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JULY —
SEPTEMBER 1948

PREFATORY NOTE

This brochure is a compilation of important press notes and news items issued by the Government of Bombay and of statements made by H. E. the Governor and the Ministers during the third quarter—July to September—of the year 1948.

A new feature has been introduced from the current quarter which, it is hoped, will make this compilation even more useful to the reader. Every chapter opens with a brief introduction which focuses attention on striking features in it.

An attempt has also been made to provide a ready alphabetical reference by appending an index at the end of this publication.

It is to be hoped that this compilation will serve as a ready and useful reference book.

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In this quarter, July to September, the programme of opening more schools for the spread of primary education was taken a step further by authorising the establishment of 350 more schools. Instructions were issued to officials to invite school teachers to social functions so that their status might be improved.

The conference on Adult Education considered what steps were necessary to implement the programme of liquidating mass illiteracy in the shortest possible time, especially by educating public opinion and enlisting it for promoting the campaign for literacy.

The Premier emphasized the need for moral and cultural values in life in his address to college students and outlined the role of youth in rebuilding contemporary society.

Delivering the Convocation Addresses of the S. N. D. T. Indian Women's University and the Bombay University, the Governor of Bombay spoke on the strides women's education had made in recent years and indicated the large place service, duty and action should fill in the lives of the young men and women who had passed out of the portals of their Alma Mater to the greater life outside.

POSTS OF ASSISTANT DEPUTY EDUCATIONAL INSPECTORS

At present 35 per cent of the posts of Assistant Deputy Educational Inspectors are filled by promotion from the ranks of primary school teachers (including women) who are physically fit for the work and who have rendered exceptionally good service as teachers. It has been represented to the Government of Bombay that these orders sometimes work to the disadvantage of senior teachers and that under them seniority is not given as much weight as it should be.

The Government has, therefore, decided that in making these promotions, the following principles, which it observes in connection with promotions from a lower to a higher grade in its own service, should be held applicable to the promotions of primary school teachers to the posts of Assistant Deputy Educational Inspectors:

Promotion should not be denied to a teacher who is eligible for it by his qualifications and seniority and is also physically fit, unless his record shows that he is unfit for it.

No teacher who is qualified as stated above should be passed over by a teacher junior to him, unless the latter has exceptional ability or qualifications and the proposal for such accelerated promotion has been approved by the Government. [No. P 1346 of August 6, 1948]

MORE SCHOOLS FOR VILLAGES

During the current financial year, 350 more schools will be opened in the schoolless villages of the Province having a population ranging from 400 to 700. A provision of Rs. 1,30,000 has been made for the purpose in the Budget.

Similarly, 100 more schools will be opened in schoolless villages, with a population ranging from 700 to 1000, during the current financial year. [No. P 1271 of July 29, 1948]

VILLAGES WITH 1,000 POPULATION

Villages with contiguous village sites and with a population of more than 1,000 in the aggregate will be included in the scheme for the introduction of free and compulsory elementary education in the Province from 1949-50. [No. P 1212 of July 19, 1948]

SOCIAL STATUS OF TEACHERS TO BE RAISED: INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFICIALS

With a view to improving the social status of teachers, instructions have been issued to Government officials, particularly the officials of the Revenue and Police Departments, that they should invite occasionally to social functions some local teachers and headmasters of primary and secondary schools and thus make them and others feel that they regard them as having an equality of social status.

Appreciation of good work of the teachers will be published in the 'Government Gazette,' and the Director of Public Instruction has been advised to report once a year cases of outstanding merit deserving such recognition. [No. P 1430 of August 21, 1948]

FULL PAY FOR TEACHER TRAINEES AT BASIC TRAINING CENTRES

The Government of Bombay has authorised the Director of Public Instruction to grant to trained graduates from Government institutions deputed to the three Basic Training Centres in the Province (Ahmedabad, Dharwar and Bordi) their full salary and allowances and to appoint substitutes in their places, wherever necessary.

In addition to their pay and allowances, the teachers deputed for training will be granted a compensatory allowance of Rs. 20 a month.

Similar expenditure incurred by non-Government institutions on the deputation of their trained teachers to any of the three Basic Training Centres will be held admissible for Government grants.

Payment of the allowance has been sanctioned for five years only, in the first instance. [No. P 1492 of September 2, 1948]

RATNAGIRI INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL TO BE REORGANISED

The School of Industry at Ratnagiri is to be reorganised. The necessary budget provision exists for the purpose.

While the Government has approved the introduction of two new courses, Motor-Body Building and Upholstry, and Agricultural Carpentry and Smithy, at the School with immediate effect, the introduction of six other courses—(1) Automobile Apprentice, (2) Electro-plating and Battery-charging, (3) Vulcanising, (4) Wood Turning and Lacquering, (5) Spray Painting and (6) Boat Building (Elementary)—has been postponed for some time. [No. P 1428 of August 21, 1948]

CONCESSION TO WOMEN TEACHERS FOR PHYSICAL TRAINING

The Government of Bombay has reduced to one year, in case of women teachers only, the period for which they must serve the institutions deputing them to the Short-term Course in Physical Education for Secondary Teachers at the Training Institution for Physical Education at Kandivali. [No. P 1463 of August 27, 1948]

FINANCIAL AID TO POOR MEDICOS: FREESTUDENTSHIPS OFFERED

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned 10 per cent. full freestudentships and 10 to 15 per cent. partial freestudentships at the Grant Medical College, Bombay. While the holders of the full freestudentships

will have to pay no fees, those of the partial freestudentships will be required to pay fees at the existing rate of Rs. 201 a year. The concessions will become operative from the November 1948 term.

These freestudentships have been created in view of the fact that the recently announced increase in tuition fees of the Medical Colleges in the Province might handicap poor students. The Government, however, does not hold that the increase in fees is beyond the means of the average medical student.

Conditions Of Award

These freestudentships will be in addition to the freestudentships and other concessions available to Backward Class students and will be awarded by the Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay with due regard to the pecuniary condition of the parents or guardians of the students. The continuance of these full and partial freestudentships from term to term will depend on the satisfactory progress of the students as shown by the results of the terminal and University examinations and the reports of their professors and also on a satisfactory report from the principal regarding their conduct during the term.

There are a certain number of freestudentships at the B. J. Medical Colleges, Ahmedabad and Poona, and the question of bringing them into line with those sanctioned at the Grant Medical College, Bombay, in these orders is separately under consideration. [No. P. 1556 of September 15, 1948]

INDIAN STUDENTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN FROM ABROAD

Students of Indian origin from abroad who belong to this Province will be placed on an exactly similar footing with students domiciled in this Province in the matter of all educational facilities, including admission to Government educational and technical institutions. [No. P 1168 of July 10, 1948]

SCHOLARSHIPS AT SHIVAJI MILITARY SCHOOL

The Government of Bombay has decided that the communal reservation provided in the rules regulating the award of five Government scholarships at the Shri Shivaji Preparatory Military School, Poona and the Bhoisala Military School, Nasik should be done away with.

The scholarships will henceforth be open to candidates domiciled in the Province of Bombay. All the five scholarships will be awarded by open selection. [No. P 1169 of July 10, 1948]

CRUSADE AGAINST ILLITERACY: ADULT EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Conference on Adult Education convened by the Educational Adviser to Government was held on the 5th and 6th of July in the Committee Room of the Secretariat. It was inaugurated by the Premier, who in the course of his inaugural address stressed the need for organising the movement on a mass scale, so that illiteracy could be liquidated as quickly as possible. He also pointed out the need for enriching the content of Adult Education, so that it might provide for the all-round development of adults and partake of the nature of comprehensive Social Education. He called upon the Conference to draw up a comprehensive programme which would co-ordinate the various official and non-official agencies as well as the various media of education and propaganda, such as the film and the radio, in an attempt to wage a total war against ignorance, illiteracy and lack of civic sense.

Members of the Conference had been provided with a comprehensive set of papers for preliminary study, including notes on problems of Adult Education, on the present state of Adult Education in this Province and Adult Education Movement and development that had been going on in the different Provinces of India and the various foreign countries. This novel feature of the scheme made discussions much more helpful and well-informed and the Conference, which was attended by over 40 important official and non-official workers in the field of Adult Education, has formulated a series of findings which, when implemented, will give an entirely new orientation and impetus to this movement. Among the outstanding suggestions made by the Conference are the following:

1. Organising Adult Education on a mass scale with the object of liquidating the greater part of illiteracy and imparting social education to adults within the next five years.
2. The utilisation of all available resources in personnel for the purpose, including teachers of Government and private schools, students of high schools and colleges, voluntary official and non-official workers and the existing agencies of the various Government Departments for attending to different aspects of Adult Education.
3. The Government has been requested to make it compulsory for all illiterate Government employees below a certain age to acquire literacy within a definite period and not to employ any illiterate persons in any capacity.
4. Employers of large-scale labour should be required by law to make arrangements for imparting Adult Education to their employees during working hours.

5. The content of Adult Education should be widened to include health and civic education, provision of cultural and recreational facilities, training in simple forms of craft-work and imparting all useful general knowledge in addition to literacy, which has so far received almost exclusive attention.

The Conference has recommended that it should be obligatory on all primary schools to run one Social Education Centre and all secondary schools to run at least two Social Education Centres for the education of adults.

Special stress has been laid on the importance of production of suitable literature and other teaching aids and devices to guide the teachers in their work and to facilitate the learning of reading and the acquisition of knowledge by adults.

The Government has been requested to re-examine the financial provision made for Adult Education in the light of the various proposals made and to provide more liberally for the effective and extensive organisation of the movement.

All the members of the Conference were agreed that it was necessary to create a strong public opinion in favour of the earliest abolition of illiteracy and ignorance, as they were a source of national disgrace and they expressed the hope that the Press, the public leaders, the film and the radio would all co-operate in this crusade for the education of public opinion. [No. N 381 of July 7, 1948]

ADULT EDUCATION GRANTS INCREASED

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned, till the end of the current financial year, the payment of equipment grant to every Adult Education Class at the increased rate of Rs. 60.

The grant for purchasing additional writing material, books, etc., made to a teacher coaching adults at an Adult Education Class for the second test, has also been sanctioned, for the same period, at the increased rate of Rs. 40. [No. P 1507 of September 4, 1948]

BOMBAY CITY ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The term of the Bombay City Adult Education Committee which is due to expire on July 17, 1948, has been extended beyond that date, pending further orders. [No. P 1114 of July 3, 1948]

Mr. S. V. Joshi, Secretary of the M. S. M. Railway Workers' Union, has been appointed as a member representing labour on the Regional Adult Education Committee for Karnatak. [No. P 1308 of August 3, 1948]

MR. P. J. CHINMULGUND

Mr. P. J. Chinmulgund, Deputy Commissioner of Excise, has been appointed to represent the Bombay Provincial Prohibition Board on the Advisory Board for Visual Education, in place of Prof. J. C. Daruwala. [No. P 1462 of August 27, 1948]

**'CONFLICT DOMINATES MODERN WORLD': PREMIER'S
TALK TO STUDENTS**

Addressing the Politics and Economics Seminar of the St. Xavier's College on "The Moral and Cultural Values of Life," at the College premises on August 31, the Premier of Bombay, Mr. B. G. Kher, who is also the Education Minister, said:

"I understand that you young gentlemen are members of the Politics and Economics Seminar, and I am naturally very diffident of being able to say anything which is not already known to you about the moral and cultural values of life,

"For the moment, we are preoccupied with the only culture which in the words of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, is of the supermost moment to our country, namely, agriculture. But I know that civilization in a people and culture in an individual consist in substituting higher for lower standards of values.

"There is a hierarchy of values and it depends so much on human purpose—the way of life chosen by or put upon a person."

Manifold Conflicts

Mr. Kher then referred to the conflict which dominated the modern world—conflict between nation and nation, conflict of interests between individual and society, and conflict within man between his higher and lower natures.

"The highest value attaches to what will dissolve all these conflicts," which, according to Mr. Kher, was Dharma or righteousness.

The Premier recommended to the students a study of the following books: "Wealth and Life" by Hobson, "The End of Economic Man" by Peter Drucker, "The New World Order" by H. G. Wells, and "Moral Man

and Immoral Society” by Neibuhr, which, he said, would assist them to find an answer to their problems.

Continuing, the Premier said: “Modern life has become extremely complex and complicated on account of the new scientific and technical forces and inventions and of the new set-up of social and economic systems which are not merely national in their scope but have international implications.

“Youth naturally finds itself confused and bewildered by the complexities of this situation and one of the most important functions of Education should be to adjust the students to this new and exacting environment.

“This adjustment must be both practical and psychological, i.e., they should be able to make their way in this world and utilize their trained capacity in doing the world’s work ‘and’ they should ‘understand’ it rightly and react to it emotionally in a proper manner. In other words, they should have the ‘right values’.

Right Values

“What are these right values? We cannot discuss the ‘moral’ and ‘cultural’ values of life in a vacuum—they arise out of the total life-pattern which is both material and cultural and we cannot build up a sound cultural life unless it is based on sound ‘material foundations’. In other words, the planning of a good social and economic system is a condition precedent to the cultivation of cultural interests and moral values. If people lack good food, shelter, clothing and other amenities of life, how can they take to intellectual or artistic interests or find the inclination to attend to moral issues?

“In the past, people have postulated dualism between the material and the cultural life—as if cultural life can be built up only on the basis of the denial of the body and its needs! To-day, some people hold that material life and its enrichment are the only things that matter. The so-called moral and spiritual values are only epi-phenomena which have no intrinsic significance.

‘Not By Bread Alone’

“Both these views are wrong because they are one-sided. Christ said, ‘Man does not live by bread alone’. ‘Alone’ implies a recognition of the importance of ‘bread’ but the remark means that to attain his full human stature, man must go further and develop other aspects of his nature which also crave for self-expression.

“The right view requires that Society and the State and educational institutions should stress both factors—the material and the spiritual—but

they should recognize the primacy of the spiritual values. The material values are a means to the achievement of the higher end, which is the perfection of the human individuality as a person, as a citizen and a creative co-worker with God for the working out of His purposes.

"In India, there are certain moral and cultural values which need to be stressed both because the situation demands it and because they are in harmony with our cultural traditions, and our various religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Sikhism and Christianity—have advocated them in different ways. These are:

- (1) Peace, as a normal condition of national and international life;
- (2) Tolerance, as a positive force—not as mere indifference;
- (3) Passion for social justice—service to the Backward Classes;
- (4) Respect for human personality, irrespective of its racial, religious or geographical associations; and
- (5) The social sense which is the basis of democracy.

"Gandhiji's contribution to the development of these values is his constructive programme." [No. N 474 of August 31, 1948]

STUDENTS' ROLE IN REBUILDING SHATTERED SOCIETY: PREMIER EMPHASISES SOCIAL SERVICE

Inaugurating the Jai Hind College in Bombay on September 1, Mr. B. G. Kher, the Premier, said that schools and colleges must play their part in rebuilding society which had been shattered because of the events which took place after Partition and the attainment of Freedom. They could do so best by the co-operative activities of social service and of inter-communal good fellowship, he added.

The Jai Hind College came into being as a result of the efforts of some of the ex-teachers of the D. J. Sind College. Primarily meant for the uprooted students from Pakistan, at present it is an Arts College running only morning classes. Local students are also admitted. The Government of Bombay has placed at the disposal of the College the Elphinstone College buildings for holding classes during morning hours.

The Premier said that it had been suggested that some kind of social service for a few months should form part of the education of a college student before he was allowed to graduate and that the Government was considering this proposal with great sympathy.

“There is so much work of reconstruction to be done that if the youths can devote a part of their leisure to it, they will not only serve others but enrich their own understanding and personality”, he added.

He exhorted the students to cultivate the qualities of independence, clarity of thinking, social sense and sympathy with others, integrity of soul and purpose and, finally, efficiency and skill.

He congratulated Principal Advani and the staff of the College on the excellent work they had done during such a short period and wished the institution success and prosperity. [No. N 478 of September 1, 1948]

MANAGEMENT OF DECCAN COLLEGE

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Poona as a trustee of the Deccan College Poona Trust, in place of the Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University.

Mr. R. P. Patwardhan has been nominated as a trustee on the same Trust in the vacancy caused by the appointment of the Rt. Hon'ble Dr. M. R. Jayakar as a trustee in his capacity as Vice-Chancellor of the Poona University.

The rules for the administration and management of the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute have been so amended as to replace the Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University by his counterpart in the Poona University in the Council of Management. [No. P 1520 of September 10, 1948]

‘SERVICE, DUTY & ACTION ARE THE GREAT ENDS OF LIFE’: GOVERNOR DELIVERS CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Delivering the Convocation Address of the University of Bombay on August 17, H. E. Raja Maharaj Singh, Governor of Bombay, said:

“I am here to-day as I felt it my duty and my privilege to be present at my first Convocation as Chancellor of the Bombay University and to deliver an address.

“At the outset, I have on behalf of our University to lament the passing away of Mahatma Gandhi and to endorse the homage paid to his memory by the Senate. No panegyric is necessary for one who was great among

men and was regarded with respect and affection throughout the world. His tragic death has been an irreparable loss. His example, however, is with us and should serve as an incentive to all in whatever sphere of life we are placed for further service to our country.

“Sir Chimanlal Setalvad has also left us. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bombay for six successive terms and received the degree of LL.D. in 1920. His association with our University, of which he was a distinguished member, lasted over 50 years. He had an eminent and varied career and we mourn his demise. Let us stand for a few moments in respect to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi and Sir Chimanlal Setalvad.

“The University of Bombay is now over 90 years old. It is a time-honoured institution of impressive historical memories and has over a long span of years kept alight and spread the torch of learning in our Province. It collaborates to-day with 75 affiliated colleges as against four in 1860. In 1862, there were only four successful candidates who graduated. This year the total number of men and women receiving degrees is 2,935. The University has proved worthy of a progressive province and a great city. It has enjoyed jurisdiction over the whole Province and till recently also over Sind. From its affiliated colleges in Greater Bombay, in Gujarat, Maharashtra and the Karnatak have issued thousands of graduates, not a few of whom have distinguished themselves in the different spheres of life. Your present Vice-Chancellor is a graduate of this University and a well-known Sanskrit scholar. I congratulate him on his having received last year the Doctorate in Literature of the Allahabad University and on his selection to be one of India's representatives at the recent session of the International Congress of Orientalists in Paris. I have also the privilege of knowing his predecessor, Mr. Justice Chagla, who on account of his heavy work and responsibilities as Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court was compelled to leave the Vice-Chancellorship after a tenure of some months. He and I were colleagues in 1946 at the United Nations Assembly in New York where, to my knowledge, he did valuable work, more especially on behalf of our fellow countrymen in South Africa. I am indebted to your Registrar for a good deal of information regarding the University of Bombay. Mr. Dongerkery has written a stimulating book entitled, “Universities and Their Problems”, which I have read with pleasure and instruction. His versatility is shown by the fact that he is also a poet.

Inter-Provincial University Board

“Changes in the jurisdiction of the University of Bombay, as you are aware, are inevitable in the near future. The recent passage of the Poona University Act has created a new University for Maharashtra, to which we wish all success. New Universities in the Karnatak and Gujarat will follow in a few years. One result will be a large reduction in the number of colleges at present affiliated to the University of Bombay. In fact, the

jurisdiction of our University will then be confined to what may be called 'Greater Bombay'. It is but natural to regret the loss of colleges long attached to this University and the resulting diminution in its area of operation. I do not think, however, that there is any reason to be despondent. The University will remain their parent and example and will, I think, in some respects gain in strength inasmuch as it will become more and more a teaching University with an increasing number of post-graduate departments and greater concentration on research. Moreover, there should then be greater co-operation between the affiliated colleges in Greater Bombay and the University. I hope, however, that when the new Universities come into being in our Province, there will be a reasonable measure of co-ordination and co-operation between them. One method of ensuring this may well be through the creation of an Inter-Provincial University Board somewhat on the lines of the present all-India Inter-University Board. Periodical conferences should also be useful. Not only will such co-operation be useful in promoting harmony, in maintaining reasonable uniformity in standards and in sharing experiences, but it may also serve to prevent duplication of studies and enable Universities to specialise in certain subjects.

English, An International Language

"It is reasonably certain that before very long in most of our Indian Universities, English will cease to be the medium of instruction and examination. The change is inevitable and indeed desirable, for, we cannot continue for all time to receive our education in a foreign language. It is also to a large extent consequential on the elimination of English as a medium of instruction in secondary schools. It is possible, however, that the reconstituted University of Bombay, situated in the most cosmopolitan city in India, may decide to continue to examine in English. My experience in the United Nations Assembly convinces me that English is becoming more and more an international language. Excluding the South American Republics, most of whom are very small and who use Spanish, the greater majority of nations employ English as the medium of communication in the Assembly. This, however, is a matter which may safely be left to be decided in due course by the University of Bombay and by public opinion. In any case, I trust that the University of Bombay will maintain its broad outlook. When, as is possible and indeed probable, our country is divided into a larger number of provinces than exist at present, there will be greater need for the unifying forces of a cultural character. A cosmopolitan University, affording facilities to all irrespective of creed and class and opening its doors to teachers and students from all parts of India and even outside India, will, I consider, be a very valuable institution. Whatever happens, no divisions, be they of language, region or creed, must divide us. We are and must remain Indians first and Indians last. Otherwise, I foresee disaster.

"At present, our University is conducting post-graduate education in a comparatively small number of departments, viz., Economics, Sociology and Chemical Technology. It is proposed to add departments of Statistics and Politics and Civics. This is all to the good. Personally, I should like to see a still larger number, if and when funds permit. The Calcutta University, I understand, maintains not less than 28 post-graduate departments, while the University of Madras has 19.

Importance Of Research

"I hope also that there will be increasing devotion to research. Much of our research in the past in Indian languages, history, philosophy and architecture has been undertaken by European scholars. It is for the Indian Universities to rectify the omissions of the past. There are further fields, for example in industrial, agricultural and medical research, which are open to genuine workers. Research involves patience and hard work which, alas, too often, pass unnoticed. It is nonetheless valuable, provided that it is independent and critical and is undertaken with a desire for truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Some of you may remember the lines from Tagore, which may be suitably applied to research.

'Where the mind is without fear

and the head is held high

Where knowledge is free'

"I wonder, too, if the time has not come for a Faculty of Fine Arts and degrees in Painting, Sculpture, Architecture and Music. This was recommended by the Setalvad Committee more than 20 years ago. Greater attention is being paid to these important cultural subjects and nowhere is interest in the Fine Arts keener and more widespread than in the City and Province of Bombay. I visualise, too, for, it is the privilege of old men to dream dreams, the establishment in the not too distant future of a Naval Training College in Bombay affiliated to the University.

Question of Government Aid to Universities

"I regret to note that for three consecutive years, the University has been faced by deficits. The times, however, are difficult on account of the prevalence of high prices. The annual grant from the Government of Bombay to the University was increased a year ago by one lakh of rupees i.e., from Rs. 1,17,000 to Rs. 2,17,000. Other Government grants are given for special purposes, including one of Rs. 49,000 from the Government of India. I am aware that compared with the total income of the University and even with the income from fees, which is the main source of revenue, the financial assistance from Government is small. But I would have you remember, ladies and gentlemen, that any Government in India is bound

at the present time to spend, and to spend increasingly, on the spread of primary education. In this respect, much lee-way has to be made up, for, we are far behind all the progressive countries of the world. The Government of Bombay is alive to the situation and the total education grant in the budget for the present year is nearly eight crores as compared with only two and three-quarter crores in 1945-46. Obviously, only a small proportion of this very large and increasing expenditure can be given to Universities. Nevertheless, I am confident that, as the years pass, Government aid to Universities and to colleges will increase.

"I congratulate the University on its recent decision to start its own printing press. Apart from the resulting saving in expenditure, the press can be a powerful instrument for furthering the work of the University by facilitating the publication of meritorious works. It can also serve as a useful connecting link between the University and the outside world, for such contacts are essential for educational institutions. Incidentally, the press should help to solve the problems of students who find it difficult to secure cheap and well-printed books.

National Cadet Corps

"The University Officers Training Corps, which has done good work for a number of years, has been disbanded since the 15th of July this year. Its place has been taken by the National Cadet Corps. The training of this new body will be more specialised and its scope will be wider. One of its main objects is the development of character and leadership. Enrolment is voluntary. In addition to selected members of the staffs of colleges, the senior division of the Corps will be officered by at least some regular military officers. To ensure continuity of training, colleges which had U. O. T. C. units in the past are being instructed to enrol such members in the new corps. At no time are the qualities of courage, leadership and endurance more necessary than at the present time when our country, as you are aware, is faced with special difficulties in more than one area. I sincerely trust that in the interests of our country and our Province, the full complement of the National Cadet Corps allotted to the University will be enrolled.

"I have long been interested in our Indian brothers and sisters spread over different countries in the world outside India. From time to time, I have visited them and have admired their industry and their courage, sometimes in the face of great difficulties. They need our sympathy and our help. I appeal to the colleges to give such assistance as they legitimately can to Indian students from such countries desiring to enter our educational institutions.

Advantages Of Residential Institutions

"Hostel accommodation in our colleges and in the University is at

present inadequate. The more such accommodation that a college or University has, the greater will be the contact between teachers and students and among students themselves. For a short time, I was Vice-Chancellor of the Lucknow University and I know from personal experience the many benefits that accrue from a residential educational institution.

“I hope that the question of a University Union on the lines of those at Oxford and Cambridge will be carefully considered. They are useful in supplying opportunities for students for debates and in enabling them to improve their knowledge of national and international affairs.

Sports And Games

“Throughout my long life, I have been extremely fond of games. Indeed I still play some of them. The Province of Bombay has produced men and women who have excelled in various games, but much more remains to be done. When are we going to produce a Bradman? When, with our large population, shall we win a fair number of events in the Olympic Games? Our hopes are in the rising generation. I trust, therefore, that Universities and colleges will always encourage the promotion of games and physical education.

“I have often wondered why, what in colloquial language are termed ‘hobbies’ are not more widely cultivated by us and especially by students. How much in Nature is there open to the humblest to interest and enjoy! Everywhere there are animals and plants to interest us. Then there is photography with its ever-developing technique. Gardening has its special attractions. There is the useful art of carpentry. Painting, for which India was once famous, should appeal to some, while above are the starry heavens open to all and sufficient in themselves to enthrall you. Believe me, my young friends, you will never regret in later life the cultivation of hobbies. On the contrary, they will be a perennial source of pleasure and relaxation.

“A very pleasant duty remains. It is to congratulate with all my heart the recipients of degrees and awards. You have won these by hard work and by that self-confidence which has been described as the first secret of success. Through you, I congratulate your parents who in many cases have contributed to the success of their children by a self-denial which can never be adequately repaid. I should like, perhaps in defiance of convention, to pay a tribute to the staff of the University and its affiliated colleges who opened to you the gates of knowledge and by their guidance and example can justly claim a share in your achievements. Speaking for myself, I feel to this day a debt of gratitude to those teachers in the University of Oxford, among them men of great names and high example, whom to know was to revere, and under whom to learn was a privilege.

May I particularly congratulate the women who, this year, I understand, have won more than a proportionate share of the honours in University examinations? To all students I extend my best wishes for their future happiness. Some at least, I hope will find happiness in some form of social service among the poor and needy who alas! abound in India. 'Knowest thou not', wrote Carlyle, 'thou canst not move a step on this earth without finding some duty to be done?' Yet another has well said that 'the great end of life is not so much knowledge as action'.

"Two days ago, we celebrated Independence Day. That was a day of rejoicing. After centuries, we are a free country and we can now raise our heads and claim an equal place among the independent nations of the world. But our freedom has to be maintained and that can only be by hard, ceaseless and constructive work by all of us and especially by the younger generation, from whom in time will come the leaders of our nation.

"Above all, we in India need the great benefits of unity. Disunion in the past has done great harm to our country. There will always be (and with advantage) different schools of political thought. But this should not prevent us from working unitedly in all matters of essential interest to the nation.

"We are facing very difficult times. In one portion of the Indian Union, there is open war and there are danger spots elsewhere. There are possibilities outside India of misunderstanding and even of conflict. If, which Heaven forbid, there is a conflagration, who can say that we can stand aloof? United we stand, divided we fall.—Jai Hind." [No. N 445 of August 17, 1948]

**GREAT PROGRESS IN WOMEN'S EDUCATION: CONVOCATION
ADDRESS BY GOVERNOR TO S. N. D. T. INDIAN
WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY**

Following is the text of the address given by His Excellency Raja Maharaj Singh, Governor of Bombay, at the Convocation of the Shreemati Nathibai Damodhar Thackersey Indian Women's University, Bombay, on Saturday, July 31, 1948.

"Mr. Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—

"When your capable Honorary Registrar, Miss Laxmi Thackersey, invited me to be present at to-day's Convocation and deliver an address to the graduates of the Indian Women's University, I gladly agreed. I have

been interested in women's education since my childhood. My mother, who was born in the middle of the last century, not only spoke Hindustani and Punjabi, but by giving her lessons succeeded in getting the Countess of Dufferin, wife of the Viceroy of India, to learn Hindustani. She rapidly acquired an intimate knowledge of English and nearly 80 years ago was able to speak and write it as well as you and I. My wife is a graduate of the Allahabad University, while one of her elder sisters who subsequently became principal of one of the best-known Women's Colleges in Northern India, headed the list of M.A. graduates of her year. My sister received more or less the same education as her brothers. I make no excuse, therefore, for standing before you to-day. I am honoured, too, in having been asked to deliver the first Convocation Address to your University in a self-governing India.

"The Indian Women's University owes its inception 32 years ago to the enterprise and devotion of Dr. Karve whose name is a household word in India and who, like his nonagenarian contemporary, the King of Sweden, has renewed his youth and is happily still with us. In congratulating him on what he has done for the uplift and education of Indian women, let me wish him, on your behalf and mine, many more years of life and health. Dr. Karve was aided by the munificence of the late Sir Vithaldas Thackersey, who retained his deep interest in this University and whose efforts have been supplemented by the zeal and labours of Lady Thackersey, who is prominently connected with your educational institution.

Specialised Training For Women

"The two main principles governing your institution are the use of mother tongues in Universities as the media of instruction and the formulation of courses of studies specially suited to the needs and requirements of women in an institution reserved for them.

"As regards the first, it is hardly necessary for me to remind you that the principle, which you adopted a generation ago, has now been recognised as both desirable and necessary and before long will be in force in most Indian Universities. I congratulate, therefore, your founders and supporters on their pre-vision. Expression of thought in a foreign language is a real difficulty to many. The stress tends to fall on words rather than ideas, thus hampering the writer's thought.

Claims Of Co-education

"As regards the second principle, I am well aware that there are many, including a large number of educated Indian women, who are not enamoured of special universities for women and prefer a system of co-education, by which throughout their educational career men and women

would be taught and learn together. Much can be said in support of the advocates of co-education. In my younger days, I suppose that, with 99 out of a hundred people in India and elsewhere, I would have been startled by the idea and disagreed with it. But having seen a good deal of the world and of educational institutions, I feel that co-education has its definite advantages and that it will be increasingly adopted by all countries, including India. At the same time, I am a great believer in experiment and in diversity and I think that there is room for different types of universities. Indeed, the imposition of a drab uniformity has been one of the disadvantages of foreign rule in the past. Experiments not excluding those in education were few and far between. Your University has been an experiment and who can say that it has not succeeded? You have stood the test of 30 years and more and have earned the praise of many. In 1939, when the Convocation Address was delivered by our distinguished Premier, the Hon'ble Shri B. G. Kher, Mahatma Gandhi, whose tragic passing away is deeply deplored throughout India and indeed the world, honoured your institution by his presence. From modest beginnings, the Indian Women's University can now claim that it is imparting education to nearly 400 students in your colleges and to over 5,000 in your high schools. The standard of proficiency has progressively increased. Moreover, the example which you set a generation ago in providing studies to the special requirements of women has been increasingly followed by many Universities in India. There are now, for instance, syllabuses for dietetics and the problem of nutrition, psychology with special reference to children, principles of art and design, household furnishing and decoration, music and painting. Thus, one of the objects of your University is now being followed by others. On this you are to be congratulated.

'The Cause Of Women' In India

"You have sent out a growing number of teachers for our schools and your students have become mothers, well trained for the primal vocation of home-making. What is even more important is that your staff and students have helped to advance what I may call in general terms the cause of women in India. Wherever education has developed, the emancipation of women has followed. In the course of my life, I have witnessed great progress not only in women's education but in the achievement of women's rights. Not many generations ago, even in Europe women had a relatively subordinate position. In Germany, for instance, they were asked to be content with the trinity of kitchen, children and church! Those days have happily gone. The surprising fact, however, for which I hope that you will give some credit to the male sex, is that, unlike the women's suffrage movement in England, India, a conservative country, has given to her women the right to vote with surprisingly little opposition. Marriage and property laws have been modified and will no doubt

continue to be modified for the benefit of her women. More and more we shall depend on our women for further necessary social legislation on matters such as child labour and child beggars and women in mines. But there is much to encourage our sisters. At the present moment, a very distinguished lady is Governor of one of the largest provinces of India, another is a member of the Central Cabinet, and yet another, who twice led the Indian delegation to the United Nations, is holding one of our most important ambassadorial appointments. Women are holding posts in the Police and are even receiving semi-military training in parts of India. In legislatures, in municipalities, in local boards and in the various university bodies there are women representatives, while public services are being increasingly thrown open to them. In fact, I have heard men humorously complain that, while in the past there were reservations for women, for instance, in railway trains, in future posts and privileges will have to be reserved for members of the male sex! In this onward march, you have been aided by bodies such as the All-India Women's Conference, of which your well-known Vice-Chancellor, Mrs. Hansa Mehta, is a prominent member, by political associations, notably the Indian National Congress, by many liberal-minded men and, last but not least, by the actual achievements of educated women.

Existing Disparity

"Much, however, remains to be done. There is still great disparity in the education of men and women. In primary schools and particularly in rural areas, the needs of whose populations we must never ignore, for every three boys there is only one girl in school. In secondary schools, there are four boys in school against one girl, while in colleges the proportion is still more unfavourable to women, there being only one woman for five men.

"Women are urgently wanted for constructive work in many spheres of life. For social services, which are bound to be increasingly prominent, the present number of trained women is altogether inadequate. Women doctors are few and far between even in the progressive Province of Bombay. During visits of my wife and myself to hospitals, we have found a lamentable shortage in nurses, though women are particularly well adapted for this form of social service. How often do we see women who are journalists? They are conspicuously absent in the departments of fine art and decorative art which need their imaginative skill. Even in the domestic sciences, on which you rightly lay stress, for most women will be mothers, the number of well-equipped women is insufficient.

"I shall now refer briefly to the interest of Government in your University. The Government of Bombay has increased its annual grant from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 7,500 with effect from the last financial year. In addition,

the Provincial Government has recently sanctioned a non-recurring grant up to a maximum, not exceeding six lakhs, of 25 per cent. of the expenditure on the building programme. The Government of India has promised a similar grant. My Government's interest was further shown in the appointment of a Committee, under the distinguished chairmanship of your Chancellor, to report on your University. One of the terms of reference was the conditions on which statutory recognition should be granted. That report is now before Government and I can assure you that it will be carefully considered. The whole cost, however, of the new buildings, which have become urgently necessary, including what is most important, namely, the construction of a hostel, cannot obviously be borne by Government. You will have to raise large funds from private sources, for, modern universities are costly and require adequate buildings and a qualified and well-paid staff. I know that this is difficult these days, but it should not be impossible. In this matter I think that you should ask your present and former students to help in appealing to public generosity. With the Committee to which I have just referred, I look forward to the time when yours will largely be a teaching and residential University, with students living in University hostels or approved lodgings. Apart from other considerations and speaking from my own experience, the student has a happier time in such a university and feels himself to be a more integral part thereof than would otherwise be the case.

Place Of English

“English is at present a compulsory language. I sincerely trust that it will so continue. More and more is English becoming an international language. My recent experience of the United Nations Assembly has confirmed me in this belief. I may add that for the purposes of critical research which, I trust, will be conducted under your auspices, it is essential.

“I suggest that the University, when it has its additional buildings and grounds, should pay greater attention to physical education, for, I am convinced that this will be of great benefit to the health of our girls and to the future generation of children. The old Roman adage, ‘mens sana in corpore sano’, is as true to-day as it was two thousand years ago. Last but not least, courses in science in the broad sense of the word may be introduced with profit to meet modern requirements, while the standard of instruction and examination should challenge comparison with that in other universities.

“A word to your staff and students and I have done. To the staff I would only say in the words of a well-known writer, ‘The best teacher is he who best assists the student to teach himself’.

