisoners are now supplied with jute mats instead of coir or aloe mats. An improvement has been made in regard to supply of drinking water in sub-jails. A more liberal rate is to be adopted in converting earned gratuity into remission of sentence. Hand-pounding of rice needed for prisoners has been started in some prisons. Oil pressing by human labour has been stopped. Radio sets presented by private donors have been installed in the jails. Bedding is supplied to under-trial prisoners while in police custody.

Two members of the Legislature are appointed as non-official visitors for each central and district jail.

The English edition of the "Howard Journal" a weekly paper published by the Jail Department has been discontinued

and in the editions of the languages of the Presidency improvements have been effected.

Improved scales of diet have been sanctioned to the inmates of the Borstal and Certified Schools costing Rs. 15,000 extra per year. Combs and soaps are also supplied to them.

CRIMINAL TRIBES

An Advisory Committee has been formed to assist the authorities in ensuring that the liberties of individual members of the communities falling within the scope of the Criminal Tribes Act in the Madura district are not unnecessarily interfered with. Similar Committees consisting of officials and non-officials have been formed in each taluk for the work of reclamation. There is also a Central District Committee for the same purpose. The Government are examining the question of the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act and the enactment of juster measures for the protection of Society against habitual offenders and wandering gangs.

The Government have sanctioned the starting of a new branch of work under the Labour Department to be known as Yenadi Reclamation for the benefit of the Yenadis in the Chittoor district.

COMMUNAL DISTURBANCES

Taking advantage of the facilities which the Congress Government has afforded for freedom of speech and freedom of the Press, the reactionary elements in Society have persistently indulged in scurrilous writings and defamatory speeches fomenting communal hatred between the so-called Aryans and the so-called Dravidians on the one hand, and the Hindus and Muslims on the other. Under cover of organising a protest against the learning of Hindustani in Secondary Schools introduced by the Government, illegal activities of various kinds have been organised to disturb the work of schools, by gathering crowds and shouting objectionable slogans. With a view to prevent this form of nuisance and increasing disorder, the Government were compelled to order the arrest and prosecution of persons actually causing or organising such nuisance. 223 persons who were im-

prisoned tendered apologies to the Government regretting their conduct and were released. As a gesture of goodwill, in June 1939 the Government released all the remaining prisoners in jails who were convicted with reference to the Anti-Hindustani agitation, to give the Leaders of the movement a chance to revise their unreasonable attitude without bitterness.

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

All political prisoners who were in jails on the date of the assumption of office by the Congress Ministry were released, including those connected with the Rampa Fiture, the Malabar Rebellion, the S.I.Ry. strike, the Ooty Bank Raid Case, the Madras Bomb Case and the Cocanada Conspiracy Case.

The Moplah Outrages Act, 1859, was repealed and all Moplah state prisoners were released.

The collection of fines imposed by courts in respect of political offences but which had remained uncollected was suspended. The securities deposited by newspapers and presses including the *Krishna Patrika*, the *Dhinamani*, the *Indian Express*, and the *Cocanada Printing Press* were refunded. Notices demanding securities from the *Prabhatam* and the *Janamitra Printing Press*, Madras, were withdrawn. The black list of newspapers in which Government advertisements were not permitted, was withdrawn.

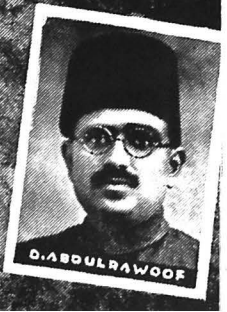
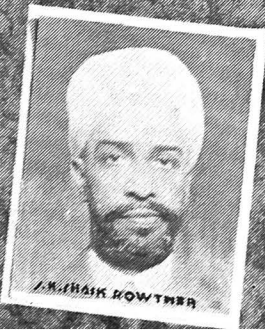
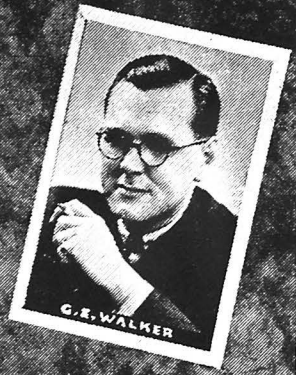
BANS REMOVED

The ban on the following books was removed:

(a) TELUGU BOOKS: *Malapalli*, *Neti Russia*, *Amma*, *Navayugam-Gandhi Vijayam*, *Karmika Bhajanavali*, *Sravananandam* and *Prabhutva Dhanamu Mana Beedathanamu*.

(b) TAMIL BOOKS: *Frontier Gandhi* or *Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan*, *Congress Charitram*, *Bharata Jyoti*, *India Kadan Sumai* or *Annia Aachiyin Vilavin*, *Sardar Patel*, *History of the Warriors of Satyagraha* and *Vinayaka Savarkar*.

The ban on the following films was removed:





G. KRISHNA RAO.



R. M. PALAT



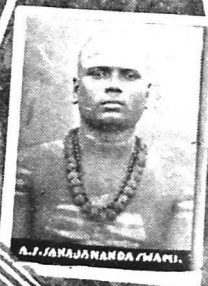
ZAMINDAR CHEMUDU



DR. M. J. JAYU



K. BHANU SANKAR
P. KHALIFULLAH



A. J. ANAJANANDA MAMI.



T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI.



RAJESWAR ANAND MATHU



KHADIJA YAKUB MATHU



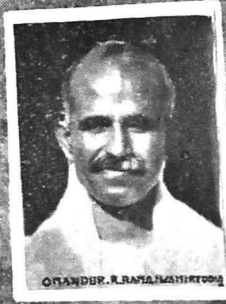
R. PATTEBI JITHARAMAYYA



RAO BHANU SANKAR M. C. RAJA.



K. R. ANAND



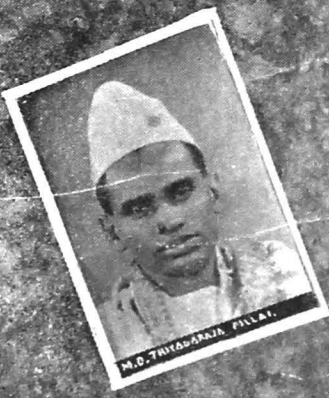
O. S. ANAND R. RAMA JAGANNATHAN



DR. J. SAAD.



G. BRANHAMAYYA



M. S. THIRUANGADI PILLAI.



Patriot, Patel's Procession, Bombay's Welcome to Mahatmaji, Mahatma Gandhi Punaragamanam and Mr. Gandhiji's return from England. The ban on the taking of the Independence pledge was removed.

Neill Statue Removed:—The statue of General Neill was ordered to be removed from a public place to the Madras Museum.

VILLAGE OFFICERS REINSTATED

Village Officers who were dismissed on account of their connection with the Non-Co-operation or the Civil Disobedience Movements were restored to their old posts. An Act was passed to validate their reinstatement.

SALT CONCESSIONS

Salt concessions allowed under the Gandhi-Irwin Pact which had been withdrawn from the districts of Nellore, Cuddapah, Anantapur and from certain taluks in the districts of Bellary, Ramnad, Tanjore and Trichinopoly were restored by the Government of India upon representations made by this Government. Subsequent reports of abuse led to proposals to abolish the concessions. But the Government were able to induce the Government of India to adopt certain measures and maintain the concessions.

OFFICIALS

It has been laid down that the fact that an officer's reputation is notoriously bad should be considered to be sufficient justification for taking action against him apart from actual proof. The system of giving money rewards to Police Officers for successful investigation of crime has been abolished in the case of those above the rank of Head Constable.

Ministerial servants may now be compulsorily retired only when they attain the age of 60 years. The Government have decided that they should in future be compulsorily retired as soon as they attain the age of 55 years.

Under the Madras Civil Pensions (Commutation) Rules, 1934, Government servants were allowed, subject to the existence of budget provision, to commute portions of their pensions. The Government have now decided to abolish this system.