"May I congratulate those ladies who have received degrees and other awards? Your academic achievements will be a source of gratification throughout life and recall memories of the time that you spent in this university. To all my young friends, I would give the motto of Rotary, 'Service above Self'. Less than a year ago, we secured through the sacrifice and devotion of our leaders the inestimable status of independence. That has given to us the rights and privileges of free men and free women. But it has its obligations of which the chief is the service of our Motherland and its citizens of all creeds and all classes.

"I thank you, Mr. Chancellor, for inviting me to-day. I wish well to the University authorities, the staff and students of the Indian Women's University." [No. P 1285 of July 31, 1948]

RECOGNITION OF S. N. D. T. INDIAN WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY: RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE

The S. N. D. T. Indian Women's University should have power to recognise, as affiliated institutions, colleges situated outside Greater Bombay and Poona, in suitable places in the Dominion of India and the States that have acceded to it, says the Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay under the chairmanship of Sir H. V. Divatia to report on the question of statutory recognition to the University. The Committee, whose report has just been published, was to consider the terms and conditions on which statutory recognition should be granted to the University with particular reference to its territorial and institutional jurisdiction 'vis-a-vis' the University of Bombay and the proposed regional Universities of Maharashtra, Karnatak and Gujarat. The question of the constitution of the University and courses of studies, staff and the standard of examinations with particular reference to the special needs of women and to the standards of other statutory Universities, was also to be examined by the Committee.

The Act giving statutory recognition to the University, says the Committee, should provide that the University should be pre-eminently a teaching and residential one. Its jurisdiction should be restricted to Greater Bombay, except that it should be empowered to conduct, as required by the terms of the award of the Bombay High Court, its Poona College for teaching courses in specified Faculties. The University should provide for all undergraduate and post-graduate teaching and research in various Faculties, through its own staff of its Departments in Greater Bombay, and should also make provision for undergraduate teaching in specified Faculties in its Poona College, through its own appointed staff.

In Bombay and also in its Poona College the University should require all students, not living with their parents or approved guardians, to reside in University hostels or approved lodgings, opines the Committee.

The Proposed Faculties

The University should have the following Faculties to start with, viz., (1) Arts, including Social Sciences and Commerce, (2) Science, including Domestic Science, (3) Nursing and (4) Fine Arts. The University should have power to add to these Faculties.

The University should institute and award degrees and diplomas. The duration of the degree courses should be four years. The duration of the diploma courses should be one, two or three years, according to the nature of the subject concerned. The present courses of the University may be adjusted and recognised under the Faculties indicated above, suggests the Committee.

The standard of instruction and examination should be the same as in other statutory Universities. No private candidates should be admitted to any University Examinations.

Standard Of Admission

Admission to the University should be open to students who pass the S. L. C. Examination in specified subjects or the Entrance Examination of the University or an examination considered as equivalent to these.

The staff of the University should be appointed on the recommendations of the Statutory Selection Committees. The University should lay down the minimum qualifications and terms and conditions of service for staffs in colleges recognized as affiliated institutions.

The University Act should provide for the constitution of the various University authorities and appointment of the office-bearers, mentioned above.

The medium of instruction in the University, the Committee recommends, should be the regional languages of Greater Bombay and Poona and in affiliated colleges, the regional languages of the places where the colleges are located. The question of changing or retaining the present nomenclatures of degrees should be left to be determined by the University authorities.

The University should have nothing to do with secondary education, except that it should be open to it to conduct the Poona Kanyashala as it has to do under the terms of the award of the Bombay High Court. [No. P 1302 of August 2, 1948]

TWO ADDITIONAL INCREMENTS FOR M. Ed.'s

The members of the Bombay Educational Service Class III who hold or obtain, while in service, the M. Ed. Degree will be given two additional increments by the Government of Bombay. [No. P 1248 of July 26, 1948]

TEERTH AND SHASTRI DEGREES RECOGNISED FOR TEACHERS' POSTS

The Government of Bombay has decided that the Teerth degree of the Bengal Sanskrit Association, Calcutta, the Shastri degree of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Andheri, and the First Iyatta degree of the Veda Shastrot-tejak Sabha, Poona, should be recognised as a qualification for service in Government and non-Government secondary schools, and that the holders of these degrees should be given the same scale of pay as is prescribed for trained matriculate teachers. Individual cases of teachers holding Shastri degrees in Government secondary schools will be treated on merits after five years in the matriculate scale. [No. P 1544 of September 14, 1948]

NEED FOR RESEARCH IN MARATHI LITERATURE

A fervent appeal to discover the rich hidden treasures of Marathi literature and bring them before the public was made by the Premier of Bombay, Mr. B. G. Kher, presiding over the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Marathi Granth Sangrahalaya, Bombay, on August 19.

After thanking the management of the Mumbai Marathi Granth Sangrahalaya for conferring on him the honour of presiding over the celebrations, the Premier paid a tribute to the efforts of Mr. Ambadas Govind Puntambekar and his co-workers, whose sagacity and foresight were responsible for bringing the institution into existence 50 years ago. The Premier disclosed that during the earlier part of his public career, he took lessons in social service from Mr. Puntambekar. Among others who had contributed their mite to the growth of the Granth Sangrahalaya were Sri N. M. Bakre and Sri A. N. Pitkar, who was a representative of "The Kesari," at Bombay.

Mr. Kher eulogised the services which were being rendered by the institution to the cause of Marathi literature, especially by preserving old and rare volumes. The Bombay Government recognised this and therefore decided to conduct research in Marathi literature under the auspices of the Sangrahalaya.

The Premier also expressed his appreciation of the fact that the institution was above communalism and that persons belonging to different faiths were taking advantage of facilities offered by the library.

Need For Co-operation

Mr. Kher suggested that the Marathi Granth Sangrahalayas at Bombay and Thana and the Regional Library at Poona should work in co-operation as complementary to each other and thus help to further the cause of the study of Marathi literature. Similarly, in co-operation with the Marathi Research Institution and the Maharashtra Sahitya Parishad, the three institutions could undertake the work of research and publication of unpublished volumes.

The Premier referred to the forthcoming establishment of the Poona University, which would give a great fillip to research work in the field of Marathi literature; however, he appealed to the various literary institutions not to wait for the University to start functioning but, on their own, to go ahead with discovering and bringing to light the rich hidden treasures of Marathi literature.

Brilliant Future

He also observed that Marathi had been enriched by Sanskrit, Persian and other languages in the past and it would not be proper to seek to get rid of the wealth of expressions and the vocabulary but to enhance it.

He wished the institution all prosperity and appealed for funds to construct a spacious building to be of greater use to the public. He said the Marathi language was already very well developed and had a brilliant future before it. [No. N 454 of August 18, 1948]

ENCOURAGEMENT TO HINDUSTANI LITERATURE

The Government of Bombay has set apart a sum of Rs. 600 during the current financial year for the encouragement of Hindustani literature (which is understood to include Hindi and Urdu books of special merit, if the vocabulary and style used are simple and easy) published for the first time after 1930, either in the Nagari or Urdu script. Preference will be given to applicants in Bombay Province and to books published in both the scripts.

This amount will be devoted to (i) giving cash prizes, (ii) purchasing copies and (iii) helping in other similar ways authors and publishers.

The authors should apply, with 18 copies of each book at their own cost, giving the full name and address of the author and publisher and all particulars about the edition, price, availability, special features, etc.

Applications must reach the Chairman, Provincial Board for Education in Hindustani, "Loka Kalyan", 77 Shanwar Peth, Poona 2, before December 15, 1948. [No. P. 1627 of September 25, 1948]

DRAMA, AN EXCELLENT INSTRUMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION: PREMIER'S ADDRESS AT KANNADA STAGE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

"No art has excelled the drama in its twin objectives of providing healthy entertainment for the people and, at its best, of serving as an eye-opener to the many social ills which people often accept unquestioningly. Its great power to sway the human mind and emotions arises from the fact that it draws into its train literature, music, poetry and dance; all these different forms of art are pressed into its service to form a moving pattern which has the attributes of beauty as well as power. The drama can be made as much an instrument of public education as a means of conveying that thrill of pure joy which all great art gives." Thus observed Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier of Bombay, presiding over the Kannada Stage Centenary and Gubbi Theatrical Company's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, on July 27 at Mysore.

He said: "It gives me great pleasure to participate in the Centenary Celebrations of the Kannada Stage. It is a matter for gratification for us all that Kannada Nadu should have such a remarkable cultural tradition in this direction which is second to that of no other province in the country. In the new phase of our history that is opening out before us, we must try to release the creative impulses of our people in art, literature, drama, poetry and all other related fields, and a centenary like this is a happy augury of the revival of interest in cultural activities.

"If we look into the history of Kannada literature, we find that, according to the evidence available at present, dramas first came into prominence in the 17th century. The first Kannada drama, 'Mitravinda Govinda', was published two and a half centuries ago. But it is only during the last one hundred years that it has made great progress and come to occupy a place of importance in life.

Yaksha Ganas

"In the dramatic tradition of Karnatak, 'Yaksha Ganas' form a special feature. These came into great vogue in the 17th and 18th centuries. Even to-day, 'Yaksha Ganas' are popular in the South Kanara District. A variation of these are the well-known 'Bayalata', or open air dramas. This was the early form of the Kannada drama before it attained a more refined and conventional form. But from the point of view of literature, it can be safely said that 'Yaksha Ganas' are not inferior to any 'Kavyagrantha.'

Marionette Shows

"As you know, one form of 'Bayalata' was that in which the actors were marionettes which were made to dance and act on the stage by

means of strings pulled by 'wire-pullers' (Sutradhara) invisible to the audience. It appears that such marionette shows were common in China, Japan and many other countries also. Of late, however, such shows have been on the decline. Just as at present 'play-back' songs are sung for actors and actresses, so the 'Sutradharas' used to sing play-back songs for the marionettes on the stage. I am definitely of the opinion, that in our attachment to things modern, we should not allow such special art forms to go into oblivion but should try our best to adapt them to new circumstances and thus give them a new life, so that we may point to them with pride as evidence of the glory and variety of our artistic heritage.

Evolution Of Modern Drama

"From these early folk art forms of 'Yaksha-Gana' Tala-maddale (this was the indoor counterpart of 'Bayalata'), in which the songs were sung by different actors to the accompaniment of cymbals (tala) and drum (maddale), 'Bayalata' and 'Gombeyata' (marionette show), blossomed forth the modern Kannada drama and today's function is a welcome reminder of the fact that it has completed one hundred years of its life. In Karnatak, born actors like Varadhachar, T. Raghavachar and Peer have become immortal and are like great stars in the firmament of Kannada drama. Amongst dramatic companies, the Gubbi Theatrical Company, whose Diamond Jubilee we are celebrating today, is one of the oldest. The names of many other old companies have, I am afraid, been forgotten. Shirhatti Venkobarao, Savanur Vamanrao, Garood Sadashivrao and others have worked in the field of drama in North Karnatak.

Medium Of Social Education

"Since these dramatic companies came to a close, there have unfortunately been few amongst the modern educated youth who have devoted themselves with a singleness of purpose to the service of the Kannada stage. Both amongst educated actors and dramatists, the dramatic art has been rather a side activity than serious life-work. This is obviously not desirable and it should be your concern to imbue modern drama not only with the artistic significance which it possessed in the past but also to make it a medium of social education and social significance that it has become in many western countries. The Kannada stage should be resuscitated on these lines and more room should be found in it for Varadhachars, Peers and Raghavachars.

Congregation Of Arts

"It is not necessary for us today to evaluate the place of drama in life. Bharatmuni has classified it as the fifth 'Veda' and you are, I hope, conversant with Kalidasa's well-known words, which signify the true place of drama in society. No art has excelled the drama in its twin objectives

of providing healthy entertainment for the people and at its best of serving as an eye-opener to the many social ills which people often accept unquestioningly. Its great power to sway the human mind and emotions arises from the fact that it draws into its train literature, music, poetry and dance; all these different forms of art are pressed into its service to form a moving pattern which has the attributes of beauty as well as power. The drama can be made as much an instrument of public education as a means of conveying that thrill of pure joy which all great art gives.

Accelerating National Progress

"In our society of today and in our country which has awakened into the dawn of freedom, many new and difficult problems have raised their heads. In addition to religious bigotry and intolerance, the spectres of communalism, provincialism, regionalism and other exclusivist tendencies are some of these. Our stage must be utilised to exorcise these ghosts and there is no doubt that popular imagination can be awakened to the enormity of the present situation through good and suitable dramas. Similarly, our dramatists can help us in our crusade against drink and other malpractices. I am not advocating 'didactic' drama which is often colourless and lifeless but I do plead for giving drama a social conscience. We should remember that in Russia, Italy, France and Japan national progress has been greatly accelerated and furthered by good drama. Who can, for instance, over-rate the part played by Bernard Shaw's dramas in transforming the 19th century mentality into the 20th century mentality? There is room in our life for dramatists of power like Shaw and Galsworthy. The time is ripe and is calling for them and I hope they will soon be born.

Films And Dramas

"Though films are regarded as a variation of drama, they can never, in spite of all their advantages, have the vitality of the latter. It is true that the advent of films has meant a set-back to the drama, but it is not primarily the fault of films. Even if films are to advance, drama need not lag behind. In fact, in the interest of the education of public taste and artistic appreciation, drama has to play a distinctive role which cannot be usurped by the film.

"In the films, the progress of scientific technique opens out an immense field of possibilities in which the producers often get lost, preferring cheap and sensational 'hits' to serious drama. This has a bad effect on artistic standards and it is essential that good drama should come into its own to advocate the case of quality 'versus' quantity, of social and artistic significance against mere spectacular appeal.

Popular Imagination

“It is, however, essential that in serving this laudable object, the dramatist should not lose sight of his audience and he should write in such a way that his plays will have a popular appeal. He must constantly keep in view the fact that a large majority of the people for whom he has to cater in our country are illiterate. He has, therefore, to study their needs and problems as well as their psychology and present his ideas and themes in such a manner that they will catch popular imagination.

“I hope your efforts will succeed in laying the foundations of this new orientation. But, if I may say so, it is a task which requires concerted effort on all fronts and I would like to see drama being given its proper place not only in adult life but also in that of our children and youths in schools and colleges because it appeals to some of their deepest creative impulses and because we can start the new movement most effectively at that stage.

“I heartily welcome your proposal to form an Akhila Karnatak Dramatic Federation and an Art Centre as a permanent memorial of today’s celebrations. In advanced countries, such institutions have contributed largely to the progress of art. I hope and pray that Kannadiga lovers of art in all parts of our country will help this worthy cause in a generous manner, so that dramatic art in Karnatak may get the dynamism of a new impulse and your noble purpose may come to fruition.—Jai Hind.” [No. N 413 of July 27, 1948]

BOARD FOR RESEARCH IN KANNADA LITERATURE

The appointment of members on the Board for Research in Kannada literature has been continued for a further period of three years from May 8, 1948. [No. P. 1115 of July 3, 1948]

ALIENATION OFFICE RECORDS: NEW RULES FOR THEIR EXAMINATION & USE

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned a comprehensive set of rules and regulations for the examination of the records in the Alienation Office, Poona, superseding the previous rules and orders issued from time to time.

Under these rules, the Commissioner, Central Division, will have full discretion to accept or reject applications for permission to examine records in the Alienation Office.

Every applicant will have to give an undertaking in writing that he will comply with all the rules, subject to which he is admitted to the Alienation Office, and that he will not publish any notes made by him from the records given to him for inspection, unless and until they are released by the Commissioner.

Except in cases in which the Commissioner grants exemption, a copy of the notes made by the applicant, together with an English translation of it, prepared by the applicant at his own expense, will be furnished by him to the Commissioner for scrutiny. The notes so approved by the Commissioner may then be taken out of the Alienation Office.

The Commissioner has power to permit applicants to examine the Alienation Office records without payment of any fees. Such permission will only be given to a genuine student of history doing research work for a University degree or engaged in the study of any specific problem, on production of a certificate from the secretary or head of the academic institution to which the student is attached.

Under no circumstances will permission be given to remove records from the Alienation Office.

An applicant must attend the Alienation Office at least for four days in a week and normally finish his research work within six months. [No. P 1352 of August 9, 1948]



Civil Supplies

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The most notable item under Civil Supplies may be said to be the Government's decision to reimpose control on the distribution of cloth to consumers consequent on the new textile policy enunciated by the Central Government recently. The main idea is to reduce the number of intermediaries and to ensure a ration quantum of at least 24 yards per capita in main cities and 18 yards elsewhere. That would reduce black marketing to a minimum and even check it effectively. Co-operative societies are to be given preference as distributing agencies wherever possible.

It is also proposed to afford relief to low-income groups by opening 2,300 foodgrain relief shops in decontrolled areas and the Government provided 2,50,000 tons of foodgrains for purposes of this scheme.

On the occasion of the Independence Day—August 15—the existing restrictions on the entertainment of 25 or more persons were relaxed.

The control of groundnut cake was, however, continued with a view to conserving supplies, and the measure was also extended to the merged States.

Condensed milk has been made available for forest subordinates in the Kanara District.

GOVERNMENT'S MEASURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW TEXTILE POLICY: FOOD AND COMMODITY ADVISORY BOARD'S VIEWS

The meeting of the Bombay Provincial Food and Commodity Advisory Board, held at the Secretariat on August 17 to consider the measures to implement the new textile policy, endorsed the view of Mr. Dinkarrao Desai, Minister for Civil Supplies to the Government of Bombay, that unless the Centre gave the Bombay Province a sufficient allotment, no scheme of controlled distribution could be successfully implemented. The Minister presided over the meeting.

In opening the proceedings, the Minister gave an outline of the new policy and its implications and invited the views of the members on the arrangements that would have to be made to ensure successful working of the new system. He emphasised that it was Government's intention to reduce the number of intermediaries between the mill and the consumer to as few agencies as possible and, in pursuance of this intention, it was proposed that there should be only a single agency both at the producing centres as well as in the districts to take delivery of the cloth and to distribute it to retailers. This agency would either be a co-operative organisation or an association of traders and the same principle would be followed in selecting retail agencies which would be limited in number so as to ensure effective check and supervision.

Conditions For Successful Controlled Distribution

The Minister made it very clear that the system of controlled distribution now under contemplation could only succeed provided the Province got an adequate allotment from the Government of India which would enable the Bombay Government to fix a ration quantum of at least 24 yards in the main cities and 18 yards elsewhere. He apprehended that, if the allotment were so inadequate as to permit only a 10 yard ration quantum, it would be impossible to check black-marketing.

In the discussions that followed, several members expressed their views, and the general sense of the meeting was in favour of the scheme outlined by the Government. The Board was of opinion that there should be one agency in the producing centres, provided a suitable and reliable agency could be found. Otherwise, the Board suggested that the Government might consider taking delivery of the cloth from the mills departmentally.

So far as distribution in the districts was concerned, the Board was divided in its opinion as to whether the work should be given only to co-operative societies or both to co-operative societies and the trade.

The Board also endorsed the Minister's observation that unless the Centre gave the Bombay Province a sufficient allotment, no scheme of controlled distribution could be successfully implemented. [No. N 448 of August 17, 1948]

CLOTH REQUISITIONING AND DISTRIBUTION THROUGH CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

A meeting of the Provincial Food and Commodity Advisory Board was held on July 15 at the Secretariat, the Minister for Civil Supplies, Mr. Din-

karrao Desai presiding. This meeting of the Board had been summoned mainly with a view to eliciting the views of the members regarding the future textile policy. The Minister explained that in view of the forthcoming conference at Delhi on the 21st and 22nd, he would like to have the advice of the Board on the question as to whether there existed a case for the reimposition of controls or, alternatively, what other remedies could be adopted to check the rising prices of cloth and yarn and bring relief particularly to the poorer sections of the population.

After considerable discussion on the subject, the Board was unanimously of the opinion that it would be inadvisable to reimpose controls on cloth and yarn. They recommended, however, that the Government should arm itself with the necessary powers to requisition cloth and yarn from the mills at prices which should be in conformity with the fair prices recommended by the Tariff Board and that the cloth so taken over should be distributed through co-operative agencies to low-income groups. The Board also recommended that the Government should consider the adoption of measures to check profiteering, to enforce price-marking of all cloth produced by the mills and to ensure that the mills produced only a limited number of varieties of cloth which were largely in public demand. It was also suggested that, if possible, the export quota of cloth should be reduced and effective steps taken to prevent smuggling out of the Indian Dominion.

Food Situation

The Board then considered the food situation in the Province. The Minister stated that with a view to checking the rising prices and also to bringing relief to the consumer, the Government had already opened about 2,500 relief shops in the decontrolled areas of the Province. He assured the members of the Board that the supply position was satisfactory and he expressed the hope that provided the season was satisfactory, the opening of relief shops should produce a favourable reaction on prices. The Board expressed satisfaction at the prompt steps taken by the Government in opening these relief shops which they said were working satisfactorily in the districts. [No. N 395 of July 15, 1948]

DISTRIBUTION OF MILL CLOTH: IMPLEMENTING NEW TEXTILE POLICY

Under the new textile policy, the Central Government will fix fair ex-mill prices of cloth based on the recommendations of the Tariff Board. All cloth produced by the mills will be price-marked irrespective of whether such cloth is sold through co-operative shops or trade channels.

Provincial Governments will be free to fix retail prices not exceeding 20% over the ex-mill prices. The cloth now lying with dealers will be allowed to be sold freely until the 31st of October 1948, after which the sale of cloth which is not price-marked will not be permitted. The Central Government will control the production of the mills and will allocate it between the various Provinces and States. The Provincial Governments may distribute the whole or part of the provincial quota through Government-controlled shops.

The Government of Bombay has decided to take over the entire provincial quota and to distribute it through Government-controlled shops on a per capita basis to every individual. It was felt that the distribution of only a part of the quota, leaving the balance to the trade, would lead to malpractices and ultimately force Government to adopt complete distribution. This Government has, therefore, decided on the following scheme of distribution.

New Scheme

It is proposed to appoint wholesale distributors at the main producing centres of Bombay, Ahmedabad and Sholapur. So far as Ahmedabad is concerned, it has already been decided to entrust the work to the District Purchase and Sale Union (which is a co-operative body) on 1¼% margin. The appointment of a distributor in Bombay is under consideration. The distributor's function will be to purchase the provincial quota from the mills at these centres, store it and ultimately to despatch it to the various districts their respective quotas of cloth under instructions from the Provincial Textile Controller. The distributor's margin will not be more than 1½% over the ex-mill price.

In the districts, it is proposed to appoint a single wholesale agency. In selecting the agency, preference will be given to a co-operative institution. In case a reliable co-operative institution is not forthcoming to work as district wholesaler, the work will be entrusted to an association of wholesalers working as a body. The district wholesale agency will select the quota of the district, pay for it and will make arrangements to receive it at such convenient centres in the district as are prescribed by the District Magistrate. The district wholesaler will be given a margin not exceeding 1½% plus the actual freight charges.

Retail Shops

The number of retail shops will be restricted to as few as possible. It is proposed to appoint not more than 200 shops for this purpose in Bombay. In the districts, there will be about 6 shops per taluka, i.e., one shop for every 15,000 inhabitants. In selecting retail agencies, preference

will be given to reliable co-operative societies. Where co-operative societies do not exist or are not forthcoming to do the work, an association of retail traders will be asked to nominate the required number of shops. Failing agreement by the retailers' association, selection will be done by the District Magistrate in consultation with the District Price and Supply Advisory Committee. The margin of the retailer will not exceed 7½%.

The Government proposes to fix the retail prices for the medium and coarse counts at 12½% over the ex-mill price. This includes provision of from 1 to 1½% to meet Government's administration charges and other contingencies. So far as fine and superfine cloth is concerned, it is intended that the retail prices should be 20% over the ex-mill price, the extra margin being appropriated by the Government and utilised for the purpose of encouraging Khadi and handloom production.

The distribution of the provincial quota will be made on the basis of cloth cards or coupons which will be issued to every family or individual after proper scrutiny. The actual quantum to each individual will be determined after the provincial quota is fixed. It is proposed, however, to give some weightage to the urban population in fixing the per capita quota. Bombay has asked for a provincial quota on the basis of 24 yds. per head per annum for the city population and 18 yds. per capita for the rest of the Province. This demand has been based on the actual pre-war consumption of cloth in the Province and the habits of its people. The success of the new scheme largely depends on an adequate provincial quota being allotted.

Main Features

It will be observed that the main features of the scheme are (i) simplicity and reduction of the number of intermediaries handling cloth, and (ii) encouragement to co-operative societies. Multiplicity of agencies has been avoided by appointing one single distributor at each important producing centre and one single wholesale agency in each district as well as by restricting the number of retail shops. Co-operative organisations will be given a large share of the trade both at the wholesale and retail stages.

All attempts will be made to check black-market activities and severe penalties will be imposed both on the wholesalers and retailers for breaches of the Cloth Control Orders. The Provincial Government has assured the Government of India of its full co-operation in enforcing stringent control over mills. All authorised distributors, wholesalers and retailers will be licensed and substantial deposits taken from such agencies.

Causes of Failure in Past

Government will make all attempts to procure cloth normally consumed in the Province. It is realised that the failure of the last control was, to a large extent, due to unsuitable varieties being dumped on the Province as also the inclusion of the large production of handloom and powerloom cloth in the provincial quota. The latter, although produced in the Province, was never normally consumed and the bulk of it was always exported outside the Province.

As regards yarn, a similar scheme for the distribution of the entire provincial quota will be adopted.

It is hoped to put the scheme into operation as soon as possible. The success of the Government's new scheme depends largely on the co-operation given by the public, and Government hopes that it will be forthcoming in ample measure. [No. P 1496 of September 2, 1948]

CLOTH DEALERS TO DECLARE STOCKS

The Government of Bombay has directed every dealer of cloth and yarn in the Province of Bombay to furnish information immediately, at any rate not later than August 25, 1948, in the prescribed form about the quantities and description of cloth and yarn in his possession on August 2, 1948 whether on his own account or on account of any other person.

Stocks of cloth held by dealers in Bombay City and Bombay Suburban District, should be declared to the office of the Provincial Textile Controller, 6-A, Cooperage, Fort, Bombay, and those held by dealers in the districts and States should be declared to the District Magistrates concerned. The stocks of yarn held by the dealers in Bombay City, the Bombay Suburban District or in districts or States should be declared to the office of the Provincial Textile Controller. Dealers in the districts of Ahmedabad, Broach, Surat, Nadiad, Panch Mahals and Banas Kantha and Mahi Kantha should send copies of yarn statements to the Assistant Textile Controller, Ahmedabad. [No. P 1400 of August 16, 1948]

REGISTRATION OF ALL MOVEMENTS

In amplification of the announcement made by the Government of Bombay on February 2, 1948, attention of the public is drawn to the Textile Commissioner's announcement, dated March 3, 1948, clarifying that all movements whether by rail, by sea or by road which originate from

Bombay, Ahmedabad and Sholapur cities must be registered with the Textile Commissioner's Office or his Branch offices, as required under the Textile Commissioner's Notification, issued on June 8, 1946. [No. P 1142 of July 7, 1948]

FREE MOVEMENT OF YARN IN PROVINCE

The Government of Bombay has cancelled with immediate effect all restrictions on movement of yarn in the Province of Bombay. [No. P 1186 of July 13, 1948]

STANDARDISATION COMMITTEE MEMBER

Mr. P. V. Gillespie, M.L.A., has been appointed as an additional Member on the Standardization Committee for the cotton textile industry set up by the Government of Bombay in February last. [No. P 1279 of July 30, 1948]

RELIEF TO LOW-INCOME GROUPS: 2,300 FOODGRAIN SHOPS OPENED IN DECONTROLLED AREAS

In pursuance of its policy of providing relief to those sections of the population which are experiencing difficulty in purchasing their requirements in foodgrains owing to the high level of prices, the Government of Bombay, has already opened nearly 2,300 relief shops in the decontrolled areas of the Province of Bombay. Foodgrains are being distributed at subsidised rates through these shops. In the derationed towns and cities, every family whose monthly income is Rs. 250 or below is eligible to purchase foodgrains from the shops and in the rural areas a similar concession has been extended to non-producers and partial producers.

The Government has so far made available to the districts, for the purposes of this scheme, nearly 2,50,000 tons of foodgrains, which is roughly equivalent to about five months' requirements. Additional quantities will be sent, if and when required.

Composition Of Ration

With effect from July 15, the proportion of popular grains in the ration quantum has been increased from 30% to 50% and the composition of the ration would, therefore, be 50% rice and wheat, 20% milo, millets and barley and 30% maize. Similar arrangements, i.e., the opening of relief shops and issue of foodgrains at subsidised rates, have also been made in the States which have recently merged into the Province.

It is hoped that these measures will not only bring relief to the poorer sections of the population, but will also help bring down the existing high prices of foodgrains to reasonable levels. The present intention is to have at least 2,500 relief shops which is equivalent to half the number of ration shops and rural distribution centres which existed prior to decontrol. The Government will be willing to open even a larger number of shops, if found necessary, in the interest of consumers. [No. P 1184 of July 13, 1948]

AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICES OF CEREAL FOODGRAINS

The Index Numbers of the wholesale prices of the main cereal foodgrains, which had been rising since January 1948, declined from 267 at the end of June to 258 in the third week of July. The Government Relief Shops, which started functioning on an extensive scale during July 1948, have not only arrested the normal tendency of prices to rise at this time of the year, but have actually resulted in a downward trend in foodgrain prices.

The following table gives the average wholesale prices of main cereals and their Index Numbers in the Province of Bombay. (The prices are per Bengal Maund):

	Rice	Wheat	Jowar	Bajri	Combined Index
	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	
Pre-Decontrol	12-6-1. (100)	11-12-2 (100)	7-0-5 (100)	7-6-7 (100)	(100)
Average for April, 1948.	32-14-11 (266)	28-13-0 (245)	12-10-4 (180)	15-7-10 (209)	(232)
Average for May, 1948.	35-6-6 (286)	29-6-5 (250)	13-11-3 (195)	16-2-6 (218)	(247)
Average for June, 1948.	37-10-2 (304)	29-15-10 (255)	14-8-8 (207)	16-15-7 (229)	(260)
On 3-7-48.	38-12-0 (313)	30-11-2 (261)	14-13-2 (211)	17-4-4 (233)	(267)
On 10-7-48.	38-12-0 (313)	30-7-4 (259)	14-10-11 (209)	17-3-2 (232)	(266)
On 17-7-48.	38-2-1 (308)	30-3-7 (257)	14-7-7 (206)	16-15-7 (229)	(262)
On 24-7-48.	37-6-3 (302)	29-14-0 (254)	14-4-2 (203)	16-12-0 (226)	(258)

[No. P 1378 of August 12, 1948]

NEW MEASURE TO CHECK SMUGGLING OF FOODGRAINS

With a view to checking the illicit export of foodgrains from the Province, the Government of Bombay has issued an order banning the movement of the main cereal foodgrains and gram in excess of 20 lbs. within a belt of 10 miles inside the portions of the boundaries of the districts of Ahmednagar, East Khandesh, Nasik, Sholapur, Belgaum, Bijapur, Dharwar, Kanara and Ratnagiri and the States of Akkalkot, Miraj (Senior) and Savantwadi, which adjoin the C. P. and Berar and Madras Province, the States of Hyderabad and Mysore and the Portuguese territory Goa.

The order at the same time reduces the limit of the stocks of cereal foodgrains, for which a licence is required under the Bombay Foodgrains Control Order, 1947 and the Indian States Foodgrains Control Order, 1948, from 20 Mds. to 5 Mds., and also reduces from 50 Mds. to 10 Mds. the limit of possession of stocks which may be presumed to be held for sale. [No. P 1409 of August 17, 1948]

BAN ON CEREAL FOODGRAIN EXPORT IN BANAS KANTHA AND MAHI KANTHA DISTRICTS

The Banas Kantha and Mahi Kantha Districts, which have been formed out of the several States recently merged in Bombay Province, are normally self-sufficient areas; but as it appeared that the removal of the restrictions on movement consequent on their merger would upset their food economy, the Government of Bombay has issued orders banning the export of the main cereal foodgrains outside their limits. The notifications are being published in "The Bombay Government Gazette," Part I, dated August 9, 1948. [No. P 1353 of August 9, 1948]

RESTRICTIONS ON ENTERTAINMENT RELAXED ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

In celebration of the Independence Day, the Government of Bombay has temporarily suspended its orders placing restrictions on entertainment of 25 or more persons in all the areas of the Province, including Greater Bombay and the merged States.

There will, therefore, be no restrictions on the number of persons to be entertained on August 15, 1948. [No. P 1315 of August, 1948]

CONTROL ON GROUNDNUT CAKE TO CONTINUE

With a view to conserving the supplies of groundnut cake for use in this Province, the Government of Bombay has decided in December, 1947 to purchase the entire production from oil mills run on power machinery (i. e., expellers of rotaries or hydraulic presses), at the rate of Rs. 130 per ton, ex-mill, including the cost of gunnies and to distribute it to bona fide consumers within the Province for (1) manuring foodcrops, (2) cattle feeding, and (3) for manuring sugarcane and garden crops.

Transport Difficulties

Several complaints have been received from oil millers that cake is not lifted from the mills promptly and that large stocks have accumulated in the mills. All possible steps are being taken by the Government to see that congestion in the mills is relieved as early as possible. The main difficulty, in this connection, is the non-availability of wagons for movement and of godowns for storage of cake. The railway authorities have been requested to grant special priority for the movement of cake. The Collectors of the districts have been requested to make available as many Government godowns as they can spare for the storage of cake and, if necessary, to requisition private godowns for the purpose. It is expected that the stocks of cake lying with the various mills will be moved very shortly.

No Decontrol

The question of decontrol of groundnut cake has also been considered very carefully and the Government is of the opinion that it is not advisable to decontrol it for the present in the interests of the "Grow More Food Campaign." [No. P 1286 of July 31, 1948]

GROUNDNUT CAKE CONTROL EXTENDED TO MERGED STATES

The Government of Bombay has decided to extend, with effect from September 22, 1948, the orders regarding the control on groundnut cake to the Indian States merged in the Province.

In accordance with these orders, stocks of groundnut cake produced by oil mills run on power machinery (i.e. expellers or rotaries or hydraulic presses) in the merged States are frozen at the mills; no cake can be removed or disposed of without obtaining a release order from the Secretary to Government, Agriculture and Rural Development Department, Secretariat, Bombay.

The oil millers in these areas are required to send in on the prescribed form, on every Monday, beginning with September 20, declarations of the stocks of groundnut cake held by them on the Saturday immediately preceding, to the Collectors of the Districts concerned. Copies of such weekly declarations should also be furnished to the Secretary to Government, Agriculture and Rural Development Department, Bombay, regularly.

The Government has empowered the revenue officers of and above the grade of Mamlatdars and District Agricultural Officers in each of the merged States within their respective jurisdictions to enter and search the premises or seize any articles in respect of which a contravention of these orders is suspected.

The price of groundnut cake of quality I is fixed at Rs. 130 per ton, ex-mill, and that of quality II (bagda cake) at Rs. 75 per ton, ex-mill, including the cost of sound gunny bags in serviceable condition. The oil millers are required to deliver the released cake at the above rates to persons authorised by the Government. [No. P 1598 of September 21, 1948]

CONDENSED MILK FOR FOREST SUBORDINATES

Arrangements have been made by the Government of Bombay for the supply of condensed sweetened milk to the forest subordinates in the Dandeli, Kulgi, Virnoli and Gund Ranges (Kanara District) at the concessional rate of 7½ annas per tin. [No. P 1403 of August 16, 1948]

FREE USE OF MILK IN NON-ESSENTIAL ARTICLES

The Government of Bombay has by a notification issued to-day cancelled with immediate effect the order of the District Magistrate of Surat issued on June 4, 1945, restricting the use of milk in the preparation of non-essential articles in the Surat District. [No. P 1167 of July 10, 1948]

PRANTIJ MARKET AREA

From October 1, 1948, the area of Prantij Taluka in the Ahmedabad District has been declared to be a market area for the purposes of purchase and sale of cotton (ginned and unginned), groundnut (shelled and unshelled), castor seed, tur, mung, math, chola, sesamum, gram and sarsav. [No. P 1617 of September 24, 1948]

NADIAD TALUKA DECLARED AS MARKET AREA

The Government of Bombay has declared, with effect from October 31, 1948, the area of Nadiad Taluka, in Kaira District, to be a market area for the purposes of the Bombay Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1939, in respect of wheat, chola, bajri, paddy (husked and unhusked), kodra, bavto, tur, mug, math, val, udid, gram, castor-seed, sesamum, variali, jiru, rai and methi. [No. P 1612 of September 3, 1948]

NASIK AGRICULTURAL MARKET

Under the provisions of the Bombay Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1939, the Government has directed that from October 1, the area of the Baglan and Kalwan Talukas in the Nasik District will be a market area for the purposes of purchase and sale of cotton (ginned and unginned), groundnut (shelled and unshelled), gul, jowar, wheat, bajri, and gram. [No. P 1642 of September 27, 1948]

LICENCE FEE FOR SALE OF DENATURED SPIRIT

Licence fee for the wholesale sale of denatured spirit has been fixed at Rs. 1,000 in Greater Bombay and Rs. 500 in the rest of the Province, with effect from July 1, 1948. [No. P 1411 of August 17, 1948]

CEMENT PRICE REDUCED

The price of cement has been fixed at Rs. 82-8-0 a ton.

The necessary amendment to the Government's previous order on the subject has been published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of August 26.

The new price represents a reduction of Rs. 2-8-0 a ton." [No. P 1488 of September 1, 1948]



Land, Forests and Agriculture

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This quarter is memorable for the appeal of Mr. M. P. Patil, Minister for Forests and Agriculture, to observe the Gram Sudhar Saptah during the Mahatma Gandhi birthday celebrations in the first week of October and to make it a great and unique success. The object is to clean up the village and to inaugurate works of village improvement everywhere during this period, which commences on October 2 and concludes on Dassera Day, October 12. Increased production of food has a prominent place in this programme.

The Revenue Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, sent a message of good wishes to the Srirampur Taluka Shetkari Parishad.

It was made clear to landlords that the Independence Day remissions in land revenue ought to reach the actual tillers of the soil and similar remission was granted in respect of the merged States, to which the Bombay Tenancy Act, 1946, was also made applicable.

The limit of sanctioning Tagai loans by officers was increased and a subsidy to agriculturists of Rs. 1,34,000, being the amount of Sales Tax on agricultural machinery, was sanctioned.

Prizes were announced for preparing compost manure by villagers and a tractor training class was proposed to be opened from the second week of October.

A committee was also proposed to be set up, consisting of representative cultivators drawn from the districts to assist in the purchase and supply of seed potatoes for cultivation purposes.

The Government recently sanctioned a comprehensive scheme for effective control of the grasshopper menace at a cost of Rs. 2,64,762 and it is estimated that about 297 tons of Hexyclan, a new insecticide which is as effective as the well-known Gammoxene, will be used for combating this pest.

Contrary to certain reports, the Daddi Irrigation Project in the Belgaum District, has not been abandoned.

Finally, an outline of the various agricultural development schemes in the Province is provided which will give some idea of Governmental activity in this sphere.

**“GRAM SUDHAR SAPTAH SYMBOLISES CONSTRUCTIVE WORK”:
AGRICULTURE MINISTER’S APPEAL TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS**

Mr. M. P. Patil, Minister for Forests and Agriculture and Chairman of the Provincial Rural Development Board, has issued the following appeal in connection with the Gram Sudhar Saptah to be observed from October 2, Mahatma Gandhi’s Birthday, to October 12, Dassera Day.

“This year, Gandhiji’s birthday would be observed by devoting the Gandhi Saptah to constructive work. It has so many aspects, that some part of it can be done by every man or woman in any walk of life and irrespective of whether he or she is living in a town or a village. Gandhiji laid great stress on constructive work in the villages, where nearly four-fifths of us in India live. The Government of Bombay has, therefore, decided to observe every year the ‘Gram Sudhar Saptah’ coinciding with the Gandhi Saptah.

“During this Saptah, all social workers connected with village improvement work would be devoting their time entirely to that work and will be urging on the villagers to do likewise. All officials connected with rural development have also been instructed to render the maximum possible assistance to the villagers and their local leaders, in making the observance of the Gram Sudhar Saptah a success.

Significance Of Dassera

“The Saptah would begin on the 2nd of October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. The Week would normally end on the 8th of October, but this year it is proposed to extend the Saptah to the Dassera Day, which falls on the 12th of October. The Dassera Day has a special significance in the rural areas of Bombay Province. Traditionally speaking, it may be called the day of cleaning, sharpening and worshipping of the means of the practice of one’s vocation. The warriors of old worshipped their swords and spears and rode on their chargers bedecked with flowers and ornaments. Cultivators clean and worship their agricultural implements and tools. Children go to school to worship their slates and books. It would be very appropriate to conclude the Gram Sudhar Saptah on this auspicious day.

—a Saptah devoted to village cleaning and to making plans for and inaugurating many works of village improvement. The Saptah would also coincide with Navratra, which symbolizes the growth of foodcrops; it is customary to sow some cereal during this period and to use the young seedlings in the ritual connected with Dassera. Propaganda for growing more food would thus carry greater significance during the Gram Sudhar Saptah.

The Programme

“On the 2nd of October, the Saptah would commence with meetings in villages, in which the importance, utility and urgency of village improvement work would be stressed by local leaders. Gandhiji's conception of ‘Sarvodaya’, or the all round improvement of every one in the village, would be explained. The villagers would be organised for doing actual constructive work during the Saptah. This work would mainly consist of the following:—

(1) A general cleaning of the village; where possible and necessary, the lay-out of the village would be improved.

(2) Digging of pits in and around the village for converting all farm and village refuse into compost manure. Such of the refuse collected during the general cleaning up of the village as is suitable for composting would be put into these pits.

(3) Bringing about social amity among individuals and groups in the village. Attempts would be made for settling long-standing disputes between groups, if any, by the local leaders taking initiative in the matter. Special attention would be paid to removing the disabilities suffered by Harijans in the village. The breaking of undesirable customs in this respect would be arranged during the Saptah.

Village Improvement Year

“This is the work which would be actually done during the Saptah. Besides this, as many items of village improvement as possible, depending on local circumstances, would be taken up. Vigorous propaganda would be carried on for making the villagers conscious of the urgent need for producing more food. What we expect is that at the end of the Saptah, the villages would have become cleaner, neater, imbued with a spirit of unity of purpose and alive to the necessity of improvement. With this background for a start, the succeeding twelve months, which may be called the ‘village improvement year’, would undoubtedly show appreciable progress in the matter of village improvement.

"Shri B. G. Kher, our Premier, has already issued an appeal to the people to lend their support to the observance of the Gram Sudhar Saptah. The Congress Working Committee, at its recent session in Delhi, resolved that all Congress Committees and Congressmen should carry out, during the fortnight fixed for the Gandhi Birthday celebrations, such programme as would demonstrate the significance of the constructive programme as laid down by Mahatma Gandhi. I would also urge the public, especially the rural population, to strive hard to make this Saptah a great success." [No. P 1568 of August 17, 1948]

REVENUE MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO SHETAKARI PARISHAD

Mr. Morarji R. Desai, Minister for Home Affairs and Revenue, has sent the following message to the Shrirampur Taluka Shetkari Parishad, to be held at Shrirampur on August 29:

"It is of paramount importance that with the various agricultural and land reforms undertaken by the Government, we should be able now to attempt increased production. I wish every success to the peasants' conference of Shrirampur and hope that its decisions will be guided by wisdom." [No. N 468 of August 27, 1948]

INDEPENDENCE DAY REMISSIONS: WARNING TO LANDLORDS

It has been represented to the Government by various agriculturists and associations that the remission in land revenue granted by the Government in celebration of the Independence Day last year should be granted in lump to villagers for being utilised for a public purpose beneficial to all villagers. On careful consideration of the legal implications of such a request and the practical difficulties involved in implementing it, the Government has come to the conclusion that it is neither legally feasible nor practicable to grant the remissions in lump. The Government has, however, no objection to the villagers pooling together the amounts they get by way of remission in a fund to be managed by the villagers themselves.

It has also been brought to the notice of the Government that in some cases the benefit of the remission has not been passed by certain landlords to their tenants as required under sub-section 2 of Section 84-A of the Land Revenue Code and Section 16 of the Bombay Tenancy Act, while some landlords refused to accept the remission and left it to the Government to pay the remission to their tenants direct. Such an attitude on

the part of the landlords was not proper. Remission is in virtue of an action taken by the Government and it is not a matter of choice for the landlord occupants to accept or not to accept it. The amount of land revenue remitted ceases to be a land revenue demand and cannot, therefore, be paid as such at all so long as the remission stands. Under the provisions of Section 84-A of the Land Revenue Code and Section 16 of the Bombay Tenancy Act, a landlord must grant lawful remission in rent to a tenant other than a tenant paying rent in crop-share, even if he himself does not avail of the benefit of the remission. In the case of landlords receiving rents in the form of crop-share, it has already been made clear that in cases in which such a landlord does not pass on the benefit of the remission, at least upto an amount he is entitled to receive as remission, to this tenant, he is not held to be eligible for the remission and the remission amount will be paid direct to the tenant. [No. P 1469 of August 30, 1948]

LAND REVENUE REMISSION IN MERGED AREAS

To commemorate the integration of the several States with the Province, the Government of Bombay has decided to remit 10 per cent. of the land revenue demand for the revenue year 1948-49, that is, the agricultural assessment for the next year, in the areas comprising the Merged States. Local fund cess will be levied on the land revenue fixed for collection after taking this special remission into account.

In respect of lands, for which rent is payable in the form of a share of crop, the remission in question will be granted to landlords, provided they give a corresponding remission of not less than the amount of land revenue to their tenants. Otherwise, the remission will be granted direct to tenants.

Steps are being taken to ensure that the full benefit of this special remission is passed on by superior holders to their tenants. [No. P 1606 of September 23, 1948]

BUNDING COST RECOVERY TO BE FREE OF INTEREST

The Government of Bombay has decided that the recovery of the portion of the cost due from the owners of lands, where bunding and improvement works have been carried out by the Land Improvement Department, should be made free of interest. [No. P 1600 of September 22, 1948]

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LAW RELATING TO TENANCIES: MORE RIGHTS TO BE CONFERRED ON TENANTS

A Bill to amend the law relating to tenancies of agricultural lands and to make certain other provisions in regard to those lands has been published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of July 23.

The working of the Bombay Tenancy Act, 1939, as amended in 1946 throughout the Province disclosed certain difficulties in administration due to the variety of tenures, customs and usages prevailing in the different parts of the Province. The change in the political status of the country has also necessitated the shaping of a definite policy of agrarian reforms to achieve improved production and agricultural efficiency, at the same time, safeguarding the interests of the ryots. In order to implement this ideal, it is considered necessary to assume management of estates held by landholders, to impose restrictions on transfer of agricultural lands, to prevent uneconomic cultivation, and to create and encourage peasant proprietorships in respect of holdings of suitable sizes.

The present Bill is directed towards the further achievement of this objective. It is proposed in this Bill to repeal the Bombay Tenancy Act, 1939, but to reincorporate its useful provisions. The Bill puts together general provisions regarding tenancies, their duration, maximum rent, commutation of crop-share rent into cash, prohibition of receiving rent in terms of service or labour, abolition of all cesses, haks, etc., as well as the special rights and privileges of protected tenants.

Some Important Clauses

The following are some of the important clauses in the Bill:—

The provisions relating to leases of immoveable property contained in Chapter V of the Transfer of Property Act have been applied so far as they may be to tenancies and leases of agricultural lands so as to determine the rights and liabilities of landlords and tenants more precisely in matters not provided specifically in the Bill.

The maximum rate of rent has been statutorily fixed at $\frac{1}{3}$ rd and $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the total produce in the case of non-irrigated and irrigated lands, respectively. The Government can, however, fix a lower rate of rent or can fix the maximum rate of rent in multiples of assessment.

Provision has been made for refund of rent recovered in excess by any landlord and for compensation to the tenant in addition.

This clause provides for the determination of the reasonable rent by the Mamlatdar. The appellate authority against the Mamlatdar's order is the Collector and not the Civil Judge.

Remission Of Rent

A provision has been made to compel a landlord to refund to the tenant the amount suspended or remitted by the Government, in case such amount is recovered by the landlord.

In addition to the causes for which a tenancy was terminable, the cause of failure to produce a minimum yield is provided for the termination of tenancy. This is necessary to ensure efficient cultivation.

The principle of holding over contemplated in Section 116 of the Transfer of Property Act is applied for continuance of ten years' tenancies.

Power has been taken to enable agricultural labourers and artisans to have a right of first refusal in respect of sites under their dwelling houses.

The rights of tenants to the produce and wood of trees planted by them and to the produce of trees naturally grown on the land during the currency of the tenancy have been safeguarded.

Repairs And Maintenance Of Bunds

Provision has been made for repair, maintenance and/or construction of protective bunds.

A tenant can create a charge on his interest in land in favour of a better farming or resource society. This is intended to enable tenants to join co-operative societies for the better cultivation of their lands.

A valuable right in favour of protected tenants has been conferred. A protected tenant can purchase his holding at a reasonable price, if such protected tenant does not possess more than 50 acres of land or by his purchasing the holding, the land belonging to the landlord is not reduced to less than 50 acres.

The right of the landlord to terminate protected tenancy on the ground that land is required by him for personal cultivation or for non-agricultural use has been preserved but is limited to the extent that it cannot be exercised so as to enlarge the area of his ownership to more than 50 acres.

The onus of continuing a protected tenancy to the heirs of a deceased protected tenant is shifted on to the landlord.

Powers Of Management Assumed

With a view to improving the economic and social conditions of peasants and ensuring the full and efficient use of land for agriculture, powers

have been taken to assume management of landholders' estates. Provision has been made in the clauses for payment of net-surplus in respect of estates taken over for management to the lawful holders, after deduction of appropriate costs incurred by the Government and the amount, if any, required for liquidation of debts. Provision has been made for a suitable liquidation scheme and for proper as well as efficient management under the supervision of the Collector.

With a view to eliminating further handicaps arising out of absentee landlordism, restrictions have been imposed on the transfer of agricultural lands which under these provisions can be transferred, firstly, to the tenant cultivating the land, secondly, to the cultivator of contiguous or neighbouring land, thirdly, to co-operative societies, and fourthly, to any other agriculturists with the permission of the Collector of the district concerned.

These clauses empower the Government to take over for management any land lying uncultivated for any two cultivating seasons due to either a dispute between the landlord and the tenant or any other cause. Lands taken over for management can also be permanently acquired, if necessary.

Appeals Provided For

With a view to avoiding undesirable delays, it is provided that proceedings under this Act should be before the Mamlatdar and in certain cases before the Agricultural Lands Tribunal. An appeal from their decision will lie to the Collector and the revisional application to the Bombay Revenue Tribunal. Such proceedings will not hereafter be held in any Civil Court. In acquisition cases, the awards will be made by the Collector and appeals from the Collector will lie to the Bombay Revenue Tribunal.

One of the clauses in the Bill provides for pending proceedings which it is proposed to be left to have their own course according to existing law. The appointments, notifications, notices, orders, etc., issued under the Bombay Tenancy Act, 1939, will remain in force, until repealed, amended or modified. [No. P 1242 of July 23, 1948]

TENANCY ACT APPLIED TO MERGED STATES

The Government of Bombay desires to bring to the notice of the people of the Gujarat and Deccan States, including the Janjira State whose administration has been integrated with this Province, the actual position regarding the enforcement of the Bombay Tenancy Act, 1946, in

those areas, consequent on the merger, with a view to ameliorating the condition of the tenants of these areas. Under Government Order No. 3323/46-F, dated July 28, 1948—Indian States (Application of Laws) Order, 1948—it was intended to make the Tenancy Act applicable with effect from September 15, 1948. On further consideration, however, the Government has decided that the interests of the tenants of these areas will be better served by making that law applicable with immediate effect. Accordingly a notification has been issued deleting the entry of the Bombay Tenancy Act, 1946, from the list of laws contained in Part II of Schedule II of the Indian States (Application of Laws) Order, 1948, and a fresh order has also been issued under Government Notification, P. & S. D. No. 3323/46-F, dated August 11, 1948, making the Act applicable to these areas with immediate effect, viz., from August 11, 1948. [No. P 1393 of August 13, 1948]

TAGAI LOANS: OFFICERS' SANCTIONING LIMIT INCREASED

In view of the high prices of implements, etc., and the consequential larger demands for loans from agriculturists and in the interests of speedy disposal of applications, the Government of Bombay has enhanced the powers to sanction Tagai loans exercised by the Collectors, Prant Officers and experienced Mamlatdars. These officers have now been empowered to sanction Tagai loans not exceeding Rs. 1,000, Rs. 750 and Rs. 250, respectively, under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and not exceeding Rs. 5,000, Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 500 under the Land Improvement Loans Act.

The Circle Inspectors have been allowed by the Government of Bombay to make enquiries into applications for Tagai loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. Applications for loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act will, however, be enquired into by an officer not below the rank of an Aval Karkun. [No. P 1335 of August 5, 1948]

TAGAI LOANS TO CYCLONE SUFFERERS

The Government of Bombay has placed at the disposal of the Collector of Thana a sum of Rs. 1,40,000 for distribution as tagai to those who suffered in a cyclone in the Bassein and Palghar Talukas to meet their requirements of grain, groundnut cake and the like. Provision has also been made for granting land revenue remissions in deserving cases. [No. P 1530 of September 11, 1948]

SUBSIDY TO AGRICULTURISTS

Grants totalling Rs. 1,34,000 have been placed at the disposal of the Collectors during 1948-49 for payment of subsidy to agriculturists. This subsidy will be equal to the amount of Sales Tax paid by them on agricultural machinery. [No. P 1144 of July 7, 1948]

USE OF TOWN COMPOST MANURE YIELDS BIGGER CROPS

Experiments were conducted during the year 1946-47 on the Government Farms at Surat, Jalgaon and Dharwar to assess the manurial value of town compost in comparison with farmyard manure. Jowar crops grown under dry conditions were manured with town compost and farmyard manure at the rate of 4 cartloads of each manure per acre. Crops to which the town compost manure was applied gave, on an average, 32 per cent. higher yields than the unmanured crops, whilst farmyard manure under similar conditions increased the yields of jowar crops by only 10 per cent. The average yield of jowar grown as a dry crop without manure was 600 lbs. per acre, and the additional yield obtained from the application of town compost and farmyard manure was 192 lbs. and 60 lbs., respectively. The superiority of compost manure over farmyard manure was also established in field trials carried out at Madhavi in the Bijapur District.

Town compost manure, which is prepared from kachra and night soil by a number of municipalities in the Province, is sold at rates varying from annas 8 to Re. 1-8-0 per cartload ex-municipal depots. Considering the increased yields obtained from the application of town compost manure to crops, cultivators, who reside within a radius of 10 miles from the cities or towns where compost manure is prepared, are advised to carry it to their fields for manuring crops. The District Agricultural Officers will furnish information regarding the municipalities where town compost is available for sale to cultivators. [No. P 1316 of August 4, 1948]

PRIZES FOR PREPARING COMPOST MANURE

In order to create healthy competition amongst villages for the preparation of compost manure, the Government of Bombay has decided to award prizes to the villages in each taluka for showing outstanding merit. The scheme is estimated to cost the Government about Rs. 20,000.

A prize of Rs. 25 will be offered to each village in which more than 150 new pits have been dug and filled up with organic matter. The prizes

will be given only after the manure from the pits has been removed and spread in the fields and will be awarded to winners at the time of the District or Taluka Agricultural Shows by holding special functions.

Conditions For Competition

A taluka will be the unit for the competition. Competition will be open to all the villages in the different talukas of the Province. Each compost pit must be of the size of:

10' x 6' x 3' in the case of a dry tract.

20' x 6' x 3' in the case of a forest tract.

30' x 6' x 3' in the case of canal area.

The District Rural Development Boards concerned will finally select the villages for awarding prizes on the reports of the respective District Agricultural Officers. [No. P 1332 of August 5, 1948]

INCREASING PER-ACRE YIELD: PRIZE SCHEME ANNOUNCED

With a view to introducing a healthy spirit of competition amongst the cultivators for producing the highest yield, so that there should be a substantial increase in the production of food crops, the Government of Bombay has sanctioned for one year, in the first instance, a scheme for awarding prizes to those cultivators who produce the highest yield per acre. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 34,000 for one year.

The scheme will be worked by the District Rural Development Boards in each district, with the help of the District Agricultural Officers. Each taluka will be the unit for holding the competition in respect of the specified staple crop of the taluka. There will be three prizes for each taluka, the first prize being of the value of Rs. 75, the second of Rs. 50 and the third of Rs. 25. [No. P 1150 of July 8, 1948]

SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

During the month of June, 1948, about 692 tons of steel, 168 powrahs, 2,934 pickaxes, 801 bundles of barbed wire and 2,403 feet of piping valued at approximately Rs. 4,26,039 were distributed to the agriculturists of the Province of Bombay by the Assistant Agricultural Engineer to Government, in charge of the Iron Supply Scheme, through the District Rural Development Boards. [No. P 1177 of July 12, 1948]

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS FOR CULTIVATORS

During the month of July, 1948, about 1,073 tons of steel, 1,776 pow-
rahs, 1,728 pickaxes, 286 bundles of barbed wire, 247 crowbars and 10,747
feet of piping valued at Rs. 4,81,425, approximately, were distributed to the
agriculturists of Bombay Province by the Assistant Agricultural Engineer
to Government, in charge of the Iron Supply Scheme, Bombay, through
the District Rural Development Boards. [No. P 1329 of August 5, 1948]

TRACTOR DRIVING TRAINING CLASS

A two months' training class in tractor driving will be opened at
Poona from the second week of October, 1948. Trainees will have to bear
their lodging and boarding expenses. No tuition fee will be charged to
trainees who are natives of Bombay Province, including those of the
States recently merged in the Province.

A tuition fee of Rs. 50 will be charged to others. Ten candidates will
be admitted to the class. Preference will be given to candidates literate
in English. Particulars may be obtained from the Mechanical Cultivation
Engineer, 5 Bombay-Poona Road, Poona 5. [No. P 1395 of August 14,
1948]

CONTROL OF PRIVATELY-OWNED FORESTS: PROVISION MADE FOR STATE MANAGEMENT

Powers for the Government to control privately-owned forests and
waste lands and to enable it to manage such forests or lands whenever it
is necessary to do so in the public interest are sought in a Bill amending
the Indian Forests Act, 1927, in its application to the Province of Bombay.
The Bill has been published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of
September 9.

Owing to lack of control, privately-owned forests and waste lands
throughout the Province have been progressively denuded and are being
rendered largely valueless. Many of these forests and lands have already
been completely destroyed by overfellings and excessive grazing. Such
denudation and destruction are endangering supplies for timber, firewood
and fodder, causing erosion, adversely affecting water supplies and ex-
posing lands below to the destructive action of floods. Control over the
destructive process is essential in the interests of public welfare. It is
necessary for the Government to ensure that private forests and waste

lands are not mismanaged. Existing legislation is not adequate to enable the Government to exercise effective control over privately-owned forests and waste lands.

Under the provisions of the amending Act, the Provincial Government may regulate or prohibit in any forest or wasteland

- (a) the breaking up or clearing of the land for cultivation;
- (b) the pasturing of cattle;
- (c) the firing or clearing of the vegetation;
- (d) the girdling, tapping or burning of any tree or the stripping off of the bark or leaves from any tree;
- (e) the lopping and pollarding of trees;
- (f) cutting, sawing, conversion and removal of trees and timber; or
- (g) the quarrying of stone or the burning of lime or charcoal or the collection, or removal, of any forest produce or its subjection to any manufacturing process; and

also regulate in any forest or waste land the regeneration of forests and their protection from fire, when such regulation or prohibition appears necessary for any of the following purposes:—

- (a) for the conservation of trees and forests;
- (b) for the preservation and improvement of soil or the reclamation of saline or water-logged land, the prevention of landslips or of the formation of ravines and torrents, or the protection of land against erosion, or the deposit thereon of sand, stones or gravel;
- (c) for the improvement of grazing;
- (d) for the maintenance of a water supply in springs, rivers and tanks;
- (e) for the maintenance, increase and distribution of the supply of fodder, leaf manure, timber or fuel;
- (f) for the maintenance of reservoirs or irrigation works and hydro-electric works;
- (g) for protection against storms, winds, rolling stones, floods and drought;

- (h) for the protection of roads, bridges, railways and other lines of communication; and
- (i) for the preservation of public health. [No. P. 1519 of September 10, 1948]

**MECHANICAL CULTIVATION OF WASTE LANDS:
DEEP-PLOUGHING FOR ERADICATION OF WEEDS**

The Government of Bombay has decided that the activities of the Mechanical Cultivation Section should be confined to deep-ploughing for bringing the waste lands under cultivation and for the eradication of weeds like 'hariali'. The Section will undertake shallow-ploughing only when deep-ploughing for the above-mentioned purposes is not possible and tractors are available.

The tractors which are not required for the above-mentioned purposes are to be disposed of to private parties, preference being given to taluka development associations and co-operative organisations. Details of tractors and implements available for disposal and the terms and conditions on which these can be purchased, may be obtained from the Mechanical Cultivation Engineer to Government, Bombay Province, 5 Bombay-Poona Road, Poona 5. [No. P 1300 of August 2, 1948]

SUPPLY OF SEED POTATOES: COMMITTEE TO BE SET UP

The cultivation of potatoes in the Province of Bombay is dependent upon supplies of healthy seed potatoes from areas outside the Province, since locally produced potatoes are affected by virus diseases and are accordingly unsuitable for seed purposes. Before the War, seed potatoes were imported from Italy, but it has now been shown by the Agricultural Department that the Numbri variety grown in the Simla Hills is most suitable for general cultivation in the Deccan and other areas in the Province where potatoes are cultivated. Accordingly, large quantities of seed potatoes costing several lakhs of rupees are imported every year from Simla by the Agricultural Department for distribution among the growers, who use fresh seed for planting Rabi crops.

With a view to associating the potato growers with the work of purchase of seed potatoes at Simla, the Government proposes to set up a committee of representative cultivators drawn from the districts, where potatoes are cultivated in the cold season. This committee, which will

consist of growers' representatives selected by the Rural Development Boards of the important potato-growing districts, will assist the officers of the Agricultural Department deputed to Simla for making purchases of seed potatoes and their despatch to the different stations in the Province.

Among the States which have merged into Bombay Province, Palanpur is well known for the cultivation of potatoes which are sold in the Bombay market under the name of Deesa potatoes. The requirements of the Province in respect of seed potatoes, including those of Palanpur State, will be approximately 3,00,000 Bengal maunds, and the Government is arranging for the procurement and transport of these quantities of seed potatoes. A total production of approximately 28 lakhs of Bengal maunds of potatoes is aimed at in the next Rabi season. [No. P 1311 of August 3, 1948]

INAMDARS AND TALUKDARS HAVE NO RIGHT TO WITHDRAW GRAZING AREAS

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that Talukdars and Inamdars do not maintain or allot sufficient grazing areas in their villages and that some are even withdrawing them from public grazing for the purpose of private cultivation, with the result that the problem of grazing cattle has become very acute in such villages. According to the High Court ruling in Vishwanath 'versus' Mahadji, (Indian Law Reporter 3—Bombay 147) Inamdars have no right to withdraw lands used for grazing from time immemorial.

The Collectors have, therefore, been requested to see that, in such villages, lands used for grazing from olden times are not permitted to be withdrawn from grazing by Inamdars or Talukdars. When lands for grazing are or can be easily made available, they (Inamdars or Talukdars) will be induced by the Collectors, by using their good offices, to assign lands for grazing as in the case of Khalsa villages in the Province. [No. P 1097 of July 1, 1948]

BAN ON EXPORT OF CATTLE

The Government of Bombay has amended the orders to enable the district authorities to prohibit the export of cattle from the Kaira and Ahmedabad Districts to any place in the Province of Bombay outside these districts. [No. P 1106 of July 2, 1948]

CONTROL OF GRASSHOPPERS

From reports appearing in the Press, it seems that the public is not properly informed as to the actual manner in which the Government of Bombay has undertaken to combat the grasshopper pest, which causes considerable damage to crops. In order to remove any possible misunderstandings as to the Government's activities in this direction, it is pointed out that a comprehensive scheme for the control of grasshoppers in the Belgaum, Dharwar, Bijapur, Nasik and Ahmednagar Districts of the Province at a total estimated cost of Rs. 2,64,762 has recently been sanctioned by the Government. Under the scheme, it is proposed to use about 297 tons of "Hexyclan" (a new insecticide, which is as effective as the well-known "Gammoxene") for combating the pest. For the effective control of grasshoppers, large quantities of the insecticide are required. As Hexyclan is a costly insecticide, the Government has decided to supply it to cultivators at a concessional rate, i.e., at only 1/3rd of the cost, in order to induce them to undertake crop protection measures on their holdings. Machines required for dusting the insecticide will be made available by the Government.

In addition, it has been decided to carry out the work of control operations against grasshoppers on a larger scale, especially in the Bijapur District, by using about 44 tons of "Gammoxene". The cultivators will be required to pay for "Gammoxene" at 1/3rd of its cost and will also bear 1/3rd of the expenditure on labour. The Government has also decided to distribute 60 tons of sulphur dust, free of cost, to cultivators for purposes of treating jowar seed against smut. [No. P 1299 of August 2, 1948]

DADDI PROJECT NOT ABANDONED

There is no truth in the report published in certain papers that the Government of Bombay has abandoned the Daddi (Belgaum District) irrigation project on account of unavoidable circumstances. [No. P 1379 of August 12, 1948]

P. W. D. WATER FOR IRRIGATION: NO LEVY FOR AGRICULTURAL USE

The Government of Bombay has regulated the use by irrigators, other than sugar companies, of water from rivers, streams, nalas, tanks and other sources of water supply, vesting in the Public Works Department, on which no expenditure has been incurred by the Government at any time.

Permission will be granted for the use of water free of charge for growing food and fodder crops, including onions. When it is proposed to grow perennial crops, i.e., money crops, the ratio of perennial crops to food and fodder crops must be 1:2 during the period of sanction. This ratio of 1:2 may vary in case the Government so directs.

When Full Rate Is Chargeable

Areas of crops grown in excess of the sanctioned area will be liable to be charged at full water rates leviable for using canal water.

Water will not be allowed to be taken for commercial and industrial purposes.

Applications for water are to be made, on a prescribed form, to the Executive Engineer of the Division concerned, or any other officer authorised by him for the purpose, three months in advance of the season for which water is required.

No canal water will under any circumstances be granted to the areas brought under cultivation by such water. [No. P 1457 of August 26, 1948]

PROGRESS OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN BOMBAY PROVINCE

The report on the progress of work of the Agricultural Department covers a large number of development schemes sanctioned by the Government of Bombay for the improvement of agricultural production. Improved seed distribution, compost making, distribution of compost manure, construction of wells and bandharas costing lakhs of rupees, lift irrigation and reclamation of waste lands, grasshopper control and cultivation of potatoes and sweet potatoes are some of the items of the schemes that are being implemented. The following brief report indicates the degree of progress of these activities.

Seed Distribution Schemes

During 1947-48, the removal of controls on prices of cereals in Bombay Province and the discontinuance of the system of monopoly procurement resulted in some dislocation in the work of purchasing seed of improved strains from registered growers. Accordingly, the requisite quantities of seed of improved strains of paddy and bajri for distribution during the 1948-49 Kharif season could not be obtained according to the targets fixed for these crops.

The purchases of the seeds of improved Rabi crops, such as Rabi jowar, wheat and gram, are, however, proceeding normally.

Manure Distribution Schemes

The requisite quantities of manure mixture for application to paddy crops are being made available to the District Agricultural Officers for distribution among the cultivators in the forthcoming Kharif season. About 20,000 tons of the mixture have already been supplied to the District Agricultural Officers. About 2,000 tons of powdered groundnut cake, too, are being supplied for manuring potato crops in the forthcoming rainy season.

The target fixed for town compost manure is 90,000 tons for 1948-49. About 8,000 tons of compost were prepared in May 1948, or a total of 28,818 tons of compost prepared so far. The quantity of ripe manure distributed during the month of May was 6,708 tons, or a total of 23,151 tons of compost distributed so far, i.e., in April and May.

A scheme for the utilisation of cattle-dung wasted at present in the Bombay Suburban areas has recently been sanctioned by the Government. It is proposed to transport 20,000 tons of cattle-dung to places on the B.B. & C.I. Railway within a distance of 200 miles during the year 1948-49. A quantity of 1,420 tons has so far been transported to places in the Surat District.

The number of pits dug in the rural areas during May 1948 was 2,345, and out of these, 2,073 pits were filled up with organic matter. The target for the year is 1,00,000 pits. As the preparation of compost manure in the rural areas is a seasonal work, the quantity of work done varies from month to month.

Minor Irrigation Schemes

WELLS: In order to expand irrigation facilities, it is proposed to construct 50,000 wells and repair 10,000 old wells during the five-year period beginning with April 1, 1947. Uptil now, about 4,500 new wells have been constructed and 5,000 old ones have been repaired. The figures for April and May have not yet been reported by the Collectors.

BANDHARAS: Temporary bandharas are constructed at suitable sites across Nalas and the rain-water thus stored is utilised for growing a second crop of paddy or pulse. During the season just ended, 850 temporary bandharas were constructed in North Kanara, 373 in the Ratnagiri District and 25 in the Kolaba District.

TANKS AND BANDHARAS : It is proposed to construct minor irrigation works comprising tanks and bandharas on perennial and other streams at a cost of rupees one crore. Thirty-three projects have so far been dealt with as shown below:—

	No. of works	Estimated cost in lakhs of rupees	Area to be irrigated (acres)
(1) Works which are under construction	12	26.75	4,533
(2) Works for which tenders have been invited	10	24.96	4,215
(3) Works awaiting Government sanction	6	63.53	13,341
	<u>28</u>	<u>115.24</u>	<u>22,094</u>
(4) Works for which plans and estimates are being prepared ..	5		

Lift Irrigation Schemes

By the end of January 1948, rough surveys of 47 sites had been carried out by the Agricultural Engineer to Government. In February 1948, more detailed surveys of 10 sites were undertaken and actual work was taken up in March.

Other Agricultural Schemes

POTATOES : A scheme for the extension of potato cultivation during the 1948 Kharif season has been sanctioned by the Government. Under the scheme, it is proposed to purchase 60,000 maunds of seed potatoes in the Poona District for supply to growers in the Satara, Belgaum, Dharwar, Nasik and Poona Districts for planting in the forthcoming rainy season. The work under the scheme is proceeding satisfactorily.

CULTIVATION OF WASTE LANDS : A scheme for the development and colonisation of waste land at Indoor in the Kanara District has recently been sanctioned by the Government. Of the 1,500 acres of waste land at Indoor, 250 acres have already been cleared of overgrowth and are being laid out in a series of compact blocks to be allotted to settlers. Twenty refugee families from Sind are being settled on the newly reclaimed land.

Similar schemes have recently been sanctioned for the development of waste lands at Hillur and Rampur, in the Kanara District, but the work of clearing the land has not yet commenced.

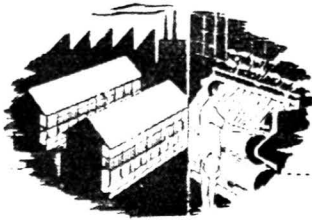
GRASSHOPPER CONTROL SCHEME: Grasshoppers have been causing serious damage to rice and jowar crops in the Belgaum, Dharwar, Bijapur, Satara and Ahmednagar Districts. A scheme for the control of this pest by dusting the crops with Gammoxene and Hexyclan has been sanctioned by the Government of India. It is proposed to dust an area of 12,000 acres under rice and 39,000 acres under jowar. As a result of this treatment, 1,600 tons of paddy and 3,500 tons of jowar will be saved from damage by grasshoppers.

SWEET POTATOES: A scheme for the extension of cultivation of sweet potatoes for a period of five years has been submitted to the Government. It is proposed to have an additional area of 7,400 acres under sweet potatoes at the end of five years. [No. P 1163 of July 10, 1948]

RULES FOR PREVENTION OF FRAGMENTATION AND CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS

The Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Rules, 1948, approved by the Government of Bombay, have been published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" Extraordinary of July 31.

Copies of the rules in English and in the regional languages are available for sale to the public and can be had from the Manager, Government Central Press, Charni Road, Bombay. [No. P 1333 of August 5, 1948]



Labour and Housing

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The resignation of the Labour Minister, Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, from the Working Committee and the General Council of the Indian National Trade Union Congress constitutes an important event in the labour world of the Province in this quarter, which is also notable for the results revealed by the Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government to ascertain which of the two large workers' organisations, viz., the All-India Trade Union Congress and the Indian National Trade Union Congress was the more representative organisation of Labour.

Labour evinced keen interest in the amenities provided by the Directorate of Labour Welfare, and a scheme for increasing the activities of reading rooms and for starting adult education classes in labour areas was also sanctioned.

Inaugurating the Conference of Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies in Poona, the Premier, Mr. B. G. Kher, paid a tribute to the pioneering work in the cause of the Adivasis done by Sri Thakkar Bapā, under the guidance and inspiration of Sri G. K. Gokhale and Mahatma Gandhi. He commended the co-operative method and considered a co-operative commonwealth as the ideal worthy of pursuit by the country, as in it the evils of capitalism were reduced to a minimum and every member had opportunities of participation in management and sharing benefits.