Except in the case of the members of certain services like the Police for whom a distinctive dress has been prescribed, it has been made clear that Government servants could wear, while on duty, whatever dress they prefer in conformity with the ideas of decency current in society.

Retired Government servants were allowed to become members of or to hold office in any lawfully constituted political organisation and to contest elections to local bodies or to the legislature as members of such an organisation.

RETRENCHMENT

In order to readjust the cost of administration to the taxable capacity of the people, rigorous economy is being practised in every department.

Reduction of Salaries:—As is well known, the Ministers set an example by accepting reduced salaries themselves. The salaries of the Provincial and Subordinate services have undergone a graded cut ranging from 5 to 30 per cent. Persons appointed or promoted since 1st October 1937, are being paid on the new scale. The ultimate saving from the adoption of the new scale will be Rs. 16 lakhs per annum.

Other measures of Economy:—The extension of the system of appointing honorary medical officers is expected ultimately to yield a saving of Rs. 10 lakhs. The abolition of the move of Ministers and Secretarial Officers to Ootacamund during the summer, the conditional release of more than two thousand prisoners, the reduction in the travelling expenses and allowances of Ministers; the reduction in the number of Deputy Directors in the Agricultural Department from 8 to 4; the reduction in the strength of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board by one Commissioner; the abolition of the post of the Deputy Director of Industries, of one Conservator's circle in the Forest Department, of the posts of the Assistant Director of Fisheries and of the Research Assistant attached to the Ennore Fisheries Station, of the post of the Superintendent, Agricultural Research Station, Koilpatti; and the closure of the Forest College and the Tannur Fishery Research Station are some of the other measures of economy adopted by the Government.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Session	Year	Dates.	Total No. of days.
1st Session	1937	July —14, 15 August —31 September —1, 2, 3, 4, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30 October —1	23 days.
2nd Session	1937-38	December —20, 21 January —27, 28, 29, 31 February —1 March —1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30	27 days.
3rd Session	1938-39	August —15, 16, 17, 18, 19 November —28, 29, 30 December —1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 12 January —17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 February —20, 22, 23, 24, 25 March —15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31 April —1, 3, 24, 25, 26 May —8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13	53 days.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Session	Year	Dates.	Total No. of days.
1st Session	1937	July—14, 15 August—31 September—1; 6, 7, 9, 10, 27, 28, 29, 30	12 days.
2nd Session	1937-38	December—21 January—31 February—1, 2 March—1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 22, 23, 25, 31	13 days.
3rd Session	1938-39	August—15, 17, 18, 19 December—12, 13, 14 January—2, 3, 20, 23, 24, 25 March—3, 21, 25 May—11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19.	23 days.

BILLS PASSED BY THE MADRAS LEGISLATURE

I Session

- The Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications Bill, 1937 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1937)
- The Madras Regulation of the Sale of Cloth Bill, 1937 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1937)
- The Madras State Aid to Industries (Amendment) Bill, 1937 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1937)
- The Madras Revenue Recovery and City Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill (L.A. Bill No. 4 of 1937)
- The Madras Prohibition Bill, 1937 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1937)
- The Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1937 (L.A. Bill No. 6 of 1937)
- The Madras City Municipal and District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1937 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1937)

II Session

- The Madras Agriculturists Relief Bill, 1937 (L.A. Bill No. 10 of 1937)
- The Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1938)
- The Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1938)
- The Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1938)
- The Madras Traffic Control Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 4 of 1938)
- The Madras Suppression of Immortal Traffic (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.C. Bill No. 1 of 1938)
- The Madras Tolls and Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1938)

III Session

- The Indian Lunacy (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1938)
- The Madras Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1938)
- The Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 10 of 1938)
- The Prisons and Indian Lunacy (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 11 of 1938)
- The Madras Famine Relief Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1938)
- The Madras Repealing and Amending Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 13 of 1938)
- The Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill 14 of 1938)
- The Madras Borstal Schools (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 1938)
- The Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 16 of 1938)
- The Madras Public Health Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 17 of 1938)
- The Madras Prohibition (Second Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 18 of 1938)
- The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 19 of 1938)
- The Madras Minor Ports Fund Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 20 of 1938)
- The Malabar Temple Entry Bill, 1938 (L.A. Bill No. 21 of 1938)
- The Madras Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1939)
- The Madras Revenue Recovery (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1939)