A Wage Board for the cotton textile industry was set up and good work was done by the Labour Courts and Arbitration Courts. Strike activity was found to be on the wane generally.

The Chief Conservator of Forests fixed the cartage and other rates for the Kolaba and Thana Districts for the ensuing season.

An assurance of the Government's determination to bring the speediest relief to the houseless population of Bombay was given by the Minister for Labour and Housing, Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, while inaugurating the

Bombay Co-operative Housing Federation. He outlined the role of private enterprise in that vital programme and hoped that co-operative societies would make their full contribution to the solution of this problem.

At another function, the Minister for Finance, Co-operation and Village Industries, Mr. V. L. Mehta, expressed his hope that the benefits of co-operative housing would before long reach the rural areas also.

An announcement was made to the effect that the tenements built or reconditioned by the Government would be allotted to workers and low-income groups.

LABOUR MINISTER QUILTS I.N.T.U.C.—DECISION DUE TO OFFICIAL POSITION

Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister for Labour and Housing, Government of Bombay, has written the following letter to the General Secretary, Indian National Trade Union Congress:

“The question has been raised that in view of my official position, I should not hold any office in the Indian National Trade Union Congress. I am not an office-bearer but I have been elected as a member of the General Council and the Working Committee of the I.N.T.U.C. I find that the practice in other countries in this matter is not uniform, but, after giving the closest thought to every aspect of the question, I have come to the conclusion that the best thing for me to do would be to resign my seats on the Working Committee and the General Council of the I.N.T.U.C. Kindly treat this letter as my resignation. I may on this occasion reiterate my faith that the I.N.T.U.C. has a vital role to play in creating true industrial and social democracy in India in the quickest time and in fighting the forces of disruption and disorder which have gained a good deal of ground in our country. It is needless to add that the I.N.T.U.C. owes no part of its all-India influence and strength, which have grown at a phenomenal rate during the past year, to the fact that a Minister in a Province happened to be one of its members. It is not generally realised that the large number of unions and the record figure of membership which the I.N.T.U.C. has amassed in the course of the year were actually the fruit of many years of devoted labour of Congressmen throughout the country. The I.N.T.U.C. just became the centre and organizational fold for gathering together the scattered strength. I am certain that the I.N.T.U.C. will grow and rise to ever greater heights. [No. N 449 of August 18, 1948]

IN.T.U.C. AND A.I.T.U.C.: RESULT OF ENQUIRY

Under Article 389 of the Treaty of Versailles, the State Members of the International Labour Organization have undertaken to nominate non-Government delegates and advisers to the International Labour Conferences in agreement with the most representative industrial organizations of employers and workers. In order to ascertain as to which of the two Central Organizations of workers, viz., the All-India Trade Union Congress or the Indian National Trade Union Congress, was the most representative organization of workers, the Government of India decided in January 1948 to hold an enquiry on an all-India basis. The two Central Organizations and the unions affiliated to them were asked to furnish full particulars regarding membership and other relevant details to the Government of India and returns received from those bodies were forwarded to the Provincial Governments (in so far as they related to the unions falling within the provincial sphere) for the purpose of test-checking with a view to ascertaining their accuracy.

The procedure followed by the Directorate of Labour Administration which was entrusted with the work of conducting the enquiry in this Province was as follows.

The Procedure

Special forms were drawn up and uniform instructions were given to all the Investigators appointed for the purpose. The actual investigation was completed in two stages. The first stage consisted of a thorough examination at the union's office of the union's membership registers and the counterfoils of receipts of subscription. A sample of one in twenty was adopted for the purpose of checking entries in the registers against the counterfoils. The Investigators copied out the details regarding the sampled entries, as also the results of the test-check on the special forms and then proceeded to take an actual count of the live membership of the union. The second stage of the enquiry comprised actual visiting and interrogating of the workers selected as above at their places of work. The same questions were asked to every worker examined and the answers were noted down by the Investigators against the sampled entries. With a view to securing direct and unbiassed evidence, the workers were examined individually and one of the interested parties was allowed to remain present at the interview. The personal interviews were valuable in ascertaining whether persons claimed as members by a union were actually its members and whether membership subscriptions as shown in the registers were actually paid by them.

Certain Flaws Detected

Several defects in the method of maintaining the membership registers were noticed in the course of the investigation. The membership

records of certain unions are not maintained concernwise and do not contain information regarding the departments in which the members are working or their ticket numbers. The entries in the membership registers are usually not up-to-date and in some cases, the membership registers are posted at the end of the official year merely by making entries from the counterfoils of receipts for subscription passed during the year.

The figures of live membership were ascertained by scrutinising the membership register or by counting the counterfoils of receipts of subscription where registers had not been maintained. But in the case of one union it was not found possible to work out even a satisfactory estimate of its live members, as the union had not maintained the membership register for the current year and a large number of counterfoils were reported to be missing.

The results of the enquiry are summarised in the following table:

Item	Indian National Trade Union Congress	All-India Trade Union Congress
1. Total number of affiliated and associate unions in the Province	78	91
2. Number of unions whose returns were received from the Government of India for test-check	66	53
3. Number of unions whose returns were returned to the Government of India as they came under the Central sphere or were situated outside the Province	4	10
4. Number of unions in which test-check was to be carried out	62	43
5. Number of unions in which no test-check could be made as the unions were defunct or the union officials could not be contacted ..	15	12
6. Number of unions in which test-check was made	47	31
7. Percentage of unions that were test-checked to the total number of unions	60.3	34.1
8. Membership claimed by the Central Organizations	1,51,077	1,35,461
9. Membership covered by the test-check ..	1,33,424	75,600

10. Percentage of membership actually test-checked to the total membership claimed by the Central Organization	88.3	55.8
11. Live membership as ascertained by scrutinizing the membership registers or by counting the counterfoils of receipts of subscription where registers were not maintained, having regard to the union's constitution ..	1,40,161	28,818*
12. Percentage of live membership to the membership covered by the test-check ..	105.04	38.12*
13. Number of sampled members whose record of membership in the register is checked with counterfoils of receipts of subscription ..	9,285	1,255@
14. Number of sampled members in whose case information in the register tallied with that in the counterfoils of receipts of subscription	7,774	1,209@
15. Percentage of members in whose case information in counterfoils tallied with the total number of sampled members	83.7	96.3@
16. Number of sampled members who could actually be interviewed	4,318	1,035
17. Percentage of the sampled members who could actually be interviewed to the total number of sampled members	46.5	32.5
18. Number of sampled members who could give satisfactory replies	4,158	757
19. Percentage of sampled members who could give satisfactory replies to the total number interviewed	96.3	73.1

* Excluding the membership of one union for which it was not possible to work out any satisfactory estimate of live members.

@ Excluding 1,930 cases in which it was not possible to check the information in the counterfoils with that in the membership register as no membership registers were maintained by the unions. [No. P 1110 of July 3, 1948]

WORKERS ENJOY AMENITIES PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT

The interest evinced by workers in the activities of the Directorate of Labour Welfare of the Government of Bombay can be gauged by the fact that over 511,000 workers and their families availed themselves of the various facilities offered during July 1948. Individual figures for Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Sholapur, Hubli and Khandesh were approximately 153,000, 111,000, 95,000, 41,000 and 111,000 respectively.

Circulating libraries and reading rooms catered to the literary taste of 128,000 readers, while over 15,000 adults received instruction, the other items of interest being debates, group-talks, etc.

Great Interest Evinced

Indoor games alone had a record attendance of 161,250. Dramatic and other musical programmes held under the auspices of the Directorate received enthusiastic response from an audience of over 40,000, while the special programme on Anti-Drink Propaganda was witnessed by nearly 18,900 people.

With a view to building up the health of the workers, gymnasium and out-door games, scouting and excursion trips were held. Nursery, sewing, literacy and charkha classes and creche amenities were some of the special features for women. [No. P 1495 of September 2, 1948]

READING ROOMS IN LABOUR AREAS: SCHEME APPROVED

The Government of Bombay has approved a scheme, prepared by the Directorate of Labour Welfare, as a post-war reconstruction measure, for widening the reading room and library activities in Labour localities of the Province. Assistance will be given by way of supply of books and periodicals to institutions that are willing to bear a minimum of 25 per cent. of the recurrent cost of running reading rooms and circulating library posts.

During the current year, a reading room and a circulating library post each will be started at 200 institutions in the Province. Their distribution will be as follows: Bombay (110), Ahmedabad (50), Sholapur (25), Khandesh District (20) and Hubli (5). [No. P 1478 of August 31, 1948]

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES AT LABOUR WELFARE CENTRES

The proposal to start adult education classes in the various Labour Welfare Centres in the Province as a means of imparting instruction to

industrial workers on different general subjects of common interest has been approved by the Government of Bombay. The instruction will be oral and visual and is estimated to cost nearly Rs. 65,000 during the current year. [No. P 1356 of August 9, 1948]

WORKERS' LITERACY BOARD FOR AHMEDABAD

The Government of Bombay has constituted a Workers' Literacy Board for the Ahmedabad District for the purpose of implementing the post-war reconstruction scheme of universal literacy among workers in the district. The headquarters of the Board will be at Ahmedabad. The term of the Board will be two years. [No. P 1374 of August 12, 1948]

ALL ROUND PROGRESS OF FOREST FOLK: PREMIER'S ADDRESS AT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES' CONFERENCE

Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier of Bombay, inaugurating the Conference of Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies in Poona last week-end, said:

"I have great pleasure in inaugurating this Conference of Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies and in welcoming you all here to-day. The cause is one which is nearest to my heart, viz., amelioration of the condition of the Adiwasis. As rightly pointed out by Principal Karve, this is a unique Conference, the first of its kind in this Province.

"It is unnecessary for me to recount at length the condition of the Adiwasis and other jungle folk, as by now it is well known and as it has been described to some extent by Shri Karve in his address of welcome.

Pioneering Work

"It was about 25 years ago that Shri Thakkar Bapa who, inspired by Shri G. K. Gokhale and later by Mahatma Gandhi, had dedicated himself to the service of the unfortunate Adiwasis, established the Bhil Seva Mandal at Dohad in the Panch Mahals District and was able to start social work amongst the Bhils with the help of a few sincere and devoted colleagues. More and more social service organisations subsequently came into existence, prominent among them being the Vedchhi Swarajya Ashram, the Adiwasi Sewa Mandal, the Dang Seva Mandal, and the West Khandesh Bhil Seva Mandal. In their pioneering work, these organisations had to struggle against numerous difficulties, not the least of which was the prejudice of a foreign Government.

"The Adiwasi population constitutes about 10 per cent. of the total population of this Province. No society can be considered healthy or

expected to function vigorously if as much as 10 per cent. of it is diseased. Its progress and civilization can best be judged by the height of its lowest stratum. It is in this light, therefore, that all of us—Government and the people—have to tackle the problem of Adiwasis.

Co-operative Commonwealth

“Political freedom is not worth much if it is not also accompanied by economic freedom. In any case, it should lead to economic freedom at the very earliest possible date. It is incumbent on us to see that not only conditions akin to slavery wherever they are prevalent disappear, but also that manual work is respected and that the manual worker receives also adequate reward for his labour and is enabled to live a decent life and attain his rightful place in society. It is for this reason that the nation’s leaders have accepted the co-operative method and set before the country the ideal of a co-operative commonwealth, wherein the evils of capitalism are minimised and the surplus capital owned by individuals and corporate bodies gets a reasonable return and, at the same time, is utilised for the common good and wherein every member has equal opportunities for participating in management and for deriving benefit. Whatever the economic sphere in which a co-operative institution works, it works for the benefit of all its members. It is the human being that counts and not the capital that he puts in. The spirit of self-help and mutual aid conveyed by the phrase “each for all and all for each” is expected to guide the working of co-operative institutions. In effect, a co-operative commonwealth would be an economic democratic Government which would fit in well with a political democratic Government.

“It is, therefore, but meet that Government and social workers should be concentrating on co-operative development amongst the Adiwasis. This development was initiated in the Eastern Mahals of the Panch Mahals District as early as 25 years ago. The combined efforts of Government, co-operative workers and social workers in that area have, it is reported, achieved a notable success so far as agricultural credit, and purchase and sale co-operative societies are concerned, so much so that the owned capital of the credit societies of Adiwasis in that area forms the bulk of the total working capital of those societies. There are similar societies working with varying degrees of success in the West Khandesh, Surat and other districts and their total number is considerably large—about 125.

Forest Coupes

“Government considered, however, that it was essential to take a bold step and to make a beginning in releasing the Adiwasis from the clutches of the forest contractors and to enable them to work forest coupes them-

selves. This working of forest coupes is no easy matter. It is far more difficult than running a co-operative credit or purchase and sale society. But unless that is done, the advantages of credit, and purchase and sale societies also may be set off by dependence of the Adiwasis, particularly of the forest worker Adiwasis, on contractors, etc. It was, therefore, that Government decided last year to grant forest coupes at the upset price to forest labourers' co-operative societies or to social service institutions which would be expected to form co-operative societies. It also appointed a committee consisting of tried and experienced non-official social workers and of officials for planning the development of forest labourers' societies. It was expected that numerous difficulties, particularly in regard to finance, management and supervision, would be experienced, and Government did its best to see that those difficulties were overcome. Social workers have also given their best and Adiwasis have themselves appreciated very much the experiment initiated last year.

Conditions Improved

"There were 11 co-operative forest labourers' societies in four different districts last year. In addition to forest labourers' societies, there were two societies of other types and certain social service institutions which also worked coupes in the interests of Adiwasis. The number of labourers—both members and non-members—who worked in the coupes during the season was about 2,000. The rate of the wages paid to them was not necessarily restricted to the minimum prescribed by Government, viz., Re. 1¼- per day. In several cases, it went up to Re. 1½- per day. By way of piece wages also, members sometimes earned much more than what they earned in the past. The total amount of wages paid during the year was Rs. 2½ lakhs. The value of the total goods produced exceeded Rs. 5,50,000 and the total profit made by the societies and the social service institutions exceeded Rs. 1,15,000. Part of these profits will go to form the reserve fund of the societies and a substantial part will go back to the members in proportion to the wages they have received. Thus, the average wage that Adiwasi workers will get will be substantially higher than was the case formerly.

"About 40 coupes have already been allotted this year to old and new societies and to social service organisations and some societies are expected to be started this year. Government would like to go faster, but the practical limitations of business and management experience of Adiwasis, availability of trained personnel, etc., has been serving as a brake on the pace of progress. Government will, however, go all-out to help this co-operative development and thereby to ameliorate the condition of the Adiwasis.

All-Round Advancement

“Government does not propose to stop at the joint working of coupes and the regeneration of the forests by Adiwasis. This should serve as a nucleus for further many-sided activities which would provide the Adiwasis with other work requiring more intelligence and bring them additional steady income. Forests provide only seasonal work for Adiwasis. Lands near the forests could be given to them and farmed jointly. For providing better housing, co-operative housing societies can be organised. It is also necessary that economic development should go hand in hand with cultural development. The present co-operative organisations of the Adiwasis could well serve as the spearhead of a drive for the all-round advancement of the Adiwasis and other jungle folk.

“For all this work, selfless and experienced social workers in adequate numbers are urgently required. But in the last resort, progress will depend on the Adiwasis themselves, who will have to be brought up to a level where they can develop their own leadership for political, economic and social work. This pre-supposes that their old psychology of helplessness should change and they should evince a strong desire for progress and have a firm faith in their future. Co-operative societies are calculated to make a valuable contribution in this direction.

“Before I conclude, I must express the heartfelt thanks of Government for the valuable services the social workers and social service organisations have rendered in the cause of the uplift of Adiwasis, particularly in regard to the co-operative experiment initiated last year. I should also take this opportunity of expressing Government’s appreciation of the active interest that the leaders from amongst the Adiwasis as well as the rank and file have taken in this experiment and the help they have rendered in making it a success.

“I hope that the deliberations of this Conference and its considered opinions would enable the social workers and Government to achieve a further advance on the road to the goal that we have set before us.

“I have great pleasure in inaugurating this Conference and wishing it all success.” [No. N 506 of September 24, 1948]

CARTAGE RATES FOR TIMBER OPERATIONS IN THANA & KOLABA

The Chief Conservator of Forests, Bombay, has fixed the following cartage and other rates in the Kolaba and Thana Districts for incorporation in the contracts with the timber contractors for the ensuing season.

Cartage or transport charges (including charges of loading carts and unloading at depots)

Timber: Re. 0-0-9 per cubic foot per mile for loaded trip.

NOTE:-- Average load 20 cubic feet with an average daily distance of 10 miles. Re. 0-1-0 per cubic foot per mile when Zelas are taken out, i.e., in the case of dragging timber from Zelas to the main roadside depot.

NOTE:-- Recoveries of advances to be limited to a maximum of 1|3rd the total amount due for the trip. Interim payment Rs. 6-8-0 per week per Katkari family.

Other Rates

Clear-felling Gurucharan Coupes:

Rs. 38-8-0 per 100 trees (all sizes taken together except trees of girth below 12")

Rates for thinning girth	Rate per 100 trees selected for timber
48" and over	Rs. 82 8 0
36" to under 48"	" 66 0 0
24" to under 36"	" 41 4 0
18" to under 24"	" 20 10 0
12" to under 18"	" 12 6 0

Fashioning And Polishing Timber Trees After Felling:

(a) In the round per cubic foot ..	Re. 0 2 3
(b) Spuared per cubic foot ..	Re. 0 3 3

Billeting and stacking fuel:

Dimensions of billets 2' to 3' long up to 48" in girth:—
Rate Rs. 3 per 100 cubic feet stacked.

	Rate per bag measuring		
	56" x 32"	50" x 32"	44" x 27"
(a) including felling and billeting	Rs. 2 8 0	2 3 0	1 4 0

(b) excluding felling but including billeting	Re.	1 15 0	1 11 0	1 0 0
(c) excluding felling and billeting	Re.	1 6 0	1 2 0	0 11 0

Rab Making (including preparation of small wood carrying and stacking on prescribed sites and in the prescribed manner) per acre of actually rabbed area with a height of 21'—Rs. 88.

Fire tracing:—Rs. 33 per mile 50' wide. [No. P 1586 of September 20, 1948]

FACTORY WORKERS' CO-OPERATIVES

An increase of over 27 per cent in the membership of factory workers' co-operative societies in Bombay City, during the period from June 1944 to June 1947, has been recorded in the statistics compiled by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Bombay.

The number of societies which stood at 59 on June 30, 1944, rose to 70 on June 30, 1947, while the membership increased from 38,684 to 48,250.

Share capital of these societies rose from Rs. 25,52,942 in 1944 to Rs. 44,30,735 in 1947, while members' deposits rose from Rs. 8,54,909 to Rs. 13,32,293.

As regards the repayment of loans by the members, the amount of outstanding loans, which had risen from about Rs. 18 lakhs in 1944 to about Rs. 28 lakhs in 1946, declined to Rs. 26 lakhs in 1947. [No. P 1563 of September 16, 1948]

SETTLEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: CONCILIATORS' WORK IN AUGUST

Agreed settlements between workers and employers were brought about through the intervention of conciliators in 16 industrial disputes in the Province during August, 1948. Fifteen other disputes ended, as the parties agreed not to pursue them any further. In seven disputes, conciliators failed to bring about a settlement.

Under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, of the 48 disputes that came before conciliators during the month, 40 were from the cotton textile

industry, five from the silk industry, two from the hosiery industry and one from the public passenger and transport services. The majority of these disputes were from Bombay and Khandesh, the two places sharing 36 disputes between them. Causes of these disputes included questions of pay and allowances, employment of individuals, bonus, etc. Conciliators were able to bring about settlements in respect of eight disputes. Five were withdrawn and three discontinued, while four ended in failure.

Outside the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, intervention was successful in respect of 12 disputes, while no settlement was possible in three disputes. Seven cases were not pursued further by the parties.

Of the 207 individual complaints that came before the Directorate of Labour Administration, 30 were brought to a successful conclusion, seven were dropped by the complainants, while 56 were unsuccessful.

With the registration of 13 more trade unions under the Indian Trade Unions Act in August, the total number of registered trade unions in the Province stood at 381. [No. P 1650 of September 29, 1948]

STRIKE ACTIVITY ON THE DECREASE: ONLY 35 DISPUTES IN AUGUST

Strike activity in the Province showed a marked decrease during August last, there being 35 disputes involving 15,619 workpeople and a time loss of 87,053 man-days as against 55 disputes involving 38,046 workpeople and a time loss of 120,710 man-days in July. Eight of the disputes in existence during August had commenced before the beginning of the month. In addition, there were six hartals (stoppages not connected with trade disputes) during the month, including the token strike of August 11.

Bombay accounted for 30 of the 35 disputes in progress in August, involving 11,674 workpeople or 74.7 per cent. of the total workpeople involved and an aggregate time loss of 82,850 man-days or 95.2 per cent. of the total time loss. The disputes in the Apollo Mills and the India United Mills No. 5 accounted for a loss of 47,157 and 8,521 man-days, respectively, during the month.

Fourteen of the disputes were in the textile industry, six in the engineering industry and the remaining 15 in miscellaneous industries.

Analysing the disputes according to causes, 11 of the 35 disputes arose over questions of pay and allowances, four related to leave and hours of

work, two to bonus issues, 11 to employment of individuals, while seven were due to other causes.

Twelve, or roughly one-third of the total disputes recorded, did not last beyond one day.

In all, 25 disputes terminated during the month. [No. P 1645 of September 28, 1948]

NO DETERIORATION OF CONDITIONS OF WORK

It has been brought to the notice of the Government of Bombay that a feeling prevails among the mill workers that the improved conditions that had been ordered by the Industrial Court had not been maintained and this had led to more fatigue; thus their objection to six-loom working was not to six looms as such but to worsened conditions. This is a matter regarding which the Government is eager to make the necessary enquiries and to call upon the employers to make improvements. When the employers were questioned on this point, they assured the Government that the conditions of work had not deteriorated.

Indeed, the Government has already deputed technical experts to make enquiries on the spot regarding the conditions of work. On this score, therefore, there could be no occasion for the stoppage of work or for any kind of protest. It may also be pointed out that when the representatives of the employees of the two mills (Apollo and India United) approached the Minister for Labour, he pointed out to them that while the appointment of a Court of Enquiry was neither feasible nor helpful, the question of six-loom working could be brought before the Wage Board when the entire question of standardisation of musters and work-load might be taken up by the Wage Board. [No. P. 1313 August 3, 1948]

ABSENTEEISM IN COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY: SEVEN LAKH WORKING DAYS LOST IN JULY

An average absenteeism of 10.45 per cent. was recorded at the six prominent cotton textile centres in the Province during the month of July last. The figures for Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Sholapur, Broach, Viramgaum and East Khandesh were 12.65, 5.73, 15.49, 7.21, 9.98 and 17.56, respectively.

The time loss due to absenteeism at these six centres totalled a little over 668,000 working days (Bombay City 431,000; Ahmedabad 131,000; Sholapur 86,000 and Broach, Viramgaum and East Khandesh 20,000). [No. P 1513 of September 9, 1948]

SHOPS AND ESTABLISHMENTS ACT: GOOD RESULTS

During the year 1946, the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act was newly applied to not less than 22 places. In some cases, the municipalities did not agree to the application of the Act, pleading financial inability to bear the burden of the administration of the Act; but on repeated requests from the gumastas, the Act was applied against the wishes of the municipalities. In many cases, municipalities, however, requested the sanction of the Government to the appointment of non-qualified Inspectors, and this sanction was granted only in a few cases for specific periods.

The administration of the Act in Bombay City for the past six years shows that the beneficial effects of the Act are experienced by a much larger body of employees. This is reflected in the continuous fall in the number of complaints received as compared to previous year. In the City of Bombay prosecutions under the Act which were heard by the Stipendiary Magistrates were transferred to the Court of Honorary Magistrates from October 1, 1945. This has resulted in the lowering in the standard of the fines imposed. This is reflected in the fall in the fines realised during the year under report. The Ahmedabad Municipality reports that the working of the Act has shown considerable improvement and has become very popular. [No. P 1139 of July 6, 1948]

WAGE BOARD FOR TEXTILE INDUSTRY

A Wage Board for the cotton textile industry in Bombay Province has been constituted by the Government of Bombay under Section 86 A of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act.

Mr. Purshottam Kanji will be the Chairman of the Board and other members will be Mr. R. R. Bakhale, M.L.C., Mr. P. V. Gillespie, M.L.A., Mr. Neville N. Wadia, Mr. Sakarlal Balabhai, Mr. Nur Mahomed H. Shaikh and Mr. G. D. Ambekar. [No. P 1320 of August 4, 1948]

LABOUR COURTS AT WORK: 145 CASES DISPOSED OF IN SIX MONTHS

During the six months ended March 1948, 145 applications were decided by the Labour Courts at Bombay, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Jalgaon. The principal issues involved were legality or otherwise of strikes, illegal changes by employers, victimisation, discharge from service and reinstatement.

Ahmedabad recorded an all-time high of 75 cases, followed by Bombay with 38, relating mostly to illegal strikes, while Jalgaon and Sholapur recorded 21 and 11 cases, respectively.

Sixty-one decisions were in favour of employers and 19 of workers. Two cases were dismissed for technical irregularities, seven were withdrawn by the applicants, 42 resulted in amicable settlement, while in the case of the remaining 14, it was decided that the Labour Court had no jurisdiction. [No. P 1467 of August 27, 1948]

WORK STOPPAGES DURING JUNE 1948

Industrial disputes in the Province caused a time loss of 89,120 working days during June 1948 as against 179,801 working days in May 1948, while the total numbers of disputes during the two months remained constant at 72. The number of workers involved, however, rose from 37,368 to 39,873. The corresponding figures for June 1947 were 66 disputes, 52,969 workers and 106,799 working days.

Twenty-three disputes, or nearly one-third of the total disputes recorded in June 1948, did not continue beyond one day. These involved 20,149 workpeople and resulted in a time loss of 7,126 working days, while other six disputes involving 1,506 workpeople lasted only two days and caused a total time loss of 2,265 days.

One of the major disputes recorded during last month was the six-day strike in the Shree Nivas Cotton Mill, Bombay, over the demand for payment of wages in lieu of 10 days' leave with pay for the year 1947. The strike directly involved 125 workers and indirectly affected 4,450 workers and resulted in a time loss 16,714 working days. The one-day strike on June 21 in the Hind Cycle Co., Bombay, involving the entire complement of 785 workers arose over the management declining to grant a holiday on that day on account of the assumption of office by Shri C. Rajgopala-chari as Governor-General of India.

Strikes In Textile Industry

Twenty-one of the total stoppages during the month occurred in the textile industry, involving 14,525 workers and a time loss of 45,062 working days, six disputes occurred in the engineering industry and the remaining 45 in other industries such as paper and printing, rubber works, chemicals and dyes, etc.

Bombay City alone recorded 49 of the disputes involving 27,285 workpeople, and a time loss of 61,318 working days thus accounted for 68.4 per

cent. of the total workpeople involved and 68.8 per cent. of the total time loss during the month.

'Pay and allowances' formed the main cause in 38 out of 72 disputes during June. Grievances about personnel accounted for 16, while eight disputes related to 'bonus issues', two to 'leave and hours of work' and the remaining eight to 'other causes', such as protest against stoppage or change-over of shifts, demand for better material, etc.

Sixty-two disputes terminated during the course of the month—25 in favour of employers, 12 in favour of workers, 5 in compromise, 19 indefinite in result, while in one case the result is not known. Ten disputes remained unterminated at the end of the month. [No. P 1194 of July 15, 1948]

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN JULY: PAY AND ALLOWANCES THE MAJOR CAUSE

During the month of July, the total number of disputes in Bombay Province showed a substantial decrease as compared to that in the previous month, but the resulting time loss was greater than that in June.

Figures for the month under review showed 53 disputes involving 37,848 workpeople and a time loss of 117,820 working days, as against 72 disputes in June involving 40,283 workpeople and a time loss of 90,029 days. The corresponding figures for July 1947 were—77 disputes, 75,155 workpeople and 275,968 working days, respectively.

Ten of the 53 disputes in existence in July had actually commenced in June.

One of the major strikes during the month was that of the Bombay Municipal Conservancy Staff, involving 7,558 workers and a time loss of 12,691 working days. The general strike in the silk industry in Bombay was another major stoppage and caused a time loss of 10,806 days.

There were eight 'hartals' (i.e., work stoppages not connected with trade disputes) during the month and these caused a further time loss of 38,057 working days, of which the one-day token stoppage of the mill-hands from the five textile mills at Sholapur on July 8 alone was responsible for 27,226 days.

Bombay Has More Disputes

Bombay recorded 44 of the 53 disputes involving 36,048 workpeople, or 95.3 per cent. of the total workpeople involved, and causing an aggregate loss of 115,317 days or 97.9 per cent. of the total time loss.

Seventeen disputes were in the textile industry, involving 21,182 work-people and costing 75,720 working days, eight in the engineering industry, two in transport, and the remaining 26 in other industries.

Pay and allowances was the predominant cause in 23 of the disputes. Causes relating to personnel were responsible for 18 disputes. Six disputes related to bonus issues, two to leave and hours of work and four to other causes.

Forty-six of the disputes terminated during the month. [No. P 1432 of August 21, 1948]

ARBITRATION COURT: 125 DISPUTES DECIDED

One hundred and twenty-five cases out of a total of 210 were decided by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the eight months ended August last. Of the 210 cases, 125 were pending from the previous year.

Illegal changes alone accounted for 63 applications by workers, while employers filed four applications against illegal strikes. The remaining cases consisted of 30 appeals, 16 submissions by employers and trade unions, 66 references by the Government and 31 miscellaneous applications and petitions.

References made by the Government to the Court occupied a predominant place, covering the complicated problems of standardisation and revision of wage-rates, fixation of dearness allowance, reinstatement, institution of schemes of provident fund, gratuity, etc.

Industrial Tribunals constituted under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 decided 32 cases out of a total of 94 on hand. Increased wages and dearness allowance, bonus, security schemes, etc., were some of the demands of the workers. [No. P 1483 of September 1, 1948]

CONCILIATION BOARD TO SETTLE SILK MILL DISPUTES

Under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, the Government of Bombay has constituted a Board of Conciliation, consisting of Mr. M. G. Monani, I.C.S., Commissioner of Labour (Chairman), Mr. P. V. Gillespie, M.L.A. and Mr. K. R. Gadgil, Technical Inspector of Factories (Textiles), for promoting the settlement of the industrial disputes between the managements of the sixteen silk mills in Bombay and their employees. [No. P 1171 of July 10, 1948]

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

The industrial disputes between the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association and the Textile Labour Association have been referred for decision to the Wage Board. [No. P 1447 of August 24, 1948]

The industrial dispute between the Jayshankar Mills, Limited, the Lokamanya Mills, Limited, and the Barsi Spinning and Weaving Mills, Limited, all of Barsi, and their employees has been referred to the Industrial Court for arbitration. This dispute is in regard to the demand for adequate bonus for the year 1947. [No. P 1230 of July 22, 1948]

The dispute between the Gendalal Mills, Limited, Jalgaon and the Khandesh Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Jalgaon and the Jalgaon Girni Kamgar Union, relating to the demand of the employees of the mills for bonus for the year 1947 has been referred to the arbitration of the Industrial Court. [No. P 1349 of August 9, 1948]

The industrial dispute between the Shivaji Works, Limited, Tikekarwadi (Sholapur District), and the workmen employed under it has been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Court consisting of Mr. M. K. Tiiokekar.

The dispute between the Bombay Soap Factory, Bombay, and its workmen has been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Court consisting of Diwan Bahadur D. G. Kamerkar. [No. P 1533 of September 11, 1948]

The dispute between Nanu's (Brass) Works, Bombay, and the workmen employed under it has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. [No. P 1397 of August 14, 1948]

The industrial disputes between Messrs. Das and Company, the Tambawala Metal Manufacturing Works and the Huseini Metal Rolling Mill, all of Bombay, and their respective employees have been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal. [No. P 1597 of September 21, 1948]

The dispute between the Hindustan Foundry, Ltd., Bombay and the workmen employed under it at Shroffwadi, Mazgaon, Bombay, has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. [No. P 1383 of August 12, 1948]

The dispute between the following 11 companies and the workmen employed under them has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication:—The Premier Construction Company, Limited; The Hindustan Construction Company, Limited; The All-India Construction Company, Limited; The Building Construction Company, Limited; Walchandnagar Industries, Limited; The Ravalgaon Sugar Farm, Limited; The Indian Hume Pipe Company, Limited; The Stoneware Pipes (Madras) Limited; Cooper Engineering, Limited; The Acme Manufacturing Company, Limited; and Walchand and Company, Limited. [No. P 1176 of July 12, 1948]

The industrial disputes between the Hindustan Foundry, Limited, Bombay, and its workers and that between Nanu's (Brass) Works, Bombay, and its employees have been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal consisting of Mr. Justice K. C. Sen. [No. P 1415 of August 18, 1948]

The industrial dispute between the Ford Motor Company of India, Limited, Bombay and its employees has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. [No. P 1351 of August 9, 1948]

The industrial dispute between the Motor Operators of Poona and their workmen has been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal consisting of Diwan Bahadur D. G. Kamerkar. The dispute is on the question of dearness allowance, bonus and the gratuity scheme. [No. P 1437 of August 23, 1948]

The dispute between the Ahmedabad Municipal Transport Service, Ahmedabad and its employees has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. [No. P 1389 August 13, 1948]

The industrial dispute between Goodlass Wall, Limited and the workmen (including clerical and other staff) employed under it in its

factory at Lower Parel, Bombay, and that between the Elephant Oil Mills, Limited and its employees in its factory at Mazgaon, Bombay, have been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Court of Mr. Salim M. Merchant. [No. P 1579 of September 18, 1948]

The industrial disputes between Allen Berry and Company, Limited, Bombay, and its employees have been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal consisting of Mr. Justice K. C. Sen.

The disputes relate to the recognition of the employees' unions, wages, scales of salaries, leave, gratuity, bonus, dearness allowance and other cognate matters. [No. P 1455 of August 25, 1948]

The dispute between the Pioneer Chromate Works, Ltd., Bombay and the workmen employed under it at Morol Road, Andheri, has been referred for adjudication under Section 10 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

An order under sub-section (3) of Section 10 of the said Act prohibiting the continuance of any strike or lock-out has also been issued. [No. P 1305 of August 2, 1948]

The industrial dispute between the Bombay Soap Factory, Bombay, and its workmen has been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal of Divan Bahadur D. G. Kamerkar. [No. P 1619 of September 24, 1948]

The Government of Bombay has instructed the Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Limited, Bombay, to constitute a works committee in its establishment in the manner prescribed in the Industrial Disputes (Bombay) Rules, 1947. [No. P 1414 of August 18, 1948]

The dispute between the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company, Limited, Bombay and the employees under it at its head office in Bombay and the branch office at Poona, has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. [No. P 1334 of August 5, 1948]

The dispute between the Bombay Municipality and the workmen employed in its gardens has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. [No. P 1238 of July 23, 1948]

The disputes between the Bandra, Parle-Andheri, Kurla, Juhu and Ghatkopar-Kirol Municipalities and their employees have been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. [No. P 1232 of July 22, 1948]

The dispute between the Ghatkopar-Kirol Municipality and the sweepers and scavengers employed under it has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. [No. P 1152 of July 8, 1948]

'FAIR PRICE' SHOPS BRING DOWN COST OF LIVING

'Fair Price' shops have brought down to some extent the working class cost of living in Jalgaon. In July, the cost of living index number (with average prices in August 1939 equal to 100) was 435, as against 465 in the previous month—a fall by 30 points.

The food index declined from 523 in June to 478 in July. The index for the fuel and lighting group advanced by 12 points to 470, while the clothing and miscellaneous groups indices came down by one and 46 points to 428 and 495 points, respectively. [No. P 1461 of August 27, 1948]

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR MAY

During May 1948, the working class cost of living index number for Bombay, with the average prices for the year ended June 1934 equal to 100, was 292, being one point higher than that in the preceding month. The index number for food articles declined by two points to 328.

During May 1948, the working class cost of living index number for Ahmedabad, with the average prices for the year ended July 1927 equal to 100, was 239, being 13 points higher than that in the preceding month. The index number for food articles advanced by eight points to 234.

In May 1948, the working class cost of living index number for Sholapur, with the average prices for the year ended January 1928 equal to 100, was 289, being seven points higher than that in the preceding month. The index number for food articles advanced by 12 points to 281.

The working class cost of living index number for Jalgaon, with the average prices for the month of August 1939 equal to 100, was 450 in May 1948, being 25 points higher than that in the preceding month. [No. P 1141 of July 7, 1948]

FIGURES FOR JUNE

During June 1948, the working class cost of living index number for Bombay, with the average prices for the year ended June 1934 equal to 100, was 307, being 15 points higher than that in the preceding month. The index number for food articles advanced by 24 points to 352.