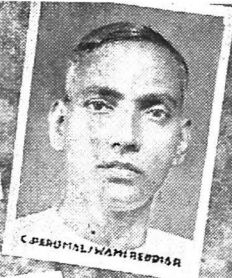
- The Madras Prevention of Adulteration (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1939)
- The Madras Elementary Education (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 4 of 1939)
- The Madras Electricity Duty Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1939)
- The Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 6 of 1939)
- The Canals and Public Ferries (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1939)
- The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1939)
- The Madras Entertainments Tax Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1939)
- The Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Licensing) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 10 of 1939)
- The Madras General Sales Tax Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 11 of 1939)
- The Madras Borstal Schools (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1939)
- The Madras Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 13 of 1939)
- The Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 14 of 1939)
- The Madras Restoration of Village Officers (Validation) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 1939)
- The Madras Children (Amendment) Bill, 1939 (L.A. Bill No. 16 of 1939)
- The Mappilla Marumakkattayam Bill, (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1937)
- The removal of Civil Disabilities Bill (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1937)

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AYANA RAO.



C. PERUMAL/KAMI REDDI



R. SRINIVASAIYER



B. SHEEMA RAO.



T. RAHULINGAM CHETTIAR



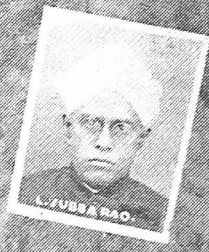
V. VASANTARAO.



D. SRIRAMAMURTHI



N. SUBBA RAJU



L. SUBBA RAO.



M. RAJU



V. PENKATATURNADI



K. P. MALI KANJUNADI.



JANKARA REDDI.



A. S. RAJARAM CHETTIYAR



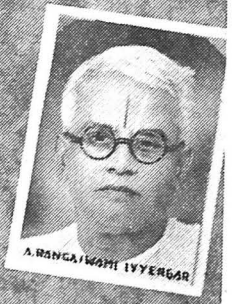
MAOHAVA MENON



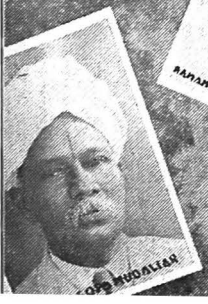
M. NARAYANA MENON



L. SUBBARANA REDDI



A. RANGA MOHI IYERGAR



K. S. MOHALLAR



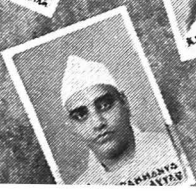
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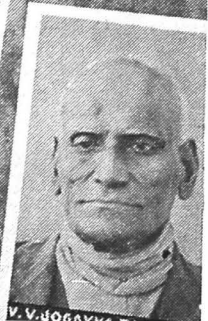
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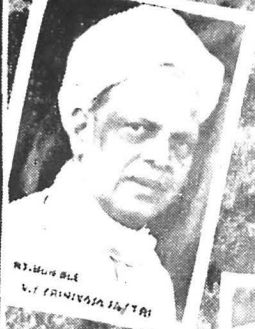
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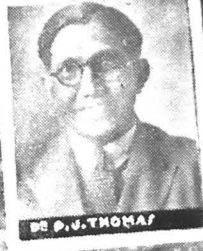
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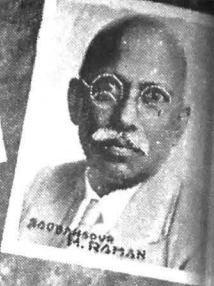
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T. M. MOIDU