During June 1948, the working class cost of living index number for Ahmedabad, with the average prices for the year ended July 1927 equal to 100, was 245, being six points higher than that in the preceding month. The index number for food articles advanced by eight points to 242.

In June 1948, the working class cost of living index number for Sholapur, with the average prices for the year ended January 1928 equal to 100, was 301, being 12 points higher than that in the preceding month. The index number for food articles advanced by 20 points to 301.

The working class cost of living index number for Jalgaon, with the average prices for the month of August 1939 equal to 100, was 465 in June 1948, being 15 points higher than that in the preceding month. [No. P 1337 of August 6, 1948]

FIGURES FOR JULY

During July 1948, the working class cost of living index number for Bombay, with the average prices for the year ended June 1934 equal to 100, was 312, being five points higher than that in the preceding month. The corresponding figure for Ahmedabad, with the average prices for the year ended July 1927 equal to 100, was 251, being six points higher than that in the preceding month, and that for Sholapur, with the average prices for the year ended January 1928 equal to 100, was 309, being eight points higher than that in the preceding month.

The index number for food articles declined by one point to 351 in Bombay, advanced by 10 points to 252 in Ahmedabad and also advanced by six points to 307 in Sholapur. [No. P 1537 of September 13, 1948]

PROGRESSIVE DE-OFFICIALISATION OF CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT ESSENTIAL: LABOUR MINISTER INAUGURATES BOMBAY CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING FEDERATION

"I can speak without hesitation on behalf of the Government and say that we are all striving to the utmost degree to bring the quickest relief to house the population of Bombay", declared Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister

for Labour and Housing, while inaugurating the Bombay Co-operative Housing Federation, on Sunday, July 11.

Mr. Nanda said: "In inviting me to inaugurate the Bombay Co-operative Housing Federation, the organisers had probably in mind my sphere of duties as Minister in charge of the Housing Department of the Government of Bombay. I am grateful for this opportunity to participate in the good work this Conference has undertaken.

"Let me tell you straightaway that if in order to go ahead, co-operative housing has to look to the Government for its good offices and assistance, the Government is in its turn no less dependent on the Co-operative Movement for the successful and speedy solution of the housing problem in the city.

A Critical Problem

"As Mr. Murdeshwar has rightly pointed out, housing has become a critical problem during the past few years and the acuteness of the problem is felt particularly in the industrial areas amongst which Bombay has its own baffling features on account of its own geographical and industrial position. In the report of the Housing Panel, Bombay's need for additional accommodation has been assessed at 3 lakh tenements. Developments since the time of the report have accentuated the shortage of houses and added considerably to the magnitude of the housing problem. The problem exists in the same nature, though with somewhat less intensity, in Ahmedabad, Sholapur, Hubli, Poona, Surat and several other mofussil industrial towns.

Slowness Apparent

"Even in normal times, with the full utilization of all the available facilities, a task of these dimensions could not have been fulfilled in less than 10 to 15 years. With the handicaps that we have to face, such advance as we are able to make cannot be of spectacular value. I have day-to-day consciousness of the enormous human suffering and hardships which the situation spells for the mass of the people in the City. I can also understand the impatience which is felt and expressed at the apparent slowness of progress in dealing with this question. I can, however, speak without hesitation on behalf of the Government and say that we are all striving to the utmost degree to bring the quickest relief to house the population of Bombay. If, in the eyes of some, our visible achievement appears to be not very impressive, the reason is that they are oblivious of the hard realities. To those who base their gloomy view of the future on the quantitative results of the first few months, I must recall the fact that it would be wrong to judge the pace of future stages by the magnitude of

the initial accomplishment. I may anticipate to-day a fuller announcement of our programme for the current year by giving a brief indication, that what we are undertaking this year will, in all likelihood, be not less than four times the scale of our operations during the previous year.

Need For Private Enterprise

“Private enterprise would ordinarily be expected to take the largest share in the provision of dwellings for the people. Owing to the prevailing economic conditions, private effort has, however, shrunk to an inconsiderable size. The widening gap between the demand and the supply has led to the entry of the State into this field. With the full consciousness of its responsibility, the Government of Bombay drew up its housing programme last year and has carried out the first instalment as planned.

“Government construction has been assigned a limited scope being intended for the benefit of the poorer sections of society, including industrial labour and low-income groups. The lower and upper middle class with the modicum of means at their disposal are ideally fitted to organize co-operative housing societies and have a very important role to play in contributing substantially to the satisfying of Bombay's housing needs. It has been the Government's policy in the Housing Department to foster and promote such co-operative effort in the matter of housing. The special assistance already offered by the Government to co-operative housing societies in the matter of finance is well known to you.

Every Help To Co-operative Housing

“The co-operative housing societies constructing tenements consisting of two living rooms and a kitchen with other amenities or of a lesser size would be considered for loans at 3% or ½% less than the Government borrowing rate, whichever is higher. The loans would be to the extent of 75% of the value of land and building in the case of tenant-co-partnership societies and to the extent of 60% in the case of other societies. The co-operative housing societies constructing tenements of higher standards than those mentioned above would be considered for loans to the extent of 50% of the value of land and building at a rate ½% above the bank rate, provided the bank rate is not lower than the rate at which the Government itself has borrowed on the last occasion before giving the loan. The period of repayment of the loans would be 35 years.

“In addition to providing finance, the Government would also assist the societies in obtaining or acquiring suitable lands. In this connection, I may state that the Government has acquired lands in various places with a view to laying them out and developing them and transferring

parceis thereof to co-operative societies. As regards building materials, the Government would extend to the co-operative housing societies all possible facilities which conditions permit.

Need For Co-ordinated Effort

“Interest in co-operative societies is showing a rapid increase. This is a matter for gratification. During the last two years, 105 co-operative housing societies have been registered under the Co-operative Societies Act. It is evident that without a measure of combined and co-ordinated effort, the activities of the societies would involve a considerable waste and duplication. I was impelled to make a suggestion to the representatives of the movement, who met in conference at my request in November 1947 to create an organisation, which could speak and act on behalf of the housing societies in matters of common interest. This, I thought, would make for smooth and speedy administration and safeguard the interests of the constituents as well as of the community.

Progressive De-officialisation

“We have also to guard against the dangers of commercialisation of the available opportunities, and the rise of mushroom housing societies which are ill-founded or have questionable intentions. The constant scrutiny and healthy preservation of societies which are well founded and preserve loyalty to the cause thus become the most important function to accomplish either at the hands of the Government or of some responsible body. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has the necessary powers in this respect under the Co-operative Societies Act, but it is urgently necessary to attain progressive de-officialisation of control over the Co-operative Movement. A federation such as the Bombay Co-operative Housing Federation will, therefore, be a fitting instrument to be associated with the exercise of control and supervision over the co-operative societies which are affiliated to the Federation.

Functions Of Federation

“From this point of view, I welcome the formation of the Bombay Co-operative Housing Federation as an expression of co-operative effort at a higher level. I am assured of its success from a reading of the Federation's bye-laws which disclose that the managing committee will include the Registrar or his nominee, the nominee of the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Institute and a nominee of the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Bank. I notice with gratification that the functions of the Federation as set out in the bye-laws include negotiation for land, materials and finance on behalf of the member-societies, advice, guidance, assistance and inspection of the member-societies and arrangement for efficient and

regular supervision in their interest; organisation of fresh societies on sound lines; and discharge of such statutory functions under the Co-operative Societies Act as may be entrusted to the Federation.

"In view of the complexities of the task with which it is confronted and the increasing difficulties that beset its path, the co-operative housing movement must develop effective techniques and forge sound instruments for the efficient and successful discharge of its varied functions. I look upon the establishment of the Federation as a big step in this direction. In inaugurating the Federation, I wish it a long life of service to the cause of co-operation and trust it will contribute substantially on the side of the co-operators to the solution of the immense problem of housing which at present faces us." [No. N 390 of July 10, 1948]

**CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING TO BE EXTENDED TO RURAL AREAS:
FINANCE MINISTER INAUGURATES GREATER BOMBAY
CO-OPERATIVE BOARD**

The Government plans regarding co-operative housing were confined to the industrial cities of Bombay, Ahmedabad, Poona, Sholapur and Hubli; but the Government had in view the encouragement of co-operative housing in other congested urban areas as well, and it would not be long before co-operative housing was taken up actively in rural areas also. This view was expressed by Mr. V. L. Mehta, Minister for Finance, Co-operation and Village Industries, inaugurating the Greater Bombay Co-operative Board, on Sunday, July 11.

The Finance Minister said: "I am grateful to the Chairman and members of the Bombay Co-operators' Education Committee for having done me the honour of asking me to inaugurate the Greater Bombay Co-operative Board. Before performing the task allotted to me to-day, I trust I may be permitted to convey to you my gratification as an old co-operative worker at the inauguration of the Bombay Co-operative Housing Federation.

Co-operative Housing in Rural Areas

"My colleague, the Minister for Labour and Housing, will speak to you about the place that co-operative housing should occupy in any well planned scheme of national housing and actually occupies in the housing programme of the Government of Bombay. His present plans are confined to the industrial cities of Bombay, Ahmedabad, Poona, Sholapur and Hubli. I may add, however, that Government has in view the encouragement of co-operative housing in other congested urban areas

as well, and it may not be long before co-operative housing is taken up actively in rural areas also.

"It is over 10 years now since the Government had stopped granting loans to co-operative housing societies unless these were intended for the working classes. The new programme will not be restricted to any particular section of the community; but it is obvious that it must be for the classes whose need for rehousing is the greatest and that State aid has to be on a liberal scale.

Non-official Initiative

"The housing development, as it has proceeded so far in the Province, owes more to non-official initiative than to State effort. The pioneers in Bombay and Ahmedabad, Rao Bahadur S. S. Talmaki and Shree Pritamrai V. Desai, are also no longer in our midst. It is fortunate, however, that we have with us one of the original founders of the housing movement, my friend and colleague, Mr. G. P. Murdeshwar. Along with him, I too believe that the best way of promoting the sound and well-ordered development of co-operative housing in Bombay and its environs is to establish a central organization which would perform in a systematic manner the tasks which it was left to individuals like Shri Talmaki and Shri Pritamrai to perform in the early days of the movement in these two centres.

"For a long time past, the need has been felt for a federation which would help in the formation of new societies, the scrutiny of their bye-laws and their programmes, securing sites, raising funds, procurement of materials and in the supervision of construction. Like federations elsewhere, such a body should also make itself responsible for supervision and previous audit. It is the federal society to which, as provided for under the amended Co-operative Societies Act, powers can be delegated by the Registrar.

"Lastly, a federation is a useful means of contact for affiliated societies with the Housing Department, on the one hand, and with the Co-operative Department, on the other. Ushered into existence, as it is to-day, at the hands of a devoted servant of India, I am sure it will prosper and truly serve the needs of the community.

A Noteworthy Stage

"Turning now to the second of the two institutions, at the birth of which we assist to-day, I feel particularly happy to inaugurate the Greater Bombay Co-operative Board because it represents again another

noteworthy stage in the de-officialization of the Co-operative Movement as contemplated by the Government of Bombay. Mr. Murdeshwar has given us an insight into the various developments that have led to the establishment of this Board.

“Without going into the remote past, I would observe that while the circumstances of 1938 might have called for the closing down of the Bombay Divisional Co-operative Institute, the circumstances of 1948 do certainly demand, in the opinion of the Government, the establishment of an active, vigorous and representative central body which will make itself responsible for co-operative training and education, propaganda and publicity in the whole of Greater Bombay.

“Although this new body that you propose to set up may be legally an entity distinct from the Provincial Co-operative Institute, I hope and pray that it will work under the aegis of that august body and will have its educational and propagandist activities closely interlinked with those of the parent institution.

Notable Progress

“During these last two years of administration by a responsible Ministry, there has been, I find, a notable change in the attitude of the common man towards the Co-operative Movement as also a better appreciation on the part of the leaders of the various sections of the community of its potentialities. This has resulted in a growing demand for the registration of societies of various descriptions and a call on the Government for aid in their organization and supervision. The number of societies in Greater Bombay has in the last two years increased by 158 to 584. The variety of these new societies will be evident from a few figures that I shall now place before you. Urban credit 18, Consumers 70, Producers 6, Housing 62, Dairying 1 and Multipurpose 1.

Adequate Guidance Essential

“No expansion of the size and scope of an official Department can keep pace with such development. At the same time, it will be unfortunate, in the first place, if those who wish to turn to co-operation for the improvement of their economic condition fail to get timely and adequate guidance and advice. Secondly, it will also be unfortunate if the societies that get started lack, in the initial stages, the services of trained secretaries and their members are left to carry on and expand their activities without these activities being animated by the ideals for which the Movement stands or being regulated by the practice it has evolved through experience.

Co-operative Training

"It is the Government's desire that this two-fold task should be undertaken by a popular representative agency; and it is in accordance with this considered policy of the Government that the Board is being established in Greater Bombay and similar boards are also being constituted in the districts shortly. The Government hopes that it will soon be possible to have in every district of the Province an agency for co-operative training and propaganda, working under the guidance and direction of the Provincial Co-operative Institute. It is through this apex body, with an advisory Provincial Co-operative Council attached to it, that the Government desires to provide for the well-ordered, all-round development and expansion of the Movement in the Province in harmony with its noble principles and ideals.

"The internal structure of a co-operative society based on democratic principles', a recent writer says, 'educates the members for self-government, helps them to understand and to solve their own problems'. It is because the leaders of the Movement, all over the world, appreciate the promotion of this form of practical training in economic democracy that everywhere we find co-operative institutions establishing unions, institutes, organizations, societies for providing and extending facilities for such training out of their own resources.

Financial Assistance

"To enable the Provincial Co-operative Institute, the representative body in this Province, which is akin to these organizations abroad, to undertake this work, the Government has placed large funds at its disposal. By a recent change in the law, the Government has, moreover, provided for contribution to co-operative education being made regularly by co-operative societies out of their profits. With State aid so long as it is needed and without it when the need disappears, it will be the duty of bodies like the Greater Bombay Co-operative Board, which I have now the honour to inaugurate, to carry the message of co-operation to the doors of the humblest of our countrymen and women. If that task is well done, let us hope we shall be laying the foundation of a new social order based on co-operative welfare as contrasted with individualistic lust and competition, in which moral force counts far more than material resources." [No. N 388 of July 10, 1948]

ASSISTANCE TO HOUSING SOCIETIES: LOAN TERMS MODIFIED

In the rules prescribed by the Government of Bombay for the grant of assistance to co-operative housing societies and private individuals,

announced some time ago, it was mentioned, among other things, that co-operative housing societies constructing tenements consisting of two living rooms and a kitchen (with other amenities) would be eligible for loans to the extent of 75% of the value of land and buildings in the case of tenant co-partnership societies, and to the extent of 60% in the case of other societies.

The Government has now decided that for the purpose of becoming eligible for financial assistance in this respect, the total carpet area of the two rooms and a kitchen (exclusive of other amenities) should not exceed 450 square feet. [No. P 1458 of August 26, 1948]

The Government of Bombay has decided to give permission for building temporary structures of asbestos or corrugated iron sheets only for an initial period of 10 years in the Suburban District, subject to certain conditions. [No. P 1187 of July 13, 1948]

SUPPRESSED VACANCIES: A CLARIFICATION

There seems to be considerable confusion in the minds of the public about giving information regarding a vacancy which has been suppressed by a landlord or which has been unlawfully filled up by a landlord or a tenant after the coming into force of the Bombay Land Requisition Act, 1948. To clarify the position, all persons are informed that information in respect of such vacancies should be given to the Government in the form prescribed therefor. The forms are available at the Office of the Controller of Accommodation, 6-A, Cooperage, Fort, Bombay.

If the information given in respect of a suppressed vacancy is found to be correct, the first informant will be entitled to get the allotment of the flat in respect of which the information has been given. Subsequent informants, if any, will have no claim on it.

In the case of new constructions, a landlord has to obtain the previous permission of the Government before making allotments. If a landlord is found to have made allotments without the previous permission of the Government, those can be considered as suppressed vacancies and information in respect of such new constructions will also be dealt with on the lines indicated above. [No. P 1312 of August 3, 1948]

SUPPRESSED VACANCIES: PUBLIC CO-OPERATION URGED

It has been noticed very often that when the authorised officers of the Government approach the landlords or tenants for information in respect of certain premises, which are either reported to be vacant or suppressed vacancies, they refuse to give them any information or statements demanded by them.

It may be mentioned that under the Bombay Land Requisition Act, 1948, an officer authorised by the Provincial Government may require any person to furnish to him such information in such person's possession relating to any land which is requisitioned or is continued under requisitioning or is intended to be requisitioned or continued under requisitioning. Every person required to furnish such information shall be deemed to be legally bound to do so within the meaning of Sections 176 and 177 of the Indian Penal Code.

All members of the public are requested to co-operate with Government officers in the matter of suppressed vacancies.

If any member of the public suspects the identity of the Government officer demanding information from him under the Bombay Land Requisition Act, he can ask him to produce his authority and identity card. But once the identity of the officer is established, he should be given all possible co-operation in the investigation of cases.

The persons who had a chance of producing evidence before the Inspectors but had failed to do so, will not be encouraged to produce it subsequently, if the Government takes action on such other evidence as it is able to collect. [No. P 1412 of August 18, 1948]

PROSPECTIVE VACANCIES ARE NOT "SUPPRESSED"

It has come to the notice of the Government that some persons give intimation in respect of premises which are not actually vacant but are likely to be vacated in the near future. The intimation received in respect of prospective vacancies are, however, not entertained by the Government, for such vacancies are not treated as suppressed vacancies. The public are requested to give intimation only about vacancies which have been suppressed by landlords or unlawfully filled by landlords or tenants after the coming into operation of the Bombay Land Requisition Ordinance, 1947, with full details as regards names and addresses of landlords, the exact location of premises, the date on which the vacancies occurred,

the names and addresses of the original and present tenants, if any, to enable the Government to investigate promptly and take suitable action in the matter. [No. P 1456 of August 25, 1948]

991 PREMISES ALLOTTED IN BOMBAY

Since the promulgation of the Bombay Land Requisition Ordinance, 1947, which has now been replaced by an Act, the Land Requisition Office of the Government of Bombay has requisitioned and allotted 757 tenements in the Greater Bombay area. Landlords have been permitted to occupy premises for their own use or for their families and friends in 167 cases.

Fifteen charitable societies and trusts and 75 mill chawls owned by 19 mills have been exempted from the operation of the Act and allowed to fill vacancies in their properties according to the allotment rules drawn up by them and approved by the Government.

Proposals of allotment of the landlords in respect of 67 premises in newly erected buildings have been approved.

One hundred and forty-one persons have been permitted to keep their friends in their flats as "care-takers" during their absence from Bombay on leave for a period not exceeding six months. [No. P 1549 of September 15, 1948]

RESTORATION OF REQUISITIONED PREMISES

The Collector of Bombay has announced that in the case of requisitioned premises under the Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Act, XVII of 1947, it is the policy of the Government to restore as far as possible the premises on release from requisition to the tenants or other legal occupants who had been ousted on account of requisitioning.

The persons evicted on account of such requisitioning should, therefore, immediately file their claims with the necessary proof for the restoration of their premises to them on release with the Collector of Bombay, Old Custom House, Fort, Bombay, giving the reference of the Requisition Order served on them. [No. P 1240 of July 24, 1948]

LAND REQUISITION WORK

The work in connection with the administration of the Bombay Land Requisition Act, 1948 in the Bombay Suburban District has been taken

over by the Deputy Secretary, Health and Local Government Department, 6 A, Cocperage, Bombay. Landlords in the Bombay Suburban District are, therefore, requested to send intimation of vacant premises as required under Section 6 of the Act to this officer, instead of to the Collector, Bombay Suburban District. Orders in this connection have been published in "The Bombay Government Gazette," Part I Extraordinary dated July 15, 1948. [No. P 1239 of July 24, 1948]

MILITARY HUTMENTS IN GREATER BOMBAY AND THANA TO BE USED TO RELIEVE HOUSING SHORTAGE

As soon as the Housing Organisation was formed and placed under the control of Bombay's Labour Minister, it made strenuous efforts, in addition to its other activities, to take over the vacant military hutments that were available in Greater Bombay and the Thana District. The hutments have been suitably reconverted and repaired with additions and alterations with a view to using them readily for relieving, to some extent, the acute housing shortage that is being experienced. A brief account of the hutments in charge of the Organisation and how they have been or are proposed to be utilised is given here.

Chembur, Borivli, Virar & Kalyan

The military hutments including the Golf Club assets at Chembur and Borivli, Virar and Kalyan have been placed at the disposal of the Political and Services Department for housing refugees as an emergency measure and the camps still continue to be under occupation by the refugees.

Worli

The military hutments at Worli are being reconditioned for housing a large number of the City Police Force. Some structures at the A.R.P. Depot at Worli have been placed in charge of the Housing Organisation. The assets are used as a store godown of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division, Housing, Bombay.

A few buildings of the Base Reception Depot at Worli Phase I & II are in charge of the Housing Organisation. They have been reconditioned with a view to using a portion of them as offices for an Executive Engineer, some other portion as equipment stores and the remaining portion for residential accommodation. It contains 33 tenements and all of them have been allotted and are in occupation. About 2000 families will have to be accommodated in these hutments.

The other military hutments have been reconditioned and have been allotted to the civilian population as shown below.

Versova

The Kakori Camp at Versova contains 175 tenements all of which have been let out to the public. The Camp is fully occupied and it has a population approximately of 1,500 persons.

The Machhlimar Camp at Versova contains 206 tenements, all of which have been allotted to the public. The Camp is fully occupied with a population of about 2,000 persons.

Vile Parle

The M.E.S. Store dump assets at Vile Parle have been reconditioned for use, partly as offices of the Executive and Deputy Engineers of the Construction Division No. 2, Housing, Bombay, and partly for residential quarters for two Sub-Divisional Officers.

Bandra

The upper part of the Bandra Signal School Camp has been placed at the disposal of the Education and Industries Department for use as a hostel for 136 college students and eight families of the supervisory staff. The remaining part lower down contains 84 tenements which are earmarked for providing residential accommodation to Government servants. Additions and alterations to the hutments have been completed and allotment of accommodation will be made by the Government shortly.

Sion-Matunga

Military hutments in this area have been reconditioned to provide 118 tenements, all of which have been allotted to the families of Government servants for occupation.

Dharavi

The assets at this place were taken over by the Bombay Government in March 1948. The structures are under occupation by 'squatters' for the last one year or so. It contains accommodation for 462 families. [No. P 1173 of July 12, 1948]

TENEMENTS BUILT BY GOVERNMENT: ALLOTMENT TO WORKERS AND LOW-INCOME GROUPS

Except for the tenements which have already been allotted or which are to be allotted by other authorities, the Director of Labour Welfare will allot to the industrial workers and persons belonging to low-income groups, 80 per cent of the tenements built or reconditioned by the Government for industrial workers at Worli and other tenements (the balance of 20 per cent. being reserved for emergency allotment by the Government) in accordance with the rules framed for the purpose.

The term 'industrial workers' will include workers employed in mills, factories or any manufacturing concerns. The persons belonging to 'low-income groups' in relation to any class of tenements will comprise those whose emoluments are not more than ten times the economic rent leviable in respect of the particular class of tenements.

At present, it is intended that the Worli structures should be allotted only to industrial workers. The question as to what rent should be charged for these permanent structures is under consideration and orders will be issued in due course. For all other Government construction, the economic rent will be charged until further orders. The charges for electric supply and other amenities, if any, will be separate and in addition to the economic rent, if that rent does not take into account such charges. [No. P 1237 of July 23, 1948]

TENEMENTS FOR WORKERS AND LOW-INCOME MEN

A few tenements at Worli will be available for allotment to industrial workers and a few more at Ghatkopar and Goregaon for persons belonging to the low-income groups about the middle of October 1948. Those whose emoluments are not more than ten times the economic rent leviable in respect of the particular class of tenements will be considered as belonging to low-income groups.

Applications are to be made to the Estate Manager, Office of the Director of Labour Welfare, Wellington Cinema Building, Dhobi Talao, Bombay 2, before October 4, 1948 on printed application forms, which can be had personally on payment of one anna each. [No. P 1643 of September 27, 1948]



The Backward Classes

5

The welfare of Harijans and other members of the Backward Classes continued to claim the Government's urgent attention during the quarter under reference.

The most important measure perhaps was the change sought to be effected in the meaning of the word "temple", with a view to securing for Harijans the same right of worship in a temple as was available to the other sections of Hindus.

The meeting of the Provincial Backward Class Board held in Poona in July last considered several vital problems, such as those regarding the alleged non-implementation of Government orders in regard to the grant of freeships and scholarships to Backward Class students by certain educational institutions, the desirability of treating all sections of the Backward Classes as a common unit for all practical purposes, the evil practice of dedicating Harijan girls as Devadasis in the Karnatak, etc.

The Government also announced its policy of according preference to the Backward Classes while making appointments to all services under it, when all other things were equal.

Relaxation of age-limits in the case of Backward Class students studying in secondary schools in respect of grant of freeships was also announced. The Government further sanctioned certain trade scholarships.

Certain concessions in the matter of housing the Harijan employees of local bodies were announced by the Government in this quarter.

Relief continued to be granted to the Adiwasis under the provisions of the Bombay Tenancy Act.

HARIJANS' RIGHT OF WORSHIP: AMENDMENT TO TEMPLE ENTRY ACT

The definition of 'temple' for the purposes of the Bombay Harijan Temple Entry Act, 1947 is being so changed as to confer on Harijans the same right to worship as is available to the Hindu community or any section thereof. The 1947 Act, no doubt, conferred on Harijans the same rights as other Hindus in general have regarding worship in temple, but the definition of 'temple' referred 'inter alia' to its use as of right by the Hindu community in general. In practice, this led to difficulties in establishing the rights of Harijans, and in some cases temples which were freely open previously have, since the passing of the Act, been closed partially or wholly on the ground that they did not come within the purview of the Act.

The proposed definition reads: "Temple means a place, by whatever name known and to whomsoever belonging, which is used as a place of religious worship by custom, usage or otherwise by the members of the Hindu community or any section thereof and includes all land appurtenant thereto and subsidiary shrines attached to any such place."

The amending legislation published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of September 23 also repeals the Bombay Harijan Temple Worship (Removal of Disabilities) Act, 1948. [No. P 1620 of September 24, 1948]

ALL ROUND ASSISTANCE TO BACKWARD CLASSES— BOARD MEETING

The 48th meeting of the Provincial Backward Class Board was held in Poona in the new building of the Government Backward Class Hostel (under construction) on July 12 under the presidentship of Mr. G. D. Tapase, Minister for Industries, Fisheries and Backward Classes.

A general complaint was made that several educational institutions receiving grants-in-aid from the Government were not giving effect to their orders regarding the grant of freeships and scholarships to students from the Backward Classes. The Board recommended that the Government should take suitable action against such educational institutions which failed to co-operate with the Government in the extension of educational facilities to the Backward Classes by curtailing or withholding their grants-in-aid in suitable cases.

The Board further recommended that educational and other concessions available to the Backward Classes should not be extended to converts to other religions from the Backward Classes.

A Common Unit

An important recommendation of the Board was with regard to the classification of the Backward Classes into three sections, viz., Scheduled Castes, Aboriginal & Hill Tribes and other Backward Classes. While the separate classification may continue for purposes of political privileges, in view of the special safeguards proposed separately for the Scheduled Castes and the Tribes in the Draft Constitution of India prepared by the Constituent Assembly, the Board recommended that in the administration of the Backward Class Department and in the policy of the Government with regard to the amelioration of the Backward Classes, all the sections of the Backward Classes should be treated as a common unit without distinction.

Problem of Devadasis

The evil of the dedication of Harijan girls in the Karnatak as Devadasis which continues unabated in spite of the Devidasi Act and other legislation was discussed. The Board recommended that as an experiment, the Bombay Children Act should be extended to the entire Bijapur District and the administrative machinery necessary for this should be immediately created.

The Board recommended that the Government should earmark a certain percentage of the building grant for each district for school buildings in the backward areas, inhabited by the Backward Classes, and that such local help by way of labour as was forthcoming in such areas should be considered adequate and the Government should not insist on the clause relating to 25% local contribution.

Various other matters affecting the welfare of the Backward Classes were also discussed. [No. P 1185 of July 13, 1948]

PREFERENCE TO BACKWARD CLASSES IN ALL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

All other things being equal, candidates belonging to the Backward Classes will henceforth be given preference vis-a-vis others while making recruitment to all services under the Government of Bombay. This rule will be followed in addition to the other orders issued from time to time

prescribing the minimum percentages of recruitment from members of the Intermediate and Backward Classes to certain Class III and Class IV services.

It may be recalled that it has been the policy of the Government of Bombay to accord special facilities to persons who are backward socially, economically and educationally in the matter of recruitment to services under it, as far as it is possible to do so without affecting their efficiency, and consistently with this policy, reservation of vacancies has been made for members of the Intermediate and Backward Classes in certain Class III and Class IV services.

It is also the policy of the Government to give all possible encouragement to members of the backward communities to improve their condition and, to this end, special facilities have been accorded to them in the matter of education, with a view to ensuring that they attain the position of other advanced communities in due course. [No. P 1234 of July 23, 1948]

AGE-LIMITS FOR AWARDED FREESTUDENTSHIPS

The Government of Bombay has fixed the following age limits for freestudentships to students from the Backward Classes studying in secondary schools and has empowered the Director of Public Instruction to further relax the age limits in suitable cases on merits, up to a maximum of five years:

Standard	Age in Years
I	.. 17
II	.. 18
III	.. 19
IV	.. 21
V	.. 22
VI	.. 23
VII	.. 25

[No. P 1276 of July 29, 1948]

FREESTUDENTSHIPS FOR BACKWARD CLASS STUDENTS

All eligible Backward Class students (including the Scheduled Classes) studying in Government and non-Government colleges, including Agri-

culture, Veterinary and Medical Colleges, will be granted special free-studentships. The freestudentships will be available for five years to all students who enter colleges up to and including the year 1951-52. [No. P 1138 of July 6, 1948]

TRADE SCHOLARSHIPS TO BACKWARD CLASS STUDENTS

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned eight scholarships to selected Backward Class candidates undergoing training in the following trades: (1) Advanced Radio Communication, (2) Electrical Technology, (3) Mechanical Engineering and (4) Electrical Engineering.

These scholarships will cost the Government Rs. 2,040 a year. [No. P 1570 of September 17, 1948]

GRANTS TO BACKWARD CLASS HOSTELS INCREASED

In view of the rising cost of living, the Government of Bombay has increased the grants-in-aid to the private Backward Class hostels, with retrospective effect from June 1 last.

The grant-in-aid per pupil now varies from Rs. 10 to Rs. 16 a month, according to the stage of his or her education. [No. P. 1466 of August 27, 1948]

BACKWARD CLASS WELFARE OFFICER

The headquarters of the Backward Class Welfare Officer for Thana, Kolaba, Bombay Suburban District and Bombay City have been shifted from Thana to Karjat. [No. P 1525 of September 10, 1948]

HOUSING OF HARIJAN EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL BODIES

With a view to tackling the question of housing Harijan employees of the local bodies immediately and effectively, the Government of Bombay has announced certain concessions. The concessions will not apply to the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

The Government will consider the question of making a free grant of Government land for building quarters, if no suitable land in the ownership of the local body is available.

The Government will also pay subsidies at the rate of 33 1/3 per cent of the total cost, inclusive of the cost of site, in the case of Borough Municipalities and 50 per cent of the total cost, inclusive of the cost of site in the case of District Municipalities, Village Panchayats, District Local Boards and Notified Area Committees and private individuals and bodies interested in the welfare of Harijans.

The Collectors and Executive Engineers will give all possible help to the local bodies or other agencies for obtaining the necessary building materials.

The grant of free sites and payment of subsidies will be subject to certain conditions. [No. P 1095 of July 1, 1948]

RELIEF AND WELFARE OF ADIWASIS IN THANA DISTRICT: LANDLORDS FORCED TO REFUND EXCESS RENT

The touring officers specially appointed by the Government to enforce the provisions of the Tenancy Act continued, during June, to extend relief to and promote the welfare of the Adiwasis in the Thana District.

In the Dahanu Taluka, two landlords were convicted and fined under the provisions of the Tenancy Act. A 10% remission was secured for seven tenants and 30 applications for relief under the Act were disposed of. Twenty-four applicants received relief of the value of 77½ maunds of paddy. In addition, paddy seed of 290 maunds was granted to the Adiwasis and agriculturists. Tagai loans of Rs. 13,000 were granted to 360 Adiwasis.

In the Umbergaon Taluka, 122 maunds of paddy were refunded to tenants. Tenants were also helped in the calculation of 1/3 share of crop payable to the landlords. An amount of Rs. 975 was refunded to the tenants and labour engaged in grass-cutting, while a landlord was fined Rs. 20 for not passing a receipt for rent. Another was hauled up for prosecution for using an unauthorised measure in the recovery of his rent from two tenants. A landlord-tenant dispute was also settled amicably.

In the Mokhada Peta, a landlord was fined Rs. 25 for receiving Rs. 10 in excess of the amount of rent. Three landlords were also fined under the provisions of the Tenancy Act. Reasonable rent was fixed in one case and, in another, a landlord was forced to restore possession of the land on which he had constructed a godown. The landlord had also to pay a compensation of Rs. 20 to the tenant. [No. N. 485 of September 13, 1943]

COMPENSATION TO A HARIJAN SHOPKEEPER

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned Rs. 200 as ex-gratis compensation to Mr. L. D. Kanade, a Harijan shopkeeper of Ahmednagar.

It may be recalled that in February 1946, shops of Harijans at Ahmednagar (Kapad Bazar) were destroyed by fire. Five Harijans (shoemakers) have already been given relief by the Government. Through oversight, Mr. Kanade's name remained to be recommended for relief at that time. [No. P 1571 of September 17, 1948]

JURISDICTION OF THE DANGS DISTRICT

The jurisdiction of the Dangs District has been assigned to the Backward Class Welfare Officer, Nasik District, and the Assistant Backward Class Officer, Western Circle. [No. P 1452 of August 25, 1948]

EXCOMMUNICATION MADE AN OFFENCE

A legislative measure is proposed by the Government of Bombay to stop the practice of excommunication. A Bill has been prepared making excommunication of members of any community void. An act amounting to, or in furtherance of, excommunication has been made punishable with a fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000.

The statement of objects and reasons of the Bombay Prevention of Excommunication Act, 1948, which is published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of September 9 says:

"There is a practice among certain communities of excommunicating its members which often results in depriving individuals of their rights and privileges which are legally enforceable by them as such members. Although excommunication is not widely prevalent, it is still necessary in keeping with the changing times and in the public interest to provide against the evil which potentially exists.

"The Bill is intended to stop the illegal deprivation of legitimate rights of individuals in this manner." [No. P 1517 of September 9, 1948]



6

A fervent call to the people of the Province to offer full co-operation to the Government in making Prohibition a success was given by Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction, when he addressed a meeting of a Labour Camp in Bombay on Independence Day, August 15. He emphasised that Prohibition was above party politics and hence it deserved the support of all.

The Government issued a directive to the effect that all members of the Provincial Prohibition Board, Prohibition Committees as also the Prohibition officers and such other persons as were co-opted on the Board, Committee or any of the Sub-Committees should take a pledge that they would not touch any alcoholic drinks, except for religious or sacramental purposes, and that they should resign from the committees in case they broke the pledge.

By another directive, the Government called upon all Government servants to refrain from serving or taking alcoholic drinks at official or semi-official parties, in hotels, restaurants, clubs, etc. A severe view of the default committed by members of the Police Force was proposed to be taken, especially since it was their responsibility to detect Excise crime.

With a view to co-ordinating effectively the recreational activities of the Labour, Education and Industries, and Prohibition Departments, a Recreation Board was constituted under the chairmanship of the Excise Minister, Mr. L. M. Patil.

A scheme was formulated for carrying out an economic and social survey in the urban, rural and backward areas of the Province under the direction of Prof. C. N. Vakil, Director of the University School of Economics and Sociology, Bombay.

A committee was appointed to go into the question of the use of opium, ganja and bhang by Ayurvedic pharmacies and Vaidyas.

It was decided to apply the calendar of days of closure to toddy shops and booths from August 1, under the new arrangements made by the Government.

**“PROHIBITION IS ABOVE PARTY POLITICS”:
EXCISE MINISTER'S APPEAL**

Presiding over a meeting at the Matunga Labour Camp on Independence Day, Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction, called upon every citizen to make the Prohibition Programme a complete success.

“The work of Prohibition,” the Minister said, “is above party politics, and so it is the duty of everyone to co-operate with the Government in that work.”