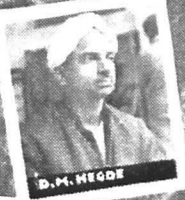
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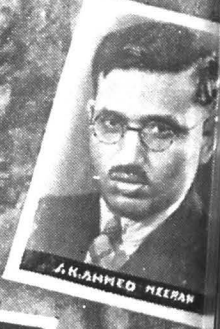
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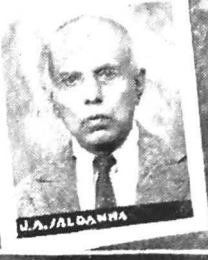
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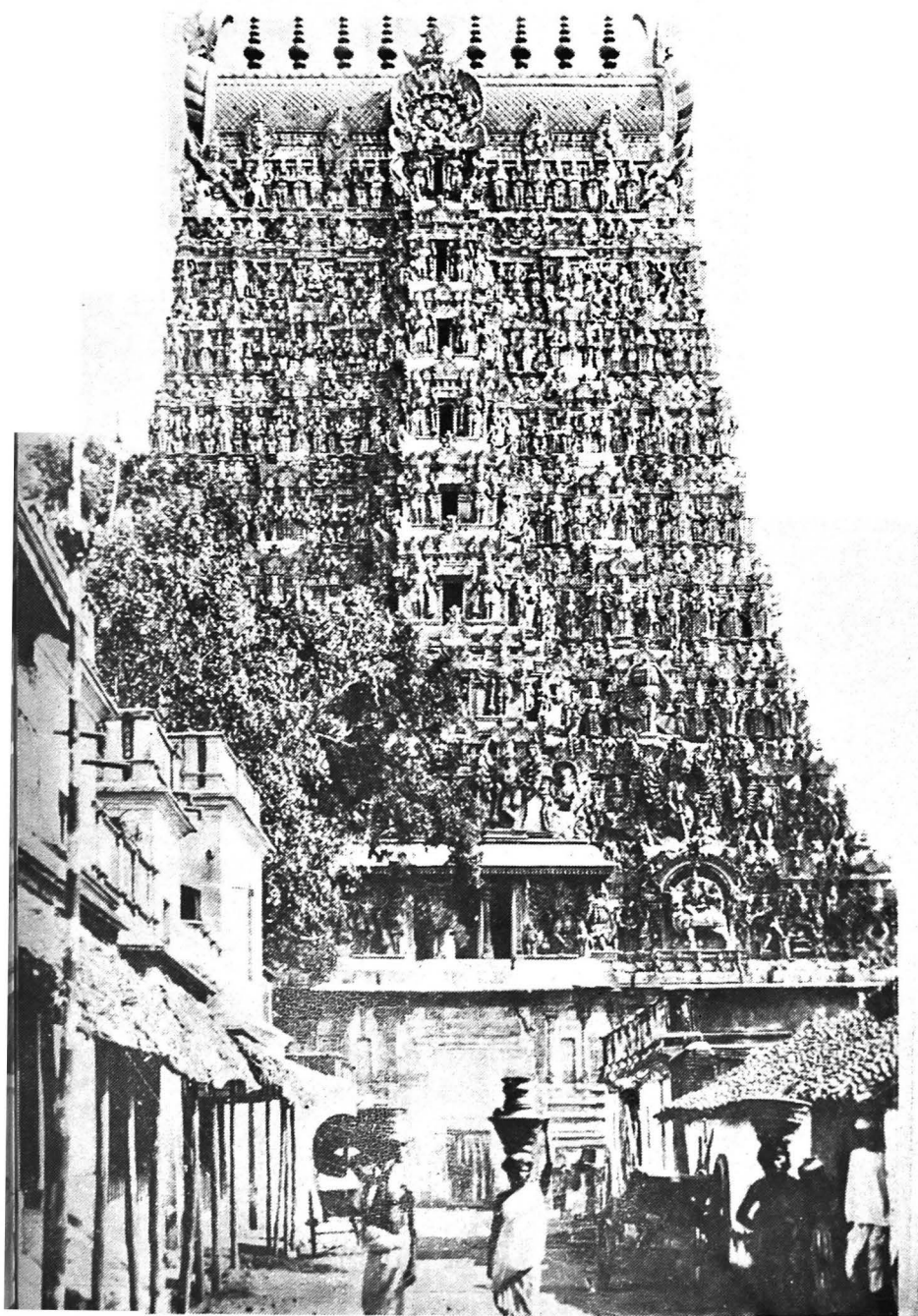
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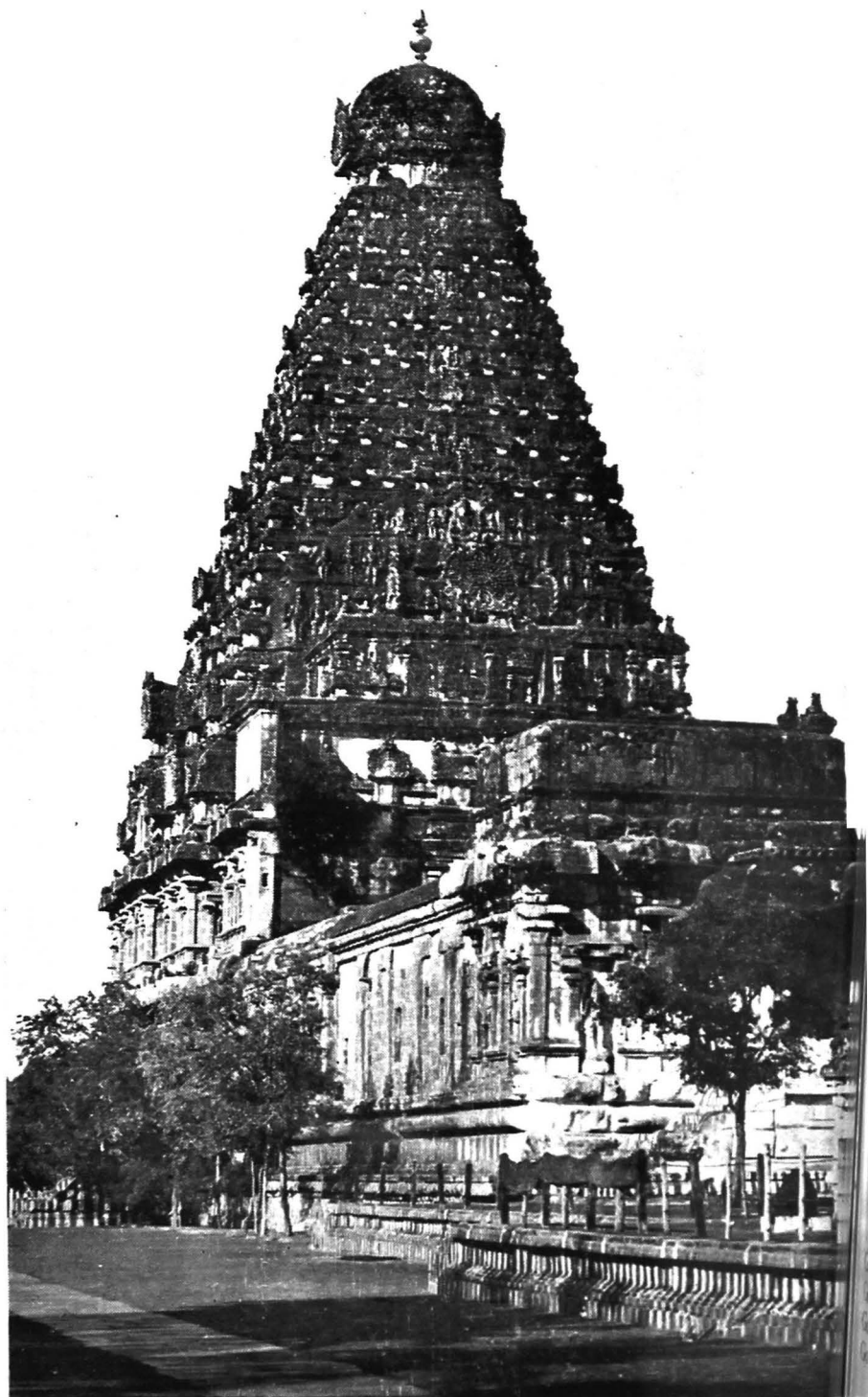
H. K. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI



T. S. SRINIVASA IYANGAR



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