Mr. Patil assured the labourers that the Government was doing its best to alleviate their conditions, and Prohibition and labour welfare centres were a step in that direction. He appealed to them to take the maximum advantage of these centres.

The Excise Minister hoisted the National Flag and planted a few trees near the welfare centre. [No. N 446 of August 17, 1948]

PRESIDENTS OF WARD PROHIBITION COMMITTEES

The Bombay City Prohibition Committee has nominated the following persons as Presidents of the different Ward Prohibition Committees:

Mr. N. S. Kajrolkar (A Ward), Mr. Akhtar Hassan Mirza (B Ward), Mr. K. K. Shah (C Ward), Mr. S. L. Silam (D Ward), Mr. V. R. Tulla, (E Ward), Mr. V. M. Nagwekar (F Ward), and Dr. M. N. Birje (G Ward) [No. N. 469 of August 27, 1948]

PROHIBITION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Government of Bombay has nominated the officers of the Co-operative Department as members on the Provincial Prohibition Board and the District and City Prohibition Committees, in addition to their existing members. [No. P 1179 of July 12, 1948]

POONA CITY PROHIBITION COMMITTEE

Mr. M. N. Memane, M.L.A., has been appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Poona City Prohibition Committee, in addition to Mr. A. A. Khan, M.L.A. [No. P 1319 of August 4, 1948]

PROHIBITIONISTS' PLEDGE

The Government of Bombay has decided that all members of the Provincial Prohibition Board, Prohibition Committees, as also the Prohibition Officers and such other persons as are co-opted on the Board or the Committee or any of the Sub-Committees and others whose services the Board or the Committee decides to employ in pursuance of the Government's Prohibition policy should give a pledge in writing that they believe in Prohibition and that they do not themselves take any alcoholic drinks, except when necessary for religious or sacramental purposes, according to their faith and that they undertake to resign from the Committees, in case they break the pledge. [No. P 1360 of August 10, 1948]

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS NOT TO TAKE ALCOHOLIC DRINKS: WARNING BY BOMBAY GOVERNMENT

The Government of Bombay has called upon all Government servants to refrain from serving alcoholic drinks at official or semi-official parties given by them or taking alcoholic drinks in such places as hotels, restaurants, clubs, etc., where a number of persons gather for meals, refreshments, etc. The Government is going to take serious notice, if any Government servant is found taking alcoholic drinks in these places or going about in a drunken state.

As the detection of Excise crime is the responsibility of the Police, it is, the Government thinks, incumbent on the officers and men of the Police Force to abstain from drink. A severer view of the default committed by them would be taken in their case and if any member of the Police Force is found to be indulging in alcoholic drinks, drastic action will be taken against him, which might even result in his dismissal. [No. P 1253 of July 26, 1948]

RECREATION BOARD CONSTITUTED

A Recreation Board, comprising the following members, has been constituted by the Government of Bombay for the purpose of ensuring

an effective co-ordination of the recreational activities conducted at present by the various Departments, viz., Labour, Education and Industries and Prohibition.

Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction (Chairman); Mr. A. S. Iyengar, Director of Labour Welfare; Miss Indumati Sheth; Mr. P. J. Chinmulgund, I.C.S.; Mr. P. Y. Altekar; Mr. B. V. Varkerkar; Mr. B. R. Kulkarni; Mr. S. K. Patil and Mr. G. Mapara.

The Board will co-opt additional members, if necessary.

The functions of the Board will be (1) to provide equipment, facilities, etc., for recreational activities such as dramatic performances, cinema shows, visual instruction with particular reference to education, prohibition and labour welfare; provision of swimming pools, gymnasia, sports, music, nira or milk bars, bhajan parties, reading rooms, libraries, lectures, holiday homes for industrial labour and activities pertaining to labour welfare centres; and (2) to take steps to co-ordinate the administration of the above recreational activities under the Education and Industries, Labour and Prohibition Departments, and to make it function vigorously by advising the Departments on all necessary measures and action.

Mr. A. S. Iyengar, Director of Labour Welfare, will act as Secretary to the Board. [No. P 1275 of July 29, 1948]

RALLY OF PROHIBITION GUARDS

A rally of the Prohibition Guards of Greater Bombay was held on August 22 at Danda, a village very notorious for illicit distillation. Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction, was given a guard of honour by the Guards.

Addressing the Guards, the Minister asked them to work in the true spirit of social workers and help make the Prohibition Programme a success. He advised them not to be deterred by the threats and intimidations of illicit distillers and smugglers and assured them that the Government would do everything in its power to provide them with all facilities and protection in the discharge of their duties.

The villagers, who felt happy at the Minister's visit, pledged co-operation and help to the Prohibition Guards and other agencies employed by the Government for stamping out the drink evil. [No. N 460 of August 23, 1948]

RESEARCH INTO EFFECTS OF PROHIBITION: SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY IN RURAL AREAS

The Prohibition Department of the Government of Bombay has formulated a scheme of economic and social survey in the urban, rural and backward areas of the Province to gauge the effects of prohibition.

Investigations would be carried on under the direction of Prof. C. N. Vakil of the University School of Economics with a team of investigators. The Standing Committee of the Research and Statistics Sub-Committee has also secured the expert advice and co-operation of the Tata Institute of Science and Dr. N. S. R. Shastry, Director of Statistics of the Reserve Bank of India. Two groups of villages with a record of heavy and light consumption of toddy and country liquor would be selected for comparative sample investigations.

The Committee met on September 28 at the University School of Economics, with Prof. Vakil in the chair. The meeting discussed the plan of sample surveys and also decided to send out units of investigators amongst the Bhils, Warlis and Lamanis in the backward areas where field-work will have to be carried out with the collaboration of the local welfare agencies such as the Bhil Seva Mandal and the Adivasi Seva Mandal. The meeting, after full discussion, worked out the general plan of action under the survey scheme and settled the form of machinery that will have to be established to carry out the programme of survey. [No. N 519 of September 29, 1948]

PROHIBITION AND AYURVEDIC PHARMACIES

The Government of Bombay has appointed a committee to investigate the question of use of opium, ganja and bhang by Ayurvedic pharmacies and Vaidyas. Representations were made to the Government that the total stoppage of supply of bhang and ganja, in consequence of the introduction of Prohibition, affected the preparations of indigenous medicines. Only a small quantity of opium per quarter is supplied to them.

The Committee is to report before October 31, 1948.

The members of the Committee are Dr. B. B. Yodh, Dr. B. C. Lagu, Hakim S. I. S. Dehlavi (Hakim Kamil), Mr. Babubhai I. Gajjar, P. V. Dhamankar, Mr. Bindu Madhav Shastri and Dr. A. U. Shaikh (Deputy Commissioner of Excise).

Mr. B. V. Jaokar, Assistant Secretary, Provincial Prohibition Board, will act as Secretary to the Committee. [No. P 1560 of September 16, 1948]

CALENDAR OF CLOSURE DAYS TO BE APPLIED TO TODDY SHOPS: NEW ARRANGEMENT IN PROVINCE

The calendar of days of closure applied to country and foreign liquor shops and hemp drugs and opium depots will be applied to toddy shops and booths from August 1, under the new arrangements made by the Government of Bombay, in respect of the districts other than Ratnagiri and Ahmednagar, for which arrangements were separately announced some time ago. The new arrangements relate to the year 1948-49 and during this year the existing system of disposal of toddy licences will continue.

As regards the limit of possession, sale and transport of toddy, this has been fixed at half a gallon, ie., three reputed quart bottles in all the districts, as in the case of the Ahmednagar and Ratnagiri Districts, except in certain areas.

Uniform Tree Tax

The existing hours of sale of toddy which are from 6-30 A. M. to 8-30 P. M. will be continued during 1948-49, in order to have uniformity throughout the Province.

The practice of granting domestic consumption licences will be discontinued from August 1.

There will henceforth be a uniform rate of tree tax in each district. The existing highest rate of tree tax in the district will be made applicable to the whole of the district.

There will be a 50% cut in the number of trees tapped in the district during the year 1945-46. In no case, however, will the number of trees to be allotted for a shop or booth exceed the number of trees allotted before the district rationing of trees was put into force.

At present, the licensee of a toddy shop in a district is permitted to tap trees in another district for the supply of toddy to his shop. This concession will be discontinued from August 1 and the licensees will be allowed to tap trees only in the district in which the shops are situated [No. P 1205 of July 19, 1948]

LICENCE FEES FOR DENATURED SPIRIT

The Government of Bombay has decided that the fees for the licences for the retail sale of denatured spirit should be as follows, with effect from July 1: Greater Bombay Rs. 200 and the rest of the Province Rs. 50 [No. P 1151 of July 8, 1948]



Health and Medicine

7

Recommendations of the Committee appointed by the Government to report on the working of the Bombay Medical Practitioners' Act, 1938, with special reference to the constitution and powers of the Board of Indian Systems of Medicine have been published in the quarter under reference. Important among them are extension of the period of duration of the course of studies, improvement in the standard of post-graduate work, preparation of better text books, conduct of research in the Ayurvedic system, control on the manufacture of Ayurvedic preparations, establishment of dispensaries on Ayurvedic and Unani lines in small towns and taluka places, where no dispensaries exist at present.

The first year's results of the rural malaria control scheme in the Kanara and Dharwar Districts proved a great success and gave rise to the hope that the scourge of malaria would be iradicated from the Province eventually.

The price of quinine was reduced and the scheme for the supply of totaquina tablets at the rate of 200 tablets per annum to every registered Ayurvedic and Unani medical practitioner was continued for another year.

Free facilities for the diagnosis of typhoid such as examination of blood and faeces of patients at the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, were announced.

The decision of the Government of Bombay to establish an independent Dental Council for the Province was announced and a Registration Tribunal for the preparation of a register of dentists was constituted.

The pony and conveyance allowances payable to vaccinators in the selected and non-selected districts were fixed at the rate of a uniform permanent travelling allowance of Rs. 15 a month.

A committee was appointed to examine and report on the working of Government Mental Hospitals in the Province under the chairmanship of Lt.-Col. M.G. Bhandari.

An appeal for blood-donors was issued with a view to meeting the increasing demands for blood and plasma from various general hospitals in the Province.

RESEARCH IN AYURVEDIC SYSTEM: RECOMMENDATIONS OF ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

That the cost of teaching the Indian systems of medicine is not going to be any different from that of modern medicine should be appreciated by the Government and the public. The status and the standard of medical practitioners, to whatever system they belong, should be maintained at a high level, and they will therefore require similar facilities, is the view held by the Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay under the presidentship of Dr. Jivarj N. Mehta, M.L.A., who was later on succeeded by Dr. B. B. Yodh on account of the former having been appointed Director-General of Health Services in India.

The Committee had been asked to report on the working of the Bombay Medical Practitioners' Act, 1938 and on the amendments necessary with special reference to the constitution and powers of the Board of Indian Systems of Medicine and other kindred matters. The Committee was appointed in March 1947 and submitted its report in May 1948.

The Committee says the best of the present schools should be improved and brought to a much higher standard, if necessary by better Government grants. At least one school should be run in each regional division of the Province and the instruction and examinations should be entirely in the mother-tongue. The standard of admission should be raised to First Year Science with more knowledge of Sanskrit, adds the report.

Extension Of Course

The duration of the course, in the Committee's opinion, should be 4½ years. This will mean an increase of 1½ years over the present period, but of only six months over the period recommended by the first Board. The course should be re-cast on the lines of suggestions made by the Committee.

In order to attract brilliant boys, freestudentships and scholarships should be offered by Government to deserving students.

Far more stringent requirements have been recommended for the appointment of teachers. Their standard should be improved by provid-

ing post-graduate work for certificate courses in select institutions. Some scholarships may be provided for such courses in the institutions.

Rigid requirements for recognition of teaching institutions be laid down and followed and sanction of the Government for such recognition should be required as in the case of University colleges.

The ultimate aim, says the Committee, should be to affiliate these institutions to the University and the institutions will, therefore, have to come up to the standard of other colleges of the University. The earlier this is done, the better.

Preparation Of Text Books

The working out by persons from amongst the present teachers and some eminent outside scholars of a comprehensive scheme of preparation of text books is an urgent necessity and demands priority. This effort should receive substantial help from the Government and the publication of approved text books be arranged by the Government.

In the opinion of the Committee, it is necessary to branch out into an entirely new direction for doing research in the Ayurvedic system. Groups of recognised clinical conditions and their treatment will have to be studied by the Ayurvedic practitioners and modern medical practitioners together, along with a co-ordinated pharmacological study of the drugs used for the same. This will enable research workers to come to some conclusions regarding the theories of Indian systems and possibly the unproved theories of modern physiology.

Planning And Research

Considerable amount of planning will have to be undertaken and a scheme worked out by a small body of eminent Ayurvedic Pandits, medical men and research workers. These plans could then be approved by the Government, the necessary funds sanctioned and a 10 to 25 years' programme worked out. However, if any of the present institutions submit a scheme of research, which may be acceptable to the body mentioned above, it might be put through independently of the general scheme.

The modern medical colleges should have one branch of history of medicine added to their departments where the history of medicine, pertaining to Ayurvedic and Unani times and its development or otherwise later on, may be studied in co-operation with Ayurvedic and Unani scholars. Graduates and licentiates from medical colleges may avail

themselves of courses in Ayurved and Unani prescribed by the Board for their purpose. Later, Ayurved may form a subject for thesis for the M.D. or the Ph. D.

Control Of Manufactures

The report suggests that the manufacture of Ayurvedic preparations should be controlled from beginning to end, and it might be possible to apply the present Indian Drugs Act to a reasonable number of preparations which could be also standardised. This industry be put on a sound foundation, as soon as possible.

The Government has already subsidized medical practitioners of the Indian system of medicine. Dispensaries on Ayurvedic and Unani lines should be provided at small towns or taluka places, where no dispensaries exist at present and these practitioners should be appointed over a much wider area. They can be appointed also at cottage hospitals and combined units. Ayurvedic dispensaries can be run with the present civil dispensaries. Proper provision for supervision and inspection of these centres and dispensaries by qualified personnel of these systems should be made.

The Committee has also suggested that a separate department should be started under a separate officer to deal with all the functions relating to the Indian systems of medicine since, in its opinion, the absence of such a department is a great handicap at present.

Discontinuance Of Tibbia College

The present Tibbia College is in a deplorable condition and should not be allowed to continue. There is no appreciable demand for an institution of Unani medicine in this Province. The Government should, therefore, select a number of candidates who may be sent at Government expense to some well-known outside Unani institutions for training. After five years or so, when a good number of qualified Unani practitioners have come back, the idea of starting a full-fledged or a combined institution may be mooted again.

The register should be divided into two parts—one part consisting of persons who are connected with recognized teaching institutions or examinations and the other part consisting of all other practitioners.

The present Board should be reconstituted and should consist of 15 members on the lines suggested by the Committee. The functions of the Board should be registration, maintenance of ethics and recommending to

the Government qualifications for recognition for the purpose of registration.

The State Faculty should be re-constituted and should consist of 11 members, as detailed by the Committee.

The functions of the Faculty should be to prescribe the courses of training, to recommend recognition of teaching institutions and maintain their standard, to hold and regulate examinations and such other functions as those of an academic council of a university.

As regards the States, the Committee suggests that persons practising in the States on the date of merger should be enlisted under Section 18. Those with 20 years' practice in the merged States should be registered. A more perfect machinery for scrutinizing in detail the claims for registration or enlistment should be instituted. Registered refugees with three years' practice should be exempted under proviso to Section 32. Claims of persons who are said to have been left out of the previous registration might be scrutinized and if they satisfy the necessary conditions, their names might be entered in the list.

Out of all the categories, those who have passed an examination before 1942 from the teaching institutions in this Province which are recognized as such by the Board at present, should be registered and their examinations should be included in the Schedule, says the report.

If the institutions come up to the required standard, as laid down by the Committee, 60 per cent. of the non-recurring expenditure and 50 per cent. of the recurring expenditure should be borne by the Government, opines the Committee. The hospitals attached to these institutions should be considered as part of the teaching institutions and a recurrent grant on the basis of Rs. 700 per year for each average daily occupied bed or 50 per cent. of the total annual expenditure, whichever is less, should be granted by the Government. The grant for non-recurring expenditure for the hospital should be 50 per cent. [No. P 1421 of August 20, 1948]

CONTROL OF MALARIA WITH DDT SPRAY IN KANARA AND DHARWAR DISTRICTS

The first year's results of the large-scale and ambitious rural malaria control scheme in the Kanara and Dharwar Districts, introduced in June 1946 and formally inaugurated at a public meeting in Dharwar in September 1946 by the Premier of Bombay—at which a message of good wishes

from Mahatma Gandhi was read out—have proved so successful that they justify the hope that the scourge of malaria might be eventually eradicated out of the Province.

A total of 350 villages with a population of 443,062 was included in the scheme in the Dharwar district with a corresponding total of 514 villages with a population of 282,147 in the Kanara District. A population of about a million living in an area of 8,486 square miles derived benefits of the scheme of malaria control at an average cost of annas six per capita per annum. Five units with a medical officer and other medical, transport and spray personnel attached to each were employed and an annual budget of Rs. 3,84,000 was sanctioned against the actual cost of Rs. 3,75,334-4-10.

The formula of DDT spray employed was:

DDT Technical	100 lbs. (70-80 per cent. para para)
Medium Kerosene Extract	33 gallons
Soap Solution (20%)	3¾ gallons

The houses and cattle-sheds were sprayed thoroughly and the intervals between sprays varied from 6 weeks to 10 weeks. Insect collecting stations were set up to find out the effects of the spray on the densities of anopheles adults. An average reduction of 90% of fluviatilis in the sprayed areas in Kanara and 70% to 80% of culcificacies in Dharwar was noticed. These two species of mosquito are the vectors and causative factor of malarial incidence. The spray also destroyed other vermin including the bubonic plague fly. The fact that there has been rat-fall in the sprayed areas without however any case of human plague offers pointed evidence in support of the hypothesis that it would be possible to control plague as well as malaria with the use of the DDT spray when the seasons of the two epidemics coincide.

Effect On Cattle

It was also discovered that the spray rid the cattle of ticks and other vermin with improvement in their health. No evil effects have been observed either among men and domestic animals or among the labour handling the spray. The cumulative spleen rates in the sprayed and unsprayed villages in Kanara had been 14.4 and 72.2 per cent. respectively; in Dharwar they were 19.6 and 28.3, respectively. The parasite rates were 3.8 and 14.6, respectively, in Kanara and 4.4 and 7.5, respectively, in Dharwar. Infant parasite rates were 0.8 per cent in the sprayed villages and 13.3 per cent. in the unsprayed ones in Kanara and were 0 and 2.1 per cent. respectively in Dharwar.

The population in the two districts has, in response to the appeals of the Bombay Premier and the Minister of Health, extended cordial co-operation and the scheme proved so popular that there has throughout been a persistent clamour for inclusion in the scheme of villages in the areas that had to be excluded out of the scheme.

The programme of the malaria organization in Bombay Province has been cited as a model for the other provinces to follow. The DDT scheme introduced in the 2 out of 20 districts of the Province affects roughly 10% of the total provincial population. The Government of Bombay has sanctioned five malaria squads which have been engaged in carrying out surveys in the districts of Bijapur, Sholapur, Ahmedabad, Kaira and Nasik. When the surveys are completed, eight districts, including Thana, will have a complete programme of rural malaria control. [No. N 491 of September 15, 1948]

QUININE PRICE REDUCED

The Government of Bombay has fixed the price of the new stock of quinine ampoules at Re. 1-1-0 a box. The reduction in price is due to the lower cost price of the new arrivals. [No. P 1422 of August 20, 1948]

TOTAQUINA TABLETS

Sanction has been accorded to the continuance for one year more of the supply on payment of totaquina tablets, at the rate of 200 tablets per annum to each Ayurvedic and Unani medical practitioner registered under the Bombay Medical Practitioners' Act, 1938, who applies for the tablets. [No. P 1375 of August 12, 1948]

DIAGNOSIS OF TYPHOID: FREE FACILITIES AT HAFFKINE INSTITUTE

In May 1947, the Government of Bombay had announced that facilities were available at the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, for examination of blood and faeces of patients suffering from typhoid. But in spite of the fact that the examination was to be done free, registered medical practitioners in Bombay City have not been taking full advantage of these facilities of free diagnostic aid. The Government trusts that, in the interests of their patients and of the health of the City in general, registered medical practitioners in the City will now take all possible advantage of the facilities arranged for them. They will have to observe the following instructions:

Where there has been continuous fever for more than 48 hours, a blood smear should be sent at once to the Haffkine Institute for examination, and where the fever continues unabated for 5 days, this should be followed by a telephonic request to the Institute to depute its Medical Officer to take the blood of the patient for examination. The report of the examination of the blood smear is expected to be ready and communicated to the medical practitioner concerned within 24 hours of its receipt at the Institute, while the report of the blood culture would be ready two days after receipt of the blood samples at the Institute. [No. P 1287 of July 31, 1948]

BOMBAY TO HAVE DENTAL COUNCIL: REGISTRATION TRIBUNAL SET UP

The Government of Bombay has directed that the Province should have an independent Dental Council. A Registration Tribunal has been constituted for the purpose of preparing a register of dentists. The members of the Tribunal are Dr. V. M. Desai (Dean, Nair Hospital Dental College, Bombay), Dr. H. P. Moolgaonkar (Sir C. E. Dental College and Hospital) and Dr. J. A. Avasia (K. E. M. Hospital, Bombay).

The Registrar of the Bombay Medical Council will act as Registrar of the Tribunal.

The last date for applying for registration is September 13, 1949. The registration fee is fixed at Rs. 15. [No. P 1550 of September 15, 1948]

TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE FOR VACCINATORS

The Government of Bombay has converted the existing pony and conveyance allowances payable to vaccinators in the selected and non-selected districts into a uniform permanent travelling allowance of Rs. 15 a month.

The existing arrangements for sharing the expenditure between the local bodies and the Government will remain unaffected by the grant of this permanent allowance.

The vaccinators will also avail themselves of the increase of 50 per cent. in the permanent travelling allowance. [No. P 1477 of August 30, 1948]

COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE WORKING OF GOVERNMENT MENTAL HOSPITALS

The Government of Bombay has appointed a committee consisting of the following members to examine and report on the working of Government Mental Hospitals in the Province.

Lt.-Col. M. G. Bhandari, C.I.E. (Chairman); Dr. J. Alban D'Souza, M.L.A.; Dr. N. S. Vahia; Dr. K. A. Hamied, M.L.C.; Mr. P. R. Shah, M.L.A.; and Mr. S. T. More, M.L.A., (Member-Secretary).

The terms of reference of the Committee are to examine the working of the Government Mental Hospitals in the Province and to recommend such measures as may be considered necessary for the improvement of the administration of, and conditions in, such hospitals, with special reference to facilities for medical treatment, including occupational therapy, accommodation, diet, adequacy of existing staff and treatment of mental patients in such hospitals in general.

The Committee will also consider the question of rehabilitation of such persons as have no relatives, on their discharge from the hospitals. [No. P 1339 of August 6, 1948]

APPEAL TO BLOOD DONORS

Blood donors in large numbers are required to meet the increasing demand for blood and plasma from various general hospitals in the City and the Province.

All the philanthropic and humanitarian members of the public are requested to help in this humanitarian work by giving their blood at any of the following centres where arrangements have been made to collect blood from the donors on behalf of the Blood Transfusion Service and where they will be attended to promptly:-

1. Blood Bank at the Indian Red Cross Society's Office, Town Hall, Fort, 10-30 A.M. to 4-30 P.M. (Telephone No. 24468).

2. Blood Bank at the Haffkine Institute, Parel. 10-30 A.M. to 4-30 P.M. (Telephone No. 60084).
3. J. J. Hospital, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. (Telephone No. 42103).
4. G. T. Hospital, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. (Telephone No. 26773).
5. St. George's Hospital, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. (Telephone No. 20086).

It may be mentioned that persons giving their blood will not suffer from any ill-effects of any kind as a result of this donation. The donors who offer themselves for giving blood will be examined medically and only those who are found fit will be selected for blood donation. [No. N 498 of September 18, 1948]



Co-operation

8

The Minister for Finance, Co-operation and Village Industries outlined the important role which co-operative societies could play in increasing the food and cloth production, while inaugurating the Deccan Merged Areas Co-operative Conference and referred to the remarkable growth of the co-operative principle in recent years.

Co-operation, he said, had an important part to play in such matters of community weal as fair-price shops, sale of mill-made cloth, distribution of yarn, housing, joint farming and co-operative labour societies of the Adiwasis.

The Finance Minister declared his faith in the power of Co-operation to bring about the transfer of economic power, on which the people had set their heart. The leaders of the nation had appreciated, he added, the value of the Co-operative Movement in subserving the great purpose of building up a social order which stood for stability, efficiency and equality.

The Government accepted the recommendation of the Saraiya Committee and appointed a separate Provincial Co-operative Council, which will be a deliberative body for formulating plans of co-operative development and advising the Government on various questions relating to the Co-operative Movement generally.

Honorary organisers of co-operative societies will hereafter be appointed by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and Director of Agricultural Marketing and Rural Finance in consultation with the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Institute.

A proposal for Industrial Co-operatives and Village Industries to give guarantees to co-operative central financing agencies was approved by the Government.

Now tagai loans up to a maximum of Rs. 500 to members of co-operative societies who are agricultural debtors and who are parties to any proceedings or awards under the Bombay Agricultural Debtors' Relief Act will be granted for the purchase of bullocks.

The Bombay Co-operative Societies Rules, 1927, were amended with a view to making provision for the educational fund of the Provincial Co-operative Institute.

ROLE OF CO-OPERATION TO STEP UP FOOD AND CLOTH PRODUCTION IN MERGED AREAS

Inaugurating the session of the Deccan Merged Areas Co-operative Conference, Mr. Vaikunth L. Mehta, Finance Minister, Government of Bombay, congratulated the co-operative workers of Sangli on the lead they had taken in bringing together representatives of co-operative societies in the various State areas which had now become part of the Indian Union.

Comparing conditions in other smaller States in other parts of India with those in the Southern Mahratta country, Mr. Mehta observed that it was gratifying that in several parts of the region, co-operative societies of various types had been started, some of which were doing very well indeed. The Conference would enable those connected with these societies and the authorities to take stock of the situation and to prepare plans for the future.

Remarkable Growth

These plans would, the Finance Minister added, have to be in accordance with the general policy which had been accepted by the Government. The acceptance of this policy had led to a remarkable growth of the Co-operative Movement in the last year or two. The number of co-operative societies had risen by nearly a thousand between the 15th of August 1947 and 1948, a figure not reached on any occasion previously. But even more striking was the variety of co-operative institutions that had been organized. Consumers' co-operative societies which now numbered 607 had received a great stimulus because of the role the Government had accorded to them in the work of distribution of price-controlled commodities.

In the running of fair-price shops, the sale of mill cloth and the distribution of yarn, co-operative consumers' societies would have to play,

Mr. Mehta emphasised, an even more important part than they had done in the past. Similarly, subscribing as they did to the utility to the nation of decentralized production, the Government had granted several concessions, privileges and facilities to industrial co-operative societies which now numbered over 500 in the Province.

For the larger urban industrial areas, co-operative housing was to constitute, he indicated, an integral part of the housing programme of the Government. During the course of the recent discussions on the revision of the Tenancy Act, the Government had announced its desire to promote approved schemes of joint farming and it had already taken preliminary steps in the direction. Lastly, Mr. Mehta drew attention to the need to promote co-operative labour societies among Adivasis to free them from exploitation by contractors who had been responsible for their backwardness.

Co-operation, A Force

In the first year of Independence, Mr. Mehta remarked, the country had great achievements to its credit, but what was important was to ensure that the progress they were making was in the right direction and in consonance with the ideals that they cherished. For instance, they did not believe, according to Mr. Mehta, that in New India they would march along the road to social justice and economic uplift by the pursuit of methods which engendered violent conflict and bred ill-will and hatred among various sections of society. On the other hand, they believed that co-operation in the fullest sense of the word was a force that possessed inherent strength and vitality to bring about the transfer of economic power which they all sought to achieve. It was because the leaders of the nation appreciated the value of the Co-operative Movement in subserving the great purpose of building up a social order which stood for stability, efficiency and equality that they had decided, Mr. Mehta pointed out, by the acceptance of the plans formulated by the Economic Programme Committee, to promote co-operative efforts in all aspects of the national economic life. This programme envisaged the working out of the principles of democracy in the economic sphere by promoting the decentralization of economic activity over as large a sector as possible and by fostering the desire and the capacity of individuals and groups to combine, through their own self-governing enterprises, to serve a common end. Progress might be slow and difficulties might be numerous but, said Mr. Mehta, the planning would be truly democratic and would help to bring out the best that lay in the humblest of the units constituting society.

The Immediate Needs

"In any planning for which we go in, we have to place," Mr. Mehta said, "in the forefront the immediate needs of the community." Among those needs, he added, the one that claimed more attention than others was the production of food in increasing quantities. As was emphasised at the recent conference of Ministers of Agriculture of various Provinces held at New Delhi early that month, co-operative societies of all descriptions should be called upon to interest themselves in raising more food and Provincial Governments should devote particular attention to creating and strengthening co-operative organisations for that purpose.

Mr. Mehta advised co-operative workers in the merged areas of the Deccan States to take counsel in this respect, to formulate plans for stimulating food production through the co-operative agency, and to bestir themselves in implementing such plans. A cognate matter, he observed, was the encouragement of the production of cloth locally for the requirements of the population in the countryside. The promotion of hand-spinning and handloom weaving through co-operative societies should, he urged, be taken in hand all over this area. [No. N 510 of September 25, 1948]

BODY FOR FORMULATING CO-OPERATIVE PLANS

The Government of Bombay has accepted the recommendation of the Saraiya Committee and has appointed a separate Provincial Co-operative Council. This Council will be a deliberative body for formulating plans of co-operative development generally and to advise the Government on various questions relating to the Co-operative Movement.

The Council will consist of the Executive Committee of the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Institute together with the following representatives, nominated and ex-officio members:—

(1) One representative for each of the four provincial co-operative institutions, i.e., the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Bank, Limited, the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Marketing Society, Limited, the Bombay Co-operative Insurance Society and the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, Limited,

(2) One representative of the Bombay Provincial Industrial Co-operative Association,

(3) One representative of housing societies, rural and urban,

(4) Three members of the Bombay Legislative Assembly representing the three Revenue Divisions, viz., (i) Mr. L. M. Shrikant, M.L.A., (ii) Mr. V. P. Pawar, B.A., LL.B., M.L.A., (iii) Mr. S. R. Kanthi, B.A., LL.B., M.L.A.,

(5) One member of the Bombay Legislative Council—Mr. S. D. Patil, M.L.C.,

(6) One economist—Prof. C. N. Vakil,

(7) The Chairman of the Village Industries Committee,

(8) The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, ex-officio,

(9) The Secretary to Government, Finance Department, ex-officio,

(10) The Secretary to Government, Agriculture and Rural Development Department, ex-officio,

(11) The Registrar of Co-operative Societies and Director of Co-operative Societies and Director of Agricultural Marketing and Rural Finance, ex-officio, and

(12) The Joint Registrar for Industrial Co-operatives and Village Industries.

The Chairman of the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Institute will be the Chairman of the Council and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and Director of Agricultural Marketing and Rural Finance will be the Secretary of the Council. [No. P 1327 of August 5, 1948]

HONORARY CO-OPERATIVE ORGANISERS: PROCEDURE OF APPOINTMENT

The continuance of the system of taluka honorary organisers and district honorary organisers of co-operative societies has been sanctioned by the Government of Bombay.

Actual appointments in future will, however, be made by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and Director of Agricultural Marketing and Rural Finance in consultation with the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Institute, ordinarily from among the members of the district co-operative boards and committee members of the taluka supervising unions, respectively. [No. P 1607 of September 23, 1948]

HONORARY LADY ORGANISERS

The Honorary Lady Organisers appointed by the Government of Bombay for propaganda work in connection with the Co-operative Movement among women will continue to work upto February 28, 1949. [No. P 1317 of August 4, 1948]

FINANCING OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVES

In view of the lack of adequate capital guarantee funds and tangible collateral security, which primary industrial co-operative societies can command while borrowing from co-operative central financing agencies including the Provincial or District Industrial Co-operative Associations, the Government of Bombay has approved a proposal for Industrial Co-operatives and Village Industries to give guarantees to such co-operative central financing agencies against possible unavoidable losses which they may sustain on account of the financing of such primary industrial co-operative societies which are unable to provide the necessary safety margin which these agencies might consider reasonably necessary in the interest of security of their advances.

The Joint Registrar has, therefore, been authorised to give such guarantees on behalf of the Government to the co-operative central financing agencies including the Provincial and District Industrial Co-operative Associations on certain conditions, the most important of which are that the amount of guarantee in each individual case should not ordinarily exceed Rs. 3,000 but in exceptional cases it may be raised to Rs. 5,000 and that the total amount of such guarantees should not exceed Rs. 3 lakhs during the current financial year (1948-49) and Rs. 5 lakhs during next financial year (1949-50), at the end of which the position will be reviewed. [No. P 1303 of August 2, 1948].

TAGAI LOANS TO PURCHASE BULLOCKS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

Tagai loans up to a maximum of Rs. 500 will be granted for purchase of bullocks to members of co-operative societies who are agricultural debtors and who are parties to any proceedings or awards under the Bombay Agricultural Debtors' Relief Act. The prior consent of the Assistant Registrar will not be necessary for grant of such loans, provided the society concerned does not object to such a grant.

Similarly, the Government has directed that tagai loans to members of co-operative societies under "A" or "B" class should be granted by the Revenue Officers, provided the conditions mentioned in Rules 3, 4(a) and 9 of the Co-operative Societies Agricultural Loans Rules published under Government Notification No. A-57, dated July 4, 1922, are fulfilled. [No. P 1198 of July 16, 1943]

RULES GOVERNING CO-OPERATIVE TRIBUNALS

The Government of Bombay has prepared rules governing the constitution of Bombay Co-operative Tribunals. These rules prescribe that a Tribunal shall consist of a President and two other members. The President shall be a person who has been a Judge of any High Court of Judicature in India or a retired District Judge or a person who has held the post of Registrar of Co-operative Societies in any Provincial Government in India. The other two members shall be non-officials closely associated with the Co-operative Movement and at least one of these two shall be a lawyer with a standing of not less than 10 years.

They will hold office ordinarily for a period of five years. [No. P 1622 of September 24, 1948]

CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTE'S EDUCATIONAL FUND: RULES AMENDED

The Government of Bombay has amended the Bombay Co-operative Societies Rules, 1927, so as to make provision for the educational fund of the Provincial Co-operative Institute.

Under the new rule introduced (26 A), every society paying a dividend to its members at a rate of 4 per cent. or more shall have to contribute towards this fund. The rate of contribution is 1 per cent. of the net profits of the year, in case the rate of dividend is 4 per cent., 1 1/4 per cent., in case the rate of dividend is more than 4 per cent. but less than 5 per cent. and 1 1/2 per cent., in case the rate of dividend is more than 5 per cent. but not more than 6 1/4 per cent.

The societies making profits not exceeding Rs. 200 a year will not have to make any contribution to the fund.

The original (26A) Rule has been renumbered as (26B). [No. P 1433 of August 21, 1948]

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES' RULES

The Government has redrawn Rule 29 of the Bombay Co-operative Societies' Rules, 1927, pertaining to the levy of audit fees.

The revised rule enables the Registrar to levy audit fees on all or any type of societies at such rates as may be fixed with the previous sanction of the Provincial Government.

The Registrar shall employ the proceeds of such audit fees in maintaining a staff to audit the accounts of the societies. Such audit fees are made recoverable under Section 65 of the Bombay Co-operative Societies' Act, 1925. [No. P 1625 of September 25, 1948]



Fisheries

9

The Government of Bombay sanctioned loans to fishermen for the purchase, repairs, etc. of fishing, nets, boats and other equipment and also decided to continue the Fisheries School at Ankola in the North Kanara District till April 25, 1950.

IMPETUS TO FISHING INDUSTRY: LOANS FOR BUILDING CRAFT

With a view to encouraging fishermen to build power-propelled fishing boats under their own supervision, the Government of Bombay has modified its Post-War Reconstruction Scheme regarding grant of loans and subsidies for the adoption of improved types of fishing craft.

Under the modified scheme, hulls will be built by co-operative associations of fishermen, whose designs, specifications, etc., will be approved by the Department of Fisheries. Loans will be given by the Government for this purpose to meet a part of the cost but not exceeding half the cost.

The engines will be supplied by the Director of Fisheries, if available, half the cost of which will be treated as subsidy and the other half as loan on the usual conditions. [No. P 1497 of September 2, 1948]

LOANS FOR FISHERMEN

The Government of Bombay has granted loans to 12 fishermen of various districts for the purchase and repairs of fishing nets, boats and other equipment.

The amount involved is Rs. 20,750 and the loans to individuals range from Rs. 700 to Rs. 3,000. [No. P 1442 of August 24, 1948]

FISHERIES SCHOOL AT ANKOLA

Sanction has been accorded to the continuance of the Fisheries School at Ankola in the North Kanara District upto April 25, 1950. [No. P 1210 of July 19, 1948]



10

In order to effect a smooth and efficient administration of the Sales Tax Act and generally to make suggestions with a view to the removal of procedural anomalies and legitimate grievances, the Government of Bombay appointed a Committee. The Committee was also expected to assist in the prevention and minimisation of the evasion of the tax.

SALES TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE SET UP

The Government of Bombay has appointed a committee to assist it in the smooth and efficient administration of the Sales Tax Act.

The Committee, which will make suggestions generally in regard to the removal of procedural anomalies and legitimate grievances, will also assist the Commissioner of Sales Tax in devising measures to prevent and minimise the evasion of the tax.

The Committee will not, however, be competent to deal with questions of internal organisation of the Sales Tax Department.

The members of the Committee are: The Commissioner of Sales Tax (Chairman), the Deputy Commissioner of Sales Tax (Vice-Chairman), Mr. Sunderdas Morarji, Mr. B. V. Tambe, Mr. R. A. Khedgikar, M.L.A., Mr. Khimji M. Bhujporia, Mr. Haji Noor Mohomed, M.L.A., Mr. A. S. Thakore, Mr. Babubhai Patel, M.L.A., Mr. D. V. Potdar, Mr. Jivanrao Yalgi, Khan Bahadur J. B. Vachha and Mr. H. C. M. Rana. [No. P 1523 of September 10, 1948]



Local Self-Government

11

Government's keen desire to revitalise the village panchayats by rehabilitating and replenishing their finances, in accord with Mahatma Gandhi's wishes, was reiterated by Mr. G. D. Vartak, Minister for Local Self-Government, replying to a welcome address presented to him at Dahanu recently. He traced the history of the growth and decline of these panchayats—these "little republics", as they were called by Mount Stuart Elphinstone over a century ago—and referred to the concerted efforts of India's British rulers to strip them systematically of their influence and power as instruments of rural welfare. The Government was, he asserted, determined to reverse that position and put them in their former beneficent position.

In this quarter, a Bill was prepared and published in the "Gazette" to enable the Bombay Municipal Corporation to raise the maximum limit of the General Tax from 17 per cent. of the rateable value of properties to 21 per cent. in view of the very great increase in unavoidable current expenditure and the development programme contemplated by the Corporation. The Bill also provides for the right of appeal in proceedings relating to such assessment of municipal taxes.

It was also proposed to provide for the appointment of a Municipal Commissioner for the Greater Poona region and the necessary legislation was published in the official "Gazette."

VILLAGE PANCHAYATS AS MINIATURE REPUBLICS: THEIR ROLE IN EFFECTING SALVATION OF 22,000 VILLAGES

"Mahatma Gandhi had fully visualised the importance of village panchayats in Free India and the Bombay Government has derived its inspiration from him in amending the Bombay Village Panchayats Act with a view to revitalising these Panchayats and giving them sufficient powers and financial help to enable them properly to organise the life of the nearly 22,000 villages of Bombay Province", declared Mr. G. D. Vartak, Minister for Local Self-Government, in reply to an address presented to him by the Village Panchayats of Dahanu and Kalyan when he visited Dahanu recently.

Mr. Vartak traced the history of the Village Panchayats which, he said, occupied a very important place in the life of the people before the advent of British rule in India. These bodies, he said, were the real centres of power in every village. Mount Stuart Elphinstone had described them as 'Small Republics'. The Britishers saw that these bodies were a potential danger to their rule and they, therefore, systematically stripped the Panchayats of their power and neutralized their influence. The Government of Bombay has decided to re-establish the Village Panchayats on a sound basis and turn them into instruments of welfare of the villagers and it was with this object in view that the Government had decided to allot 15 per cent. of the total land revenue to these Village Panchayats, the Minister explained. This, he added, should give satisfaction to the villagers that the money paid by them as taxes was being returned to them.

The Political Situation

Reviewing the political situation in the country, Mr. Vartak pleaded for proper understanding of the efforts made by the Provincial and Central Governments to mitigate the hardships of the people, despite various handicaps. He appealed to the people of the Dahanu Taluka which, he said, was one of the chief rice-growing talukas, to exert themselves to the fullest.

Addressing the students of the K. L. Ponda High School at Dahanu, Mr. Vartak reminded them of their great responsibility and the part they were going to play in the consolidation of democracy. He referred to the backwardness of the Adiwasis of the Thana District and appealed to the students to serve the noble cause of mass literacy. He suggested that they might utilize their vacation in serving the Adiwasis of the Dahanu Taluka.

The Minister also inaugurated the Students' Parliament. The Secretary of the School thanked the Minister. [No. N 418 of July 30, 1948]

MINISTER VISITS L.S.G. INSTITUTE'S PRESS

"The Congress Ministry has promoted the interests of Local Self-Government institutions by assigning 15% of the land revenue and incurring considerable expenditure over meeting the requirements of water supply and approach roads," said Mr. G. D. Vartak, Minister for Local Self-Government, in reply to the address given to him by the District Local Board of the Bombay Suburban District, 7 Village Panchayats, 3 Notified Area Committees and the Versova Beach Sanitary Committee, on July 31 at Andheri.

"In addition to this, the Government has decided to assign 75% of the non-agricultural assessment collected by the municipalities in their areas

in addition to the Government grant towards payment of dearness allowance to their employees," the Minister said.

He added that the local bodies and the general public would be given an opportunity of offering their suggestions when the proposals of the Greater Bombay Scheme were finally published.

The address, which was read out by the President of the District Local Board of the B. S. D., enumerated the numerous helpful measures adopted by the Minister to rehabilitate the finances of the local bodies and welcomed the Government's decision to convert the notified area committees into municipalities. Mr. Indravadan Oza, President of the District Congress Committee, and several other speakers also addressed the gathering.

The Minister inaugurated the press established by the Local Self-Government Institute. He promised all possible assistance and facilities in the working of the press. He also expressed the hope that the press would be used for training purposes. [No. N 422 of August 2, 1948]

MUNICIPAL TAXATION LIMIT TO BE RAISED: AMENDMENT TO BOMBAY CITY MUNICIPAL ACT

The maximum limit to which the Bombay Municipal Corporation may levy the General Tax is proposed to be raised from 17 per cent. of the rateable value of properties to 21 per cent. The rate at which the tax is being levied at present is 14 per cent. leaving a margin of only three per cent. for meeting emergency expenditure or for financing development schemes. On the basis of the existing rateable values, this represents a potential annual income of Rs. 48 lakhs or so, which is considered insufficient in view of the very great increase in unavoidable current expenditure and the development programme contemplated by the Corporation. And, hence the need for raising the taxation limit.

The necessary Bill amending the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, and the City of Bombay Municipal (Supplementary) Act, 1888 has been prepared and published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of September 2.

The other important provisions of the Bill are: (1) The Improvements Committee and the Schools Committee are empowered to bring before a meeting of the Corporation any matter not specified in the agenda as urgent business, with the consent of three-fourths of the Councillors present at the meeting. At present only the Standing Committee and the Municipal Commissioner are vested with this power.

Right Of Appeal

(2) Provision has been made for an appeal to the High Court in proceedings relating to the assessment of properties to municipal taxes. Hitherto, the Chief Judge of the Small Causes Court has been deciding such appeals. He was, however, empowered to refer a question of law for the decision of the High Court. But it was found that advantage of this power was rarely taken by the Chief Judge, and his decision on questions of assessment, when no such reference was made, was final and not subject to review by the High Court. The amending law makes a provision for such a reference to the High Court on the application of any party to an assessment appeal. Provision has also been made for an appeal to the High Court from any decision of the Chief Judge fixing a rateable value in excess of Rs. 2,000.

(3) The use of residential premises for non-residential purposes, without permission, is sought to be prohibited. This amendment was necessitated by the frequent occurrence of fires in residential localities owing to the use of residential buildings for factories and for storage of dangerous materials.

(4) The limit of fine to which a person found in possession of food for sale which appears to be diseased, unsound, unwholesome or unfit for human consumption may be subjected, is proposed to be raised from Rs. 100 to Rs. 500.

(5) The Corporation has been empowered to make the necessary provision in the building bye-laws so as to ensure that staircases of a building are of sufficient width and that proper access is available from all parts of the building to means of exit in an emergency.

(6) A new clause has been inserted empowering the Corporation to frame suitable bye-laws to regulate the conveyance of fish. At present, fish is conveyed through public streets in open baskets. The practice is not only objectionable from the health point of view but offends the susceptibilities of certain classes of population.

(7) In view of the rise of more than 300 per cent. in the cost of road maintenance since 1938-1939, the maximum rates for the levy of tax on vehicles and animals are to be revised. The revised rates involve an increase of between 50 per cent. and 100 per cent. in the case of motor vehicles. In the case of other vehicles and animals, little or no increase is proposed. The actual rates to be levied in any particular year, however, will be fixed by the Corporation. If the tax is levied at the maximum rates, the Municipality will, it is estimated, receive an additional annual income of about six lakhs of rupees. [No. P 1510 of September 4, 1948]

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE GRANTS TO LOCAL BODIES

The Government of Bombay has directed that the Local Authority Municipalities should be paid the full share of the dearness allowance payable by the Government, irrespective of the rate of grant paid by Local Authority Municipalities to their aided schools, on condition that the additional amount received by the Local Authority Municipalities from Government on this account is wholly spent by them on increasing the grant paid to the aided schools for dearness allowance to teachers serving in those schools and that the Local Authority Municipalities and the aided schools concerned do not reduce the expenditure which they are incurring at present on this head. [No. P 1615 of September 24, 1948]

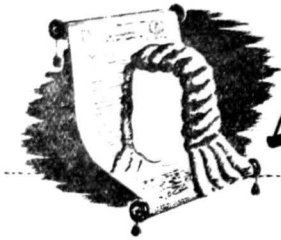
MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER FOR POONA: STEP TOWARDS SETTING UP CORPORATION

To implement the Government's policy of establishing a Municipal Corporation for the Greater Poona region, steps are being taken to provide for the appointment of a Municipal Commissioner for the executive administration of municipal affairs in the Poona City Municipal Borough and the Poona Suburban Municipal Borough. The necessary legislation has been prepared and published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of September 20.

Under the proposed Act, called the Poona City and Poona Suburban Municipal Boroughs (Appointment of Municipal Commissioner) Act, the Municipal Commissioner is given all the powers exercisable by a Chief Officer of a Borough Municipality and, in addition, all powers of an executive character exercisable by the Standing Committee or the Municipality under the Bombay Municipal Boroughs Act, 1925. The corresponding powers are exercised in the City of Bombay by the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay. The provision is based on Section 186 G of the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901.

The Municipal Commissioner is empowered to take the necessary action in an emergency even if it is in excess of his normal powers. Similar provision exists in Section 64 (3) (c) of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888.

Provision is made in the Act enabling the Poona City and the Poona Suburban Municipalities to continue the Chief Officers of the two Municipalities as Assistant Municipal Commissioners for their respective areas. [No. P 1591 of September 21, 1948]



With a view to reducing the cost of civil litigation and lightening the burden which the trial of Sessions cases entailed on the High Court, the Government had last year decided to set up a City Civil and a Sessions Court in Bombay. This decision was given effect to on August 16.

The Government also accepted the recommendations of a Committee set up to inquire into the question of jail reform in the Province.

In response to public demand, it was decided to retain permanently the Senior Division Civil Judge's Court at Hubli as an experimental measure for a period of one year from June 5, 1944, with subsequent extensions of this period.

A month's remission of sentences was granted to all convicts in commemoration of Independence Day on August 15.

Speaking at a tea party given by the Government to the newspaper editors who were in Bombay in connection with the annual session of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference, the Premier gave them an assurance of Government's anxiety not to invade the freedom of the Press and urged them to maintain a high standard of journalism in the country.

An appeal to the people of the merged States to surrender their arms was issued and it was made clear that drastic action would be taken against those found in possession of unlicensed arms after the expiry of the specified period.

With a view to making provisions for ensuring the efficient conduct of transport and electric supply services in Bombay City, the City of Bombay Municipal Act was proposed to be suitably amended and two new statutory bodies set up for the purpose.

Action continued to be taken against factory-owners for smoke nuisance.

A number of papers and publications were banned and some others declared forfeited.

BOMBAY CITY CIVIL COURT STARTS FUNCTIONING

The Government of Bombay has decided to establish the Bombay City Civil and Sessions Courts from Monday, August 16, in the High Court extension building and bring into force the relevant Acts on the same date.

With a view to reducing the cost of civil litigation and lightening the heavy burden which the trial of Sessions cases entailed on the High Court, it was decided last year to establish in Greater Bombay a city civil and a sessions court. To give effect to this decision, the following Acts were passed by the Bombay Legislature during the last session:

(1) The Bombay City Civil Court Act, 1948; (2) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1948; (3) The Court-fees (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1948; (4) The Bombay High Court Letters Patents (Amendment) Act, 1948; (5) The Legal Practitioners (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1948; and (6) The Presidency Small Cause Courts (Bombay Amendment) Act, 1948.

It was provided in these Acts that they would come into force on such date as the Government might by a notification in the official "Gazette" appoint. All the preliminaries necessary for the functioning of these courts having been completed, the Government has decided to establish the Bombay City Civil and Sessions Courts with effect from August 16, 1948 in the High Court extension building and bring into force the above Acts on the same date. The necessary notifications in this behalf and rules framed by the High Court for these courts are being published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" Extraordinary, dated August 14, 1948.

Sessions Cases

As a result of the establishment of these courts, all suits and proceedings of a civil nature not exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value and the sessions cases in Greater Bombay which were hitherto tried by the High Court will henceforth be tried in these courts. The admiralty, testament-

ary, matrimonial and insolvency jurisdiction of the High Court, however, remains unaffected as also the jurisdiction conferred upon the High Court under any special law other than the letters patent.

Mr. M. B. Honavar, District and Sessions Judge, has been appointed as Principal Judge and Sessions Judge and Messrs. Karl J. Khandalawalla, J. M. Shelat and J. C. Bhatt, members of the High Court Bar, have been appointed as Judges and Additional Sessions Judges of these courts. [No. P 1292 of August 13, 1948]

EXTERNMENT OF GAMBLERS: POLICE ACTS TO BE AMENDED

The City of Bombay Police Act, 1902, and the Bombay District Police Act, 1890, are proposed to be amended so as to make provision for the externment of persons convicted under Section 4 or 12-A of the Bombay Prevention of Gambling Act, 1887. The amending Bill is being published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of September 14.

A provision is being made in the Bombay District Police Act for the externment of persons with two previous convictions under certain sections of the Bombay Beggars Act, 1945, and the Bombay Prevention of Prostitution Act, 1923, and of persons with three convictions within a period of three years under Section 4 or 12-A of the Bombay Prevention of Gambling Act. Such a provision already exists in the City of Bombay Police Act.

Section 127 of the City of Bombay Police Act is being amended, providing for enhanced punishment to hawkers for a term extending to one month, or with fine extending to Rs. 200, or with both. For a subsequent offence, a term of imprisonment extending to six months and a fine extending to Rs. 500 are prescribed. [No. P 1545 of September 14, 1948]

AMENDING THE INDIAN TRAMWAYS ACT

A Bill to amend the Indian Tramways Act, 1886, in its application to the Province of Bombay, has been published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of August 6.

As the law stands at present, it is not legally feasible for the Government under the Indian Tramways Act, 1886, to grant permission to an individual or a corporate body to lay a tramway or a railway across or

along a public road for private use. Even the Government itself is not competent to lay tramway or railway lines across or along a public highway for its own purposes to the exclusion of public traffic.

In order, therefore, to enable the Government to grant the requisite permission for the laying of a tramway or railway across or along a public highway, when it is considered necessary to do so, it is expedient that Government should be vested with such powers and hence the Bill. [No. P 1342 of August 6, 1948]

DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR PROTECTING KHAR LANDS: NEW BILL FOR LEGISLATURE

The establishment of a Board, called the Khar Lands Development Board, is proposed in a Bill to be brought before the next session of the Bombay Legislature. The Bill which is published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of August 27, provides for the protection and improvement of Khar lands and the reclamation of tidal lands in the Province of Bombay by the construction and maintenance of embankments. [No. P 1472 of August 30, 1948]

COPIES OF BOMBAY RENTS AND HOTEL RATES ACT

Arrangements have been made for making available for sale copies of the Bombay Rents, Hotel and Lodging House Rates Control (Amendment) Act, 1948 at the offices of Collectors and Revenue offices in the districts where the Act is applied. Copies of the Act are also available at the Government Book Depot, Charni Road Gardens, Bombay. [No. P 1441 of August 24, 1948]

AMENDMENT TO WEIGHTS & MEASURES ACT

In order to prevent the various malpractices in the use of weights and measures and weighing and measuring instruments, and to enable the Government to make rules regarding the method of using them generally or for a specified class of trade, it is proposed to amplify the scope of the Bombay Weights and Measures Act, 1932, by an amending legislation, which is being published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of September 14.

A new sub-section (41-4) is being inserted in the Act enabling the Government to prescribe penalties for breach of certain rules made thereunder. [No. P 1546 of September 14, 1948]

ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES AND CATTLE CONTROL ACT TO BE EXTENDED

The life of the Bombay Essential Commodities and Cattle (Control) Act is sought to be extended by two years, from October 1 next. The necessary amending Bill has been published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of August 30.

The Act is due to expire on September 30 next. [No. P 1471 of August 30, 1948]

BOMBAY MUNICIPAL ACT AMENDMENT

A Bill to amend the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888 is being published in "The Bombay Government Gazette," dated August 24. [No. P 1445 of August 24, 1948]

COURTS IN MERGED STATES

It has come to the notice of the Government of Bombay that the people in the merged States of Gujarat and Deccan are experiencing some difficulties for want of proper information about courts in which suits should be filed by them.

The public of the former Gujarat States are, therefore, informed that the State Courts in the jurisdictional States continue to function till new courts are established. Accordingly, all suits, etc. in these areas (former States) should be filed in the respective State Courts.

As regards the non-jurisdictional States that have directly merged and been included in the limits of Kaira, Panch Mahals and Ahmedabad Districts, the respective Courts of Civil Judges of the Senior Division in the said districts have been empowered to entertain all suits, etc., while the District Magistrates have been directed to receive all criminal complaints from the territories that are included in their respective districts.

As regards the Courts in the Banas Kantha and Mahi Kantha Districts, the question of establishing civil courts in these districts is under the consideration of the Government and orders will be issued shortly. As regards the former jurisdictional States like Palanpur, Radhanpur and Idar, the old existing courts are continued till further orders as in the Deccan States.

Filing Of Civil Suits

In the other areas, criminal complaints may be filed before the District Magistrates of the respective districts. The filing of civil suits will have to be postponed till new Civil Courts are established; but a suitable provision will be made by the Government for saving suits and the law of limitation, so far as the period between June 10, 1948 and the date of the establishment of new courts is concerned.

As regards the Deccan States, the existing courts continue to function till new ones are established. Accordingly, till new courts are established, suits should be filed in the subordinate courts or the District Courts, as the case may be, of the States concerned. Criminal complaints may be filed before the Magistrates having jurisdiction in the area.

All appeals against the decisions of the District Judges from the State Courts lie to the High Court of Judicature at Bombay. [No. P 1265 of July 29, 1948]

PLEADERS ACT AND INTEGRATED STATES: APPLICATION DEFERRED

It has been represented to the Government that the application of the Bombay Pleaders Act, 1920, the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926, and the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, to the areas of the States that have been integrated with Bombay Province will cause certain hardships to the pleaders practising in the courts of those States. The Government feels that the difficulties put forth by the pleaders in the integrated States are real and that it would be proper to defer the application of the three Acts to those States to a future date in order to give sufficient time for making the necessary adjustments. Orders have been issued amending the Indian States (Application of Laws) Orders, so as to make the above-mentioned Acts applicable from January 1 next. [No. P 1512 of September 9, 1948]

COURT FEES AND STAMP DUTY IN MERGED STATES

Consequent on the application of the Indian Stamp Act and the Court Fees Act to the State areas merged in Bombay Province from September 15, 1948, the duties and fees under these Acts will be collected according to rates prevalent in the Province. All the existing local regulations pertaining to stamp duties and court fees will, therefore, cease from that date. All instruments executed on or after September 15 will have to be drawn on stamps issued by the Government of Bombay. The public should note that the rates of duty for certain documents relating to properties in urban and non-urban areas are different. In addition, the 50% surcharge in duty under the Indian Stamp Act and 25% surcharge in fees under the Court Fees Act, is leviable in all areas.

Those who have purchased such old stamps but could not use them for the purpose for which they were purchased should get the refund thereof before September 15. No refund or exchange is allowable in cases in which stamps obtained for use under the old law have been rendered useless in consequence of the subsequent changes in law. [No. P 1529 of September 11, 1948]

JAIL REFORM IN BOMBAY PROVINCE: COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS ACCEPTED

Classification of prisoners into two classes, instead of three as at present, and imparting of agricultural training to prisoners in improved methods are among the recommendations made by the Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay in September 1946 to consider the question of effecting improvements in jail administration and for suggesting suitable reforms. The Government has accepted nearly all the recommendations made by the Committee.

The members of the Committee were Mr. (now His Excellency) Mangaldas Pakvasa, President of the Bombay Legislative Council, Mr. (now the Honourable) N. V. Gadgil, M.L.A. (Central), Mr. R. B. Ghorpade, M.L.A., Mr. D. P. Karmarkar, M.L.A. (Central), Miss Indumati C. Sheth, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier of Bombay, and the Inspector-General of Prisons, Province of Bombay. Mr. Mangaldas Pakvasa was the Chairman of the Committee and the Inspector-General of Prisons its Secretary.

The terms of reference were (a) to examine the existing provisions of the law and the rules relating to jail administration in the Province and to suggest changes with a view to improving the methods of dealing

with the prisoners in jail, with special reference, among other things, to their training in useful and productive crafts and imparting to them literacy and adult education which will enable them to be useful and economically self-reliant members of society; and (b) to make recommendations which may be germane to the above.

Some Recommendations

The Committee submitted its report to the Government in August 1947. The report has been carefully examined by the Government and nearly all the recommendations made by the Committee have been accepted. Some of the important recommendations of the Committee which have been accepted by the Government are (1) the classification of prisoners into two classes, namely, I and II, as against the present three classes of 'A', 'B' and 'C', (2) the opening of a well-equipped Central Workshop at the Yeravda Central Prison for training prisoners in different technical lines, (3) the setting up of a model farm at the Visapur Prison for imparting agricultural training to prisoners in improved methods of agriculture, (4) the release on furlough, for short periods, of well-behaved, non-habitual prisoners sentenced to more than one year who have not been convicted of robbery or dacoity, or whose presence is not considered as dangerous or prejudicial to public peace and tranquility; (5) the training of the jail staff, (6) the imparting of literacy to, and adult education of, prisoners; (7) grant of more privileges to prisoners including the right to purchase bidis, the opportunity to earn money by extra work and more frequent interviews, etc. and (8) aid to released prisoners, including the task of finding suitable employment for them.

Some of the recommendations of the Committee have already been implemented and others will be implemented as soon as the details are worked out. The reforms effected and to be effected shortly in the jail administration of the Province are of a far-reaching character and the Government sincerely hopes that they will be conducive to the reformation of prisoners and will enable them, after release, to become useful and respectable members of society. [No. P. 1164 of July 10, 1948]

CIVIL JUDGE'S COURT RETAINED AT HUBLI

The Government of Bombay has decided to retain permanently the Senior Division Civil Judge's Court at Hubli, first transferred from Dharwar to Hubli, as an experimental measure, for a period of one year from June 5, 1944, with subsequent extensions of this period.

The decision has been taken after very careful consideration of the observations made by the High Court and the various representations received from public bodies in the Karnatak. The establishment of a Senior as well as a Junior Division Civil Judge's Court at Hubli constitutes an additional facility provided for the litigants at Hubli and its environs in view of the important position Hubli occupies. The statistics of special suits filed in the Hubli Court prove that the Senior Division Court has been meeting the genuine needs of the public. The various representations received from the public bodies, too, have emphasized this aspect and pleaded that withdrawal of the existing facilities would cause a great deal of inconvenience to the public, and this consideration has largely influenced the decision taken by the Government. [No. P 1200 of July 16, 1948]

MONTH'S REMISSION TO CONVICTS

The Government of Bombay has issued orders for the grant of one month's remission to all convicts on August 15th 1948 in commemoration of the new year of Independence. This remission will be over and above the remission earned under the ordinary rules. Convicts who qualify for release by the grant of this remission will be released on the evening of August 14th, 1948. [No. P 1386 of August 13, 1948]

PREMIER'S ASSURANCE TO EDITORS: GOVERNMENT NOT INVADING FREEDOM OF PRESS

Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier of Bombay, today gave an assurance to India's newspaper editors that this Government's anxiety would always be not to invade the freedom of the Press. He, however, told them that it was up to them to maintain a high standard of journalism in this country.

Mr. Kher was speaking at a tea party given by the Government of Bombay to the editors, who are in Bombay City in connection with the annual session of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference.

The Premier said that unless there was complete co-operation between the Press and the Government, the country would not progress or prosper. A number of restrictions, he said, had to be placed on the rights and privileges of the people and the Press in times of emergency, but the test of liberty was whether the people had a right to criticise the actions of the Government. Here he quoted the Right Hon'ble Chuter Ede, as saying:

"Liberty or absence of liberty cannot be judged by the number of restrictions imposed for the purposes of order and social convenience on members of the community. The test of liberty is whether the people of the country have the opportunity to criticise such restrictions, to agitate for their withdrawal or amendment and to succeed in their object if they can persuade the majority to adopt their view."

Aftermath Of Freedom

Mr. Kher reminded the editors that the country was passing through a period of emergency and crisis following the attainment of freedom. He, however, hoped that the present difficulties would be over very soon.

Making a reference to the Communist Press, which is so vociferous against Government actions, he said that the Communists did not stop to see what type of Press there was in Russia. Here he told the editors that it was up to them to stand up and build a high standard of journalism. He advised them not to put self-interest or party interest before the interest of the country. National interest must come first and all other interests later. As a soldier dies for the country, a doctor for the patient, so the Press should die for noble traditions and for the good of society and country.

Mr. T. K. Ghosh, Editor of "The Amrit Bazar Patrika", said that the Press in all the provinces was enjoying real freedom under the Congress regime.

Mr. Devadas Gandhi, President of the A.I.N.E.C., expressed gratefulness of the Press for the assurance given by the Premier.

Mr. Morarji Desai, Minister for Home Affairs and Revenue, thanked the editors for responding to the invitation of the Government and attending the function. [No. N 409 of July 23, 1948]

GOVERNMENT AND PRESS: ACTION AGAINST NEWSPAPERS

A report appeared recently in some of the newspapers in Bombay quoting the Home Minister as saying that no action had been taken against any newspaper without consulting the Press Advisory Committee. This report is slightly inaccurate. What he said was that except in one or two cases, no action had been taken against any newspaper without consulting the Press Advisory Committee.

Since the Congress Ministry came into office, 818 cases have been placed before the Advisory Committee. Out of these, only in one case did the Government differ from the views of the Committee. And there was only one case which was not referred to the Committee and this was a long time ago.

It will thus be seen that except in one or two cases, the Government of Bombay has always acted with the consent of the Press Advisory Committee. [No. P 1366 of August 10, 1948]

CONTRAVENTION OF PAPER CONTROL ORDER: A WARNING

A number of cases of contravention of the Paper Control (Economy) Order have been reported to the Government. Certain sections of the public do not seem to be aware of the Order.

The Government, therefore, wishes to inform all concerned that under the provisions of that Order, prior permission of the Provincial Government is necessary for operating printing presses, publishing books and manufacturing articles from paper, namely, exercise books, account books, etc. [No. P 1480 of August 31, 1948]

PRINTING PRESSES IN GUJARAT STATES: NEED FOR FRESH DECLARATION

The Paper Control Orders issued by the Government of India are applicable to the former Gujarat States and Janjira State which have merged in Bombay Province.

Under Clause 17 of the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1945, no printing press in these areas can now be operated unless a declaration is filed by the keeper of press before the District Magistrate concerned, under Section 4 of the Press Registration of Books Act, 1867, and a paper quota obtained from the Paper Controller, Bombay.

The existing presses in these areas should, therefore, arrange to make the required declaration first and then submit applications for permission for operation with a paper quota to the Paper Controller, Government of Bombay. The existing publishers of books and manufacturers of exercise books, account books, articles of stationery and other articles made from paper in these areas should submit their applications for registration as such to the Paper Controller, Bombay, furnishing particulars regarding the quantity of paper consumed by them during the year 1947. [No. P 1426 of August 20, 1948]

SURRENDER OF ARMS: APPEAL TO PEOPLE IN MERGED STATES

Some persons from the Deccan and Gujarat States which have since been merged into Bombay Province may have in their possession arms and ammunition which they have not declared owing to the fear of being prosecuted or through ignorance of the rules on the subject. Attention of all such persons is, therefore, invited to the fact that the Indian Arms Act, 1878, and the Indian Arms Rules, 1924, have now been made applicable to all the States which have been merged into this Province and that the officers concerned have the requisite authority to deal with those who are found in possession of unlicensed arms and ammunition in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Arms Act and Rules.

The Government of Bombay, however, desires to give all such persons a last chance before drastic measures are taken against them for the possession of unlicensed arms and ammunition and, therefore, makes an appeal to all concerned that they should declare for licencing or surrender to the Police all unlicensed arms and ammunition in their possession on the following conditions:—

(1) No action will be taken against any person who on or before the expiry of the period specified for this purpose by the licensing authority under the Arms Act deposits his unlicensed weapon, weapons and or ammunition at the nearest Police Station. (2) Applications for the grant of licences received from such persons on or before the date of expiry of the period specified by the licensing authority will be considered on their merits and licences granted in deserving cases. If a licence is granted to an applicant, he will be charged only the fees for the current year, no claim being made for arrears. (3) Proceeds of the sale of deposited arms of persons who either do not desire to take out a licence or to whom a licence is not granted will be given to them.

Drastic Action Contemplated

After the expiry of the period specified by the licensing authority concerned, drastic action will be taken under the Indian Arms Act and Rules, against each and every person found in possession of any unlicensed arms. This period will be extended only in the case of persons who are prevented from either declaring or surrendering to the Police the unlicensed arms in their possession by absence from the State or for any other convincing reason.

Exempted persons are also advised, if they have already not done so, to get their arms registered with the licensing authority of their area within the same specified period. Exemptees who fail to do so will also be dealt with severely.

The Government had issued in May 1948 a similar appeal to the residents of the Deccan States. They should now avail themselves of the opportunity provided by this last appeal.

All concerned should note that even muzzle loading guns cannot be possessed without a licence under the Arms Act and Rules. [No. P 1528 of September 11, 1948]

CENSUS OF FIREARMS IN MERGED AREAS

The Government of Bombay has decided to take a census of all the firearms in the Banas Kantha, Mahi Kantha and the Dang Districts and and other State areas integrated with or merged into the Province of Bombay. The District Magistrates and Chief Administrators concerned have been empowered to take the census. [No. P 1580 of September 18, 1948]

EFFICIENT CONDUCT OF TRAMWAYS AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY: TWO NEW STATUTORY AUTHORITIES TO BE CREATED

The City of Bombay Municipal Act is being amended so as to make provision for ensuring the efficient conduct of transport and electric supply services in the City. The amending Act creates two new statutory authorities, the Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Committee and a General Manager. While the Committee will exercise general control over the undertakings, the General Manager, who will be a nominee of the Corporation, will be vested with executive powers in connection with the administration of the undertakings similar to those vested in the Municipal Commissioner for the purpose of ordinary municipal administration. The Municipal Commissioner will, however, be entrusted with powers to intervene in an emergency.

The Corporation, however, has retained to itself power to pass the annual budget of the electric supply and transport undertakings and to fix fares and charges.

Objects And Reasons

Under the terms of the licenses granted to the Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Company, Limited, for operating the electric supply and tramways services in the City and of a Deed of Concession executed by the Bombay Municipal Corporation in 1905, the Corporation has acquired

the undertakings of the Company on August 7, 1947. It has simultaneously acquired the omnibus services of the Company. It is not possible to operate these services under the existing provisions of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, like other departments of municipal administration and the Corporation has accordingly proposed extensive amendments and additional provision in the Act in order to ensure efficient conduct of the transport and electric supply services. Such of the provisions as it was considered essential to bring into operation before August 7, 1947 were enacted by the City of Bombay Municipal (Electric Supply and Transport) Ordinance, 1947, promulgated by the Governor of Bombay on July 22, 1947 and continued in operation by the City of Bombay Municipal (Electric Supply and Transport) Act, 1947. This Bill for the amendment of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, includes the provisions contained in the Ordinance and Act as well as other amendments which are considered necessary.

Features of the Bill

The salient features of the provisions of the Bill, which is published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of August 24, are briefly as follows:

(a) For the purpose of conducting the electric supply and transport undertakings two new statutory authorities are created, viz., a committee called the Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Committee and a General Manager. The Committee consists of not more than nine members, one of whom is the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Corporation, ex-officio, and the remaining are appointed by the Corporation from among persons, who may or may not be councillors, having experience of administration, transport, electric supply, engineering or industrial, commercial, financial or labour matters. The General Manager is appointed by the Corporation, subject to the approval of the Government.

(b) Subject to the retention of power with the Corporation to pass the annual budget of the electric supply and transport undertakings, to fix fares and charges, to sanction the creation of appointments carrying a salary in excess of Rs. 400 per mensem, to sanction the disposal of immovable property above a prescribed value and to make by-laws (with the approval of the Government), the Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Committee will exercise general control over the undertakings, and the General Manager will be vested with executive powers in connection with the administration of the undertakings similar to those vested in the Municipal Commissioner for the purpose of ordinary municipal administration. The Municipal Commissioner will, however, be entrusted with power to intervene in an emergency.

Receipts and Expenditure

(c) The receipts of the Corporation in respect of the electric supply and transport undertakings will not be credited to the ordinary municipal fund, but will be credited to a separate fund called the Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Fund from which all expenditure on the undertakings will be met. The payment of a fixed annual contribution to the ordinary municipal revenues in lieu of the way-rent formerly payable by B.E.S.T. Co., Ltd. to the Corporation under the Deed of Concession is made a first charge on the surplus revenues of the undertakings and detailed provision is made for the allocation of the balance, if any, left after the payment of the contribution.

(d) Such of the provisions of the Bombay Tramways Act, 1874, as have not become obsolete on the acquisition by the Corporation of the tramway undertaking are being incorporated in the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, and the Bombay Tramways Act, 1874, is being repealed. The provisions so incorporated relate to the laying of new tramways, the opening up of streets for repairs to existing tramways, the rights of the public over portions of the streets on which tramways are laid, the enforcement of the payment of fares and charges and the imposition of penalties for obstructing the execution of works, etc., and for interference with the tramways.

(e) Detailed provision is made in a separate chapter for the day to day administration of the electric supply and transport undertakings, including appointment and conditions of service of staff, accounts, the execution of works, the acquisition and disposal of property, etc., more or less on the lines of the provisions in regard to the ordinary administration. This has necessitated several consequential amendments to make it clear that the general provisions of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, do not apply where a special provision exists. Several provisions of the Act are also being amplified to cover transactions relating to the electric supply and transport undertakings.

Under the Deed of Concession under which the Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Co., Ltd., operated the tramway services, the Company was liable to pay to the Corporation yearly way-rent at the rate of of Rs. 3,000 per mile of double track and Rs. 2,000 per mile of single track in use when the Deed was executed (in 1905) and at half these rates for tramways laid after the execution of the Deed. Now that the undertaking has been taken over by the Corporation, this rent will cease to be payable and the ordinary revenues of the Corporation will suffer to that extent. Provision is, therefore, made (new Section 460 KK) for the transfer to the ordinary municipal revenues of five lakhs of rupees for

half of the financial year 1947-48 and of 10 lakhs for each of the next 10 years. Thereafter, the annual contribution will be fixed every year by the Corporation in the light of the then existing circumstances.

Reserve Fund

It is proposed that 30 per cent. of the surplus should be funded as a Revenue Reserve Fund until a fund of 50 lakhs of rupees is built up to meet deficits, if any, in the revenue account or in the amount required to meet the annual contribution to the ordinary revenues of the Corporation in lieu of way-rent. After a Revenue Reserve Fund of 50 lakhs of rupees is built up, only such amount, if any, as is required to keep the balance at that figure will be payable to the Fund, and the remainder will be transferred in equal shares to the other special objects for which provision is being made from the surplus balance.

Thirty per cent. of the surplus balance (and such additional amount as may be available) will be funded as a Betterment Fund, which may be utilised for making improvements in the services, amenities and facilities provided for the public by the undertakings. The intention is to build up a reserve from which expenditure on improvements which are not of a productive character and which cannot, therefore, be appropriately charged to capital may be met. For example, amenities such as shelters at bus and tram stations, queue guards and concrete path indicators for which there is a growing demand could be provided from this fund without affecting the earnings of the undertaking.

Twenty-five per cent. of the surplus balance (and such additional amount as may be available) will be transferred to the ordinary municipal fund and will be earmarked for providing amenities and benefits to Municipal officers and servants and their families and dependants. All officers and servants, whether serving in connection with the undertakings or not, will be entitled to the amenities and benefits provided.

The remaining 15 per cent. of the surplus balance (and such additional amount as may be available) will be transferred as a free contribution to the ordinary municipal fund, as it is only equitable that the general public of the City should obtain a due share of the earnings of public utilities owned by the Municipality. [No. P 1448 of August 25, 1948]

SIRENS TO SUMMON HOME GUARDS

Sirens have been installed in some places in Greater Bombay for calling out Home Guards whenever required for duty.

As the Home Guards are scattered all over Greater Bombay and as it is difficult to summon them at short notice, it is considered necessary to adopt the above method.

Home Guards are informed that they should report to the Police Station allotted to them in accordance with instructions issued by the Head Quarters.

Members of the public are informed that the sounding of sirens is merely to summon the Home Guards and not for any other purpose. [No. P 1540 of September 13, 1948]

VILLAGE DEFENCE PARTIES IN PROVINCE

The strength of the Village Defence Parties organised by the Government of Bombay throughout the Province with a view to putting down violent crimes against property, etc. and fostering a spirit of co-operation amongst the villagers reaches the figure of 2,75,892 recently. Many of these have received training in musketry, while some of them hold gun licences.

The parties also make use of other weapons such as lathis, spears, bows and arrows, swords and jambias.

Out of the 21,472 villages in the Province, 6,099 villages have formed Defence Parties. [No. P 1407 of August 17, 1948]

SMOKE NUISANCE: ACTION TAKEN AGAINST FACTORY OWNERS

Twenty-six complaints of smoke nuisance in the City of Bombay were received by the Bombay Smoke Nuisance Commission during the year 1947-48 as against 21 in the preceding year. The majority of complaints were against small industrial concerns such as metal casting and engineering works, bakeries, eating houses, etc. Steps were taken to eliminate the nuisance.

In Ahmedabad, only two complaints of smoke nuisance were received. In one case, the owner of the factory was prosecuted under the Bombay Smoke Nuisance Act. The prosecution resulted in a conviction. The furnace of the factory was demolished. In the other case, no smoke nuisance was proved.

During the year, the Commission examined 10 plants of proposed flues and chimneys in Bombay. Two plans regarding proposed alterations to an existing plant were examined by the Sub-Committee in Ahmedabad.

Smoke nuisance work in the newly added areas in Greater Bombay was also carried out. Twenty-eight chimneys in this area were approved by the Commission during the year. So far, 45 chimneys have been brought on the list since the Act was made applicable to Greater Bombay. It is expected that many more furnaces will be brought under the Act when the services of another Inspector, sanctioned by the Government, are available to the Commission. [No. P 1419 of August 20, 1948]

NO SMOKING IN CINEMA HOUSES IN THE U. S.

In the United States, where the manufacture of cigarettes is the fourth largest industry of the nation, smoking is strictly prohibited in cinema houses, theatres and museums. The police authorities there strictly enforce this prohibition. [No. N 482 of September 10, 1948]

SPORTING ENTERTAINMENTS EXEMPTED FROM DUTY

The sporting entertainments, admission to which is on payment of not more than four annas, have been exempted from liability to entertainment duty. [No. P 1423 of August 20, 1948]

SECURITY DEMANDED FROM BOMBAY WEEKLY

Securities of Rs. 3,000 each have been demanded by the Government of Bombay from the printer and the publisher of "Pratod", a Bombay weekly.

The deposits are to be made on or before September 13.

The action followed the publication in the news magazine of July 18 and August 8 last, of two articles in the "Through My Eye-Glasses" column under the headlines "Release of (Mr.) Bagal?" and "Statesman-like Policy", respectively. [No. P 1486 of September 1, 1948]

SECURITY FORFEITED

The sum of Rs. 1,000, the amount of security deposited by the publisher of "Lokyug," a Marathi weekly newspaper of Bombay, has been forfeited by the Government of Bombay. [No. P 1107 of July 2, 1948]

COPIES OF "PAKISTAN" FORFEITED

The Government of the Central Provinces and Berar has declared to be forfeited to His Majesty every copy of the daily issue of the newspaper in Urdu entitled "Pakistan", edited and published by Kamar Usmani, Dacca, East Pakistan. [No. P 1630 of September 25, 1948]

"NAWA-I-PAKISTAN"

The Government of Madras have issued a notification under Section 19 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, declaring to be forfeited to His Majesty all copies of the issue of July 4, 1948 of the Urdu weekly, "Nawa-I-Pakistan", printed and published in Lahore. [No. P 1515 of September 9, 1948]

PAKISTAN PAPER BANNED

The Government of Bombay has prohibited the entry into, and the sale or distribution or circulation within the Province, of the "Nawa-i-Pakistan", an Urdu newspaper of Lahore (Pakistan). [No. P 1453 of August 25, 1948]

KARACHI NEWSPAPER BANNED

The Government of Bombay has banned the entry into and the sale, distribution or circulation within the Province, of "Millat", a Gujarati newspaper of Karachi (Pakistan). [No. P 1424 of August 20, 1948]

KARACHI POSTER FORFEITED

The Government of Bombay has issued a notification under Section 19 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, declaring to be forfeited to His Majesty all copies of the poster in Urdu, entitled "Statement of Allama Mashriqi" printed at As Jadd Press, Karachi, and published by Wali Muhmmad, Bhimpura, Lawrence Road, Karachi.

All other documents containing copies, reprints or translations of or extracts from this poster have also been declared to be forfeited to His Majesty. [No. P 1583 of September 20, 1948]

“RAQS-E-IBLIS” FORFEITED

The Government of Bombay has declared all copies of the book entitled “Raqs-e-Iblis” in Urdu and all other documents containing copies, reprints or translations of or extracts from the said book, written by Mr. M. Aslam and printed at the P.R.B.S. Press and printed and published by Khawaja Badrus Salam Farugi at Lahore, to be forfeited to His Majesty. [No. P 1626 of September 25, 1948]

BAN ON HYDERABAD PAPER

The Government of Bombay has prohibited the bringing into, or the sale, distribution or circulation of “Hyderabad”, an Urdu newspaper, published in Hyderabad (Deccan). [No. P 1624 of September 25, 1948]

“HYDERABAD” FORFEITED

The Government of the Central Provinces and Berar has issued a notification under Section 19 of the Indian Penal (E.D.), Act, 1931, declaring to be forfeited every copy of the weekly issue of the newspaper in English and Urdu entitled “Hyderabad”, edited and published by the Information Bureau, Saifabad, Hyderabad.

The notification is being republished in “The Bombay Government Gazette”. [No. P 1405 of August 17, 1948]

The Government of Bombay has prohibited the import, sale, circulation or distribution within the Province of ‘Rahbar-E-Deccan’, an Urdu daily of Hyderabad (Deccan). [No. P 1355 of August 9, 1948]

TELUGU PAMPHLET ON HYDERABAD

The Government of Madras has issued a notification under Section 19 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931 declaring to be forfeited to His Majesty all copies of the pamphlet in Telugu entitled “Message of Peace to the People of Hyderabad State—Protection of Peace is implied in the individuality of this King” by Siddique Deendar Chennabasaveswar Veerbhogarayu, Jagatguru Ashramam, Asafnagar, Hyderabad State. [No. P 1246 of July 24, 1948]

ANOTHER HYDERABAD PAPER BANNED

The Government of Bombay has banned the entry into, or the sale, distribution or circulation within, the Province of 'Khizar', an Urdu newspaper of Hyderabad (Deccan). [No. P 1611 of September 23, 1948]

LAHORE MAGAZINE BANNED

The Government of Bombay has banned the entry into, or the sale, distribution or circulation within, the Province of 'Ujala', an Urdu magazine of Lahore (Pakistan). [No. P 1464 of August 27, 1948]

HINDI BOOK FORFEITED

The Chief Commissioner, Delhi, has issued a notification under Section 19 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, declaring to be forfeited to His Majesty all copies of the book in Hindi, entitled "Hindu Teri Dasha Athwa Bhola Hindu", written by Pandit Satyakam, published by the Dehati Pustak Bhandar, Chawari Bazar, Delhi, and printed at the Ala Printing Press, Delhi. [No. P 1641 of September 27, 1948]

ACTION TAKEN AGAINST ALLAHABAD MAGAZINE

The Government of the United Provinces has issued a notification under Section 99A of the Criminal Procedure Code, declaring to be forfeited to His Majesty all copies of the July issue of the Hindi magazine, "Maya", of Allahabad. [No. P 1516 of September 9, 1948]

SOME PUBLICATIONS FORFEITED

The Chief Commissioner, Delhi, has issued notifications under Section 19 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, declaring the following publications to be forfeited to His Majesty:

Pamphlets in Urdu entitled "Qadium" and "Qadium Ki Khunrez Jung" written by Hazrat Amir-Ulli-Mommin, printed at the Civil and Military Press, Karachi.

The booklet in English entitled "The Greatest Betrayal" written by Ch. Rahmat Ali, M.A., LL.B., Bar-at-Law, published by the Pakistan Liberation Movement, 16 Montague Road, Cambridge (England) and printed by Foister and Gagg, Cambridge (England).

Two pamphlets in Urdu entitled "Punjabi Dukhre" (Punjab Sufferings) alias Punjab Biti (Punjab Happenings) written by B. Balwant Sharma Raza of Sekhman and printed at the Kamal-i-Hind Press, Kucha Mir Ashiq, Delhi.

Two pamphlets in Urdu entitled "Angrezon Ki Kartrook aur Pakistani Zulum" and "Maghrabi Punjabi Di Khuni Dastan" written by Mr. Kas-toori Lal Bhagat and printed at the Kamal Printing Works, Nai Sarak, Delhi.

An anonymous poster beginning with the words "Public Jawab De" (Public to Answer) and ending with "Bande Matram Tumahra Sathi" (Bande-Mataram—Your Comrade).

The pamphlet in Urdu entitled "Delhi Ki Larai" written by Mr. R. L. Gupta, published by Rattan and Co., Booksellers, Dariba Kalan, Delhi and printed by M. Abdul Mabood Khan, Keeper of Kamal Printing Works, Nai Sarak, Delhi.

The pamphlet in Hindi entitled "Delhi Ki Larai" written by Mr. R. L. Gupta, published by Rattan & Co., Booksellers, Dariba Kalan, Delhi and printed by Mr. S. N. Sircar, Keeper of the Excelsior Printing Works, Delhi.

The poster in Hindi beginning with the words "Firqa Prasti Ka Parda Fash Ho Gia" and ending with the words "Bande Mataram" issued by the National Democratic Party.

The pamphlet in Urdu entitled "Meo Qaum Ka Taraf" written by Mohd Alyas Nadvi, General Secretary, Anjuman Mahajrin, Mewat of Pakistan (Lahore) and printed at the Co-operative Capital Press, Lahore.

"Deeh Ki Awas", a pamphlet in Hindi written by Ch. Ram Sarup Azad of Ferozepur, published by Lakshmi Pustakalaya, Nai Sarak, Delhi and printed by Mr. Jegan Nath Sharma at the Shri Bhanu Printing Press, Dharmapura, Delhi.

The pamphlet in Hindi entitled "Asli Gurgaon Ki Alha", Part III, written by B. Nayader Singh Bechain, published by Bechain Pustakalaya, Bazar Sita Ram, Delhi, and printed by Mr. Jagan Nath Prasad Sharma at the Shree Bhanu Printing Works, Dharmapura, Delhi.

The pamphlet in Hindi entitled "Asli Gurgaon Ki Alha", Part II, written by B. Nayader Singh Bechain, published by Bechain Pustakalaya, Sita Ram Bazar, Delhi and printed by Mr. Jagan Nath Prasad Sharma, at the Shri Bhanu Printing Works, Dharmapura, Delhi.

The pamphlet in Hindi entitled "Calcutta Ka Balwa" written by B. R. L. Gupta, published by Ratan and Co., Booksellers, Delhi and printed by Mr. Jagan Nath Prasad Sharma, at the Shri Bhanu Printing Works, Dharmapura, Delhi.

The poster in English beginning with the words "U. N. O. Lost" and ending with the words "Is It Democracy" issued by one Narindra. [No. P 1098 of July 1, 1948]

MORE BOOKS DECLARED FORFEITED

The Chief Commissioner, Delhi, has issued notifications under Section 19 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, declaring the following publications to be forfeited to His Majesty:—

The book in Urdu entitled "Khuni Faisla" written by Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Qureshi published by Rahat Publications, Mohammad Nagar, Lahore and printed at the Amrit Electric Press, Lahore.

The book in Urdu entitled "Kashmir" written by Mr. Charagh Hassan Hasrat, published by M. Mohammad Nasir Humayun, B.A., of Qaumi Kutub Khana, Lahore and printed at the Ithad Press, Lahore.

The book in English entitled "Towards Azad Kashmir" written by Mohammad Hafizullah, M.A., published by Bazim-i-Faragh-i-Adab and printed by Sh. Umar Daraz at the Imperial Printing Works, 61, Railway Road, Lahore.

The book in English entitled "The Crucifixion and After" published by L. N. Vashist and printed at the Mahalaxmi Press, Delhi. [No. P 1149 of July 8, 1948]

COPIES OF BENGALI LEAFLET FORFEITED

The Government of West Bengal has issued a notification under Section 19 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, declaring to be forfeited to His Majesty all copies of the leaflet in Bengali, entitled "Congress Sarkarar Jaile Communist Neta Comrade Bharadwaj Mrityu Na Hatya?" (Death or murder of the Communist leader Comrade Bharadwaj in the jail of Congress Government), published by Sri Abinash Saha from 121, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta. [No. P 1552 of September 15, 1948]



Anti-Corruption

13

The drive against corruption both in the services and outside was continued vigorously in the quarter under review by the Anti-Corruption Branch of the Bombay C. I. D.

The cases detected involved offences relating to smuggling of cloth, hoarding of cloth and toddy, overloading of passenger buses, breaches of the Motor Spirit Rationing Order, the Food Control Orders, the Abkari Act, etc.

A number of convictions were also obtained.

ANTI-CORRUPTION DRIVE IN PROVINCE

Thirty cases of corruption were detected by the Anti-Corruption Branch, Bombay Province, Poona, recently.

Among the Government servants who were caught red-handed for accepting illegal gratification were a Chief Officer of a Borough Municipality, a Station Master, B. B. and C. I. Railway, a Police Sub-Inspector in the East Khandesh District, a Resident Magistrate in the Belgaum District, a Sub-Police Prosecutor in the Dharwar District and a Station Master, M. and S. M. Railway, in the Dharwar District.

In addition, four cases, including the case of a Mamlatdar in the Belgaum District, of corruption were detected after making enquiries into the complaints and information received from the public.

Eight cases of black-marketing in the sale of kerosene (1 case), Motor Spirit (3 cases), and liquor (4 cases) were detected.

Hoarding Of Cloth And Toddy

Two cases in connection with hoarding in cloth and toddy, respectively, were detected by the Branch. In one of these cases, when a search of

the premises of the shop was taken, a note-book containing entries of bribes having been paid to the officers and men of the Excise and Police Departments have come to notice. Action in this connection is being taken separately.

The following cases were also detected by the Branch:

An officer of the I. E. M. E., a Store Keeper, and a Motor Mechanic, jointly misappropriated Military property, viz., a chassis, engine and some other parts of a truck and sold the same for Rs. 4,300 to a person from Ahmednagar. The offence was detected on May 20.

The owner of a building in Poona City accepted an advance rent of Rs. 3,000 from one of his tenants for a block, the monthly rental for which was fixed at Rs. 125 or so and thus committed an offence under the Bombay Rents Hotel, and Lodging House Rates Control Act of 1947. The accused is being prosecuted.

A City Magistrate on the occasion of the wedding of his daughter arranged to serve dinner to more than 24 persons in contravention of the Government orders. Further investigation is in progress.

A Case Of Bus Overloading

The members of a Motor Association, in the Satara District, were found to indulge in overloading buses and in defrauding the passengers by charging excess fares and in maintaining false accounts with a view to duping the Income-Tax Department. The Provincial Transport Officer, Bombay and the Income-Tax Department have been requested to take the necessary action against the above Association. Similarly, the driver of a public bus overloaded his bus by putting 36 passengers over and above the number of 32 which the bus was licensed to carry. Of these 36, 19 including nine females were actually noticed seated on the top of the bus in a way dangerous to human life. This has been brought to the notice of the District Superintendents of Police, Belgaum and Dharwar, for suitable action.

On April 29, a person at Hubli entertained 47 persons to dinner in his house on the occasion of some religious performance. He is, therefore, being prosecuted for breach of Government orders in this connection.

A Jailor Involved

Information was received that a Jailor of a District Prison, in league with others of his staff, was regularly misappropriating foodgrains, fuel

and other commodities meant for the prisoners and fraudulently swallowing the sale proceeds. A surprise raid on the Prison premises was, therefore, made and it was noticed that the stock in the Store Room did not tally with the figures shown in the stock registers and the issue books. The 'modus operandi' adopted was that for everyday consumption, lesser quantity of the different commodities was issued than what was shown in the issue books and the surplus stock disposed of by illegal means with intent to misappropriate the sale proceeds. Further investigation is in progress.

The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Anti-Corruption Branch, Belgaum, Mr. B. B. Gudi, and his officers having disguised themselves went round in a truck in the cities of Belgaum, Dharwar and Hubli and trapped nine Policemen on a single night in June 1948. Not a single Policeman out of the nine cared to check the truck and its occupants but only took bribes and allowed the truck to go. This trapping has had a very salutary effect on corrupt Policemen, especially in the Karnatak. [No. P 1165 of July 10, 1948]

DRIVE AGAINST CORRUPTION: ACTIVITY DURING JUNE AND JULY

During the months of June and July last, the Anti-Corruption Branch of the Bombay C.I.D. took action against 24 persons. Twenty-two of these were dealt with for offences relating to bribery and corruption and the remaining two under the Motor Spirit Rationing Order.

Narottam Jamnadas Asher, Assistant Superintendent of Government Grain Godowns, was convicted under Section 409 I.P.C. (criminal breach of trust by Government servants) and sentenced to suffer a day's simple imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 50 or in default to suffer rigorous imprisonment for one month by the Presidency Magistrate, VIII Court, Bombay.

Mohanlal Chunilal Javeri was convicted under Section 468 I.P.C. (forgery for purpose of cheating) and sentenced to suffer four months' rigorous imprisonment on three different counts by the Presidency Magistrate, XX Court, Mazagaon, Bombay.

Jivraj Khetsey and Vasudeo Anant Pai, who had been arrested under Sections 161, 116 and 109 of the I. P. C. for offering an illegal gratification to a Rationing Inspector, were convicted by the Presidency Magistrate, VIII Court, Esplanade, Bombay. The former was sentenced to suffer four

months' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000, or in default to suffer six months' rigorous imprisonment and the latter to suffer one month's rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 300, or in default to suffer three months' rigorous imprisonment more.

Manilal Chunilal Sheth was convicted under Sections 161 and 116 of the I. P. C. (illegal gratification) and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000, in default to suffer six months' rigorous imprisonment by the Presidency Magistrate, VIII Court, Esplanade, Bombay.

Sub-Inspector Dismissed

Sub-Inspector Mohamed Anis Mohamed Hafiz, who was suspended on January 13, 1948, for associating himself with a bad character, whose presence in Bombay was dangerous to society and whom he subsequently picked up, under the Bombay Public Security Measures Act, has been dismissed from service with effect from the afternoon of June 16, 1948.

Constable No. 7619/F, Dhondu Gopal Bhat, was convicted under Section 384 of the I. P. C. (punishment for extortion) and sentenced to suffer three months' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 100 by the Presidency Magistrate, VIII Court, Esplanade, Bombay.

Ahmedkhan Lukmankhan and seven others, who had been charged under Section 5 of the Prevention of Gambling Act, were convicted and sentenced as below by the Presidency Magistrate XVI Court, Esplanade, Bombay: Ahmedkhan Lukmankhan was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 500 and the rest were sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 100 or to suffer one week's simple imprisonment each. One of these accused, Nathoo Vithal, was further convicted under Section 43(1) (a) of the Abkari Act and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 100 or suffer one week's simple imprisonment by the same Magistrate. [No. P 1435 of August 23, 1948]

POLICE SUB-INSPECTOR DISMISSED FOR ACCEPTING BRIBE

During the month of August last, the Anti-Corruption Branch of the C.I.D. took action against eight persons, six of whom were dealt with for offences relating to bribery and corruption, one was dealt with for extortion and one for being in possession of property believed to be stolen.

One Sub-Inspector of Police was dismissed from service for accepting an illegal gratification from a complainant in a non-cognizable case for showing favours in the exercise of his official duties, while a Deputy

Inspector was reduced to the rank of Sub-Inspector on a similar charge. A Head Constable was dismissed from service for accepting a bottle of rum from a complainant. [No. P 1651 of September 29, 1948]

CLOTH SMUGGLERS SENTENCED

Seven persons were convicted on a charge of smuggling cloth into the Nizam's territory during the month of July in the East Khandesh District.

One person was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 200 for carrying yarn to the Central Provinces and Berar and one conviction obtained on a charge of drawing food ration of an absentee member of a family. [No. P 1416 of August 18, 1948]

FOOD CONTROL CONVICTIONS

Four convictions under the Food Control Orders and two more under the Rationing Orders were obtained in the Surat District in the month of July last.

During the same period, seven persons were convicted and sentenced on charges under the Food and Cloth Control Orders in the Panch Mahals District. [No. P 1439 of August 24, 1948]

CLOTH AND FOOD CONTROL CONVICTIONS

Seven convictions under the Food Control Orders and one more under the Cloth Control Orders were obtained in the Kaira District during the month of July last. The fines imposed ranged between Rs. 100 and Rs. 500 and the imprisonment between one month and three months' rigorous. [No. P 1482 of August 31, 1948]

The most striking event of the quarter under review was the country-wide celebration of India's Independence Day on August 15, when the Premier of Bombay Province, in a broadcast message to the people, recounted the odds through which the country and with it the Province had passed during the previous year, which could well be called a year of crises, trials and tribulations. Among Partition problems, the one relating to refugees had an important place. He said: "The big schemes of educational expansion, primary as well as adult, the projects undertaken for industrialising the country, the attempts being made to improve agriculture and increase food production; even the readiness to scrap the policy of decontrol, when it results in hardship to the poor—are all evidence of the anxiety of the Government to go ahead with programmes of social amelioration." Again about liberty, the Premier said: "The test of true liberty is whether the people of the country have the opportunity to criticise (such) restrictions, to agitate for their withdrawal or amendment and to succeed in their object if they can persuade the majority to adopt their view. Anyone who reads papers or attends meetings in our Province at which criticism of the Government is voiced—not always too gently—will agree that there has been no desire on the part of the Government to encroach on this fundamental liberty of free citizenship". Referring to Mahatma Gandhi, the Premier said: "If we can be worthy of this man of God whom we were privileged to harbour in our midst, i.e., if we can steer our course in the light of his ideals, I have no doubt that our national greatness and salvation will be ensured."

A new campaign for planting trees was inaugurated by the Premier, and the Minister for Forests and Agriculture broadcast an appeal on the same subject.

H. E. the Governor-General also gave a special Independence Day message to the nation, emphasising the need for constructive thought.

H. E. Raja Maharaj Singh, Governor of Bombay, speaking at the Mayoral Banquet in Bombay, paid a tribute to the Ministers who had "worked extremely hard for the welfare of the people", during one year

of freedom. The Provincial capital, Bombay, would remain the greatest city in the world, he said.

An appeal to the people to honour the national flag was issued.

The Premier, Mr. B. G. Kher, addressed an appeal to the Press to lend its fullest co-operation in the collection of funds for the Mahatma Gandhi National Memorial Fund.

The Gram Sudhar Saptah was observed in the Province from October 2 to 12. The Premier issued a fitting appeal in this connection.

Appeals on the occasion of the Flag Day for Ex-Servicemen, October 1, were issued by H. E. the Governor and the Premier.

A new scheme to eliminate black market operations in petrol was tried out from September 1, by dividing petrol pumps in Greater Bombay into two categories.

The Premier made an appeal calling upon the general public to mobilise all available resources and combat ticketless travel.

With a view to ensuring that the cinema industry played its proper role in building up healthy national life, the Bombay Board of Film Censors offered several suggestions to producers.

The foundation stone of Bombay's first National Park, Kanheri, was laid by the Premier at Pavilion Hill, Borivli, Bombay, when he emphasised the rich cultural heritage embodied in it.

An annual saving of over Rs. 4 lakhs was proposed to be effected in Government House expenses.

"It was the wish of Mahatma Gandhi that the tiller of the soil should learn to administer his own affairs in the village, and the ceremony that is now taking place seems to me a part of the whole scheme conceived by Gandhiji towards the fulfilment of his wish and I am really happy to award this shield to you in recognition of your useful activities for the improvement of your village." In these words, the Minister for Local Self-Government, Mr. G. D. Vartak, complimented the residents of Lodhavade, a village in the Koregaon Taluka of the Satara District.

The problem of immediate and permanent relief and rehabilitation of refugees was referred to by the Premier, when he inaugurated the Provincial Relief and Rehabilitation Advisory Board on September 2. He

added that the problem of providing permanent shelter to the refugees was the crux of the whole rehabilitation programme of the Government. Next came education for refugee children. Then, there was the question of resettling these uprooted men in trades, professions and agricultural occupations. A scheme for granting loans for this purpose was also sanctioned. A vocational training centre was proposed to be started in the Refugee Camp at Kalyan.

Major-General J. K. Bhonsale was appointed Director of Relief and Rehabilitation so as to co-ordinate refugee relief work in general.

Mrs. Mithan Lam was deputed to study the problem of refugee women and children in Delhi.

The Bombay Refugees Act, 1948, was proposed to be suitably amended with a view to granting exemption in the matter of registration of refugees in certain cases.

PREMIER'S INDEPENDENCE DAY BROADCAST

Broadcasting from the Bombay Station of All India Radio on Independence Day, the Premier of Bombay said:

“Exactly a year ago to-day, I had the privilege of hoisting the National Flag on the Secretariat building as an indication of the fact that, after many decades of struggle and travail, India had at last attained her freedom. I am sure all my listeners remember vividly the thrill of joy and pride with which we welcomed the dawn of freedom. This day, which brings to a close our first year of freedom, provides a good opportunity not merely for rejoicing but also for stock-taking, of searching our hearts and minds to see what use we have made of our newly-won freedom: our achievements and our failures, our problems and our difficulties.

“As I look back on this year, a very mixed and complicated picture comes before my mind's eye, a picture compounded of light and darkness, of hope and sorrow, of problems courageously faced and opportunities unwittingly lost. And, towering above everything is the stark tragedy of our beloved Mahatmaji's martyrdom—a martyrdom which has won for him a place of honour in the Hall of the Immortals but has stamped our generation with a shame that we shall take many, many years to live down. I shall try and put this picture into some sort of a correct perspective.

“You recall, no doubt, the tragic circumstances that attended the birth of our freedom, which came to us not in peace as a natural culmination of

our struggle for many decades but as an aftermath of Partition and the ghastly blood that preceded and followed it. This is not the occasion to discuss the pros and cons of Partition or to apportion responsibility and I do not want to discuss whether we would have agreed to it, if it were possible to foresee all that has happened in its wake. Of course, many people were afraid that there would be some communal clashes and bloodshed but no one could have anticipated the magnitude of the disaster.

A Challenge Accepted

“The Province of Bombay has, thank God, been comparatively quiet and peaceful during this period and so it may be difficult for many of my listeners to visualize even today all that has happened in some other parts of India and Pakistan. However, Partition did come and it was followed by the disgraceful events of the last year, and the new Governments—both at the Centre and in the Provinces—found themselves confronted with a break-down of law and order on an unprecedented scale. And it was not just merely a passive break-down, either; there was a well-organized and diabolical attempt to destroy our new national Government, to reject the political and social ideology for which it stood and to impose a reactionary and fascist pattern on the country. This was a challenge on which depended the entire ‘shape of things to come’ in India and even a stable, well-established Government would have been shaken to its foundations in the circumstances.

“But under the inspiration of Mahatma Gandhi, the dynamic leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and the firm and vigorous administration of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, our National Government accepted this challenge although it was hemmed in at the time by the most adverse conditions; it put down these destructive and poisonous elements as far as possible, restored law and order and vindicated its claim to being a secular and democratic State. This was no mean achievement and it is not only I who say so but this is also the opinion of many disinterested foreign observers, some of whom are not too friendly to India.

New Constitution Drafted

“Again, during this difficult year, when crises have crowded upon us thick and fast, we have been able practically to complete the drafting of our new Constitution which adopts the best in existing democratic constitutions and hopes to make India a democratic and secular State, based on the principle of equality of all classes, creeds and colours and setting its face firmly against all discrimination on grounds of religion, race or sex. Thus, we have enshrined in our legislation the principles and ideals on which we have been trying, however imperfectly, to act in practice. We

have also succeeded, thanks to Sardar Patel's great work, in tackling successfully the obstinate, centuries-old problem of the Indian Princes which the British had always put forward as insoluble and I have every confidence that what remains to be done in this direction will be achieved through intelligent statesmanship.

"This challenge to law and order and the secular basis of the State, however, was not the only great hurdle that we have had to negotiate. The situation was complicated by many other factors which made it infinitely more difficult. Partition has brought in its wake the terrible problem of refugees—those orphans of the storm to whom our hearts go out in sympathy and sorrow. Their abrupt and disorganized influx into the country has all but thrown the national economy as well as the administrative machinery out of gear and, although the Central and Provincial Governments have been tackling this problem with all the goodwill in the world, it is still far from being solved. Again, there is the rising spiral of prices—inflation with all its attendant hardships—the shortage of foodstuffs which is an international problem, the decline in the standards of business and public integrity leading to largescale corruption and all the other maladjustments that follow big, destructive wars. Only this time it was the biggest and most destructive war of history and the consequences have been proportionately terrible.

An Uphill Task

"I mention these things in order to put before you the position in its proper perspective so that you may appreciate for yourself what has been done and why more could not be done. I am fully aware of the criticism, friendly and otherwise, which has been, and is being, levelled against our Governments for all kinds of sins of omission and commission. I do not propose to enter into a controversy over this issue but I would certainly like to say this. Critics, who shoulder the comparatively easy burden of criticising others, should also learn some self-criticism. They should realize that the new Governments have been in the saddle for just one year and it is idle to expect miracles during this short period. Harassed by a situation of unprecedented complexity and danger, no one can create a new social or political or economic heaven in a year's time. In this age of international contacts and interdependence, when all kinds of issues and problems are mixed up, e.g., food and prices, there are no easy shortcuts to success. The work of nation-building and of ensuring a fair and satisfactory deal for the common man is an uphill task that requires all our energy, our intelligence, our integrity of purpose and our patience. You cannot very well expect that it can be accomplished within a few months or even years but you have certainly every right to demand that your national Governments should move in the direction of laying the

foundations of the 'good life'—material as well as cultural—for the bulk of our population which has been deprived of it for centuries.

"I think it would be fair and reasonable to claim, in spite of the rather irresponsible criticisms that have been levelled against the Governments, that this is the direction in which they have been moving. The big schemes of educational expansion, primary as well as adult, the projects undertaken for industrializing the country, the attempts being made to improve agriculture and increase food production, even the readiness to scrap the policy of decontrol, when it results in hardship to the poor—are all evidence of the anxiety of the Government to go ahead with programme of social amelioration. These are still in the initial stages and their beneficial impact on the life of the people is really a matter of time but I have no doubt that, by dint of hard work, enlightened public co-operation and confidence in ourselves, we shall not only be able to eradicate the factors which tend to thwart our progress but also carry these various schemes of development to completion.

What Is True Liberty?

"I should like to say one thing more in connection with a political controversy which has been going on and increasing in intensity in recent months. I refer to the charge that some Governments are denying legitimate and rightful liberty to the Press and the people. In the age-old controversy between liberty and order, it is always difficult to draw the fine line of distinction at the point beyond which liberty becomes license and order becomes executive repression and, in any case, it is often a matter of opinion. But let me make one point quite clear. Liberty can only function in an 'ordered' society, where freedom of action and discussion of one group does not result in depriving another group of the same freedom, and it is the undisputed function of the Government to secure this preliminary condition for the exercise of liberty. While it is undoubtedly the duty of the Judiciary, as the Chief Justice of this Province recently remarked, to see that the executive does not exceed its powers and there is respect for law by the majority as well as the minority, I should like to bring out another aspect of this important question. What constitutes genuine liberty is not the absence of restrictions on certain types of action, e.g., drinking or smoking in cinemas or arresting mischief-mongers. Such restrictions may well be necessary in the interest of the people as a whole in the opinion of a Government.

"The test of true liberty is, if I may quote the recent remarks of the British Home Secretary, 'whether the people of the country have the opportunity to criticize such restrictions, to agitate for their withdrawal or amendment and to succeed in their object if they can persuade the

majority to adopt their view'. That is the correct and the democratic way—not change through force and violence but through discussion, persuasion and propaganda—and, if I may say so, anyone who reads papers or attends meetings in our Province at which criticism of the Government is voiced—not always too gently—will agree that there has been no desire on the part of the Government to encroach on this fundamental liberty of free citizenship.

On The Threshold Of The Future

“So we stand on the threshold of the future, to make it or mar it as we will. All our best men and women who have the good of the country at heart are determined to ensure that this future of our making will be worthy of our past greatness and our coming destiny. In this optimism, the greatest asset in our balance-sheet is the inspiration which the personality and the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi have bequeathed to us—his broad humanism, his sense of justice and fairplay, his tolerance and reasonableness and his insistence on those moral and spiritual values without which life is reduced to the brutish level. If we can be worthy of this man of God whom we were privileged to harbour in our midst, i.e., if we can steer our course in the light of his ideals, I have no doubt that our national greatness and salvation will be ensured. Jai Hind.”
[No. N 441 of August 14, 1948]

A NEW CAMPAIGN FOR FREEDOM FROM WANT: PREMIER AT TREE-PLANTING CEREMONY

Speaking on the occasion of the tree-planting ceremony in Bombay on August 15, the Premier of Bombay, Mr. B. G. Kher, said:

“We have assembled here to-day to inaugurate a campaign that will bring us real freedom from want. In the past, many of you must have witnessed and participated in campaigns that brought us political freedom. The campaign that we are opening to-day is unique in that there is no opponent, except, perhaps, our own inaction. It is to be a one-way effort with prospects of speedy victory, i.e., self-sufficiency in food.

The Food Front

“This day, one year ago, we achieved political freedom, a means to achieving real freedom—freedom from dependence. I need not recapitulate the events that took place in the country during the year that ended yesterday. Every one of you here and the people elsewhere know them too well. Those events tied us down for a year; we were unable to utilise political freedom to build up real freedom. We should, however, be grate-

ful to the Almighty that the period of turmoil has been practically over in a year. We have achieved political freedom, but not yet tasted the fruit of it. To do so, we have to 'wage war' on many fronts. The end of the political struggle was a signal for the opening of new struggles for securing a decent living. Undoubtedly, the Food Front is a major one and it is in the fitness of things that we have chosen the First Anniversary of Independence for firing the first shot on that front.

Standing Shame

"It is a standing shame to us all that every year we have to spend abroad crores of rupees on the purchase of food. India, predominantly an agricultural country, has to beg before the world for food. Our own Province has to subsidise the imported food to the extent of Rs. 15 crores every year. To my mind, there is no more humiliating sight than this. We have to put an end to this unhappy situation if we are to be honoured and respected abroad and be happy and prosperous at home. The Government is doing all in its power to augment food production in the country. The "Grow More Food" Campaign was one of the efforts in that direction.

Source Of National Revenue

"The Government has also taken in hand various schemes for helping the campaign for producing more food. All cultivable fallow land will be brought under the plough and the existing cultivated land made to yield more with the use of more and better manures, greater facilities for irrigation, better means of cultivation and supply of improved seeds. In this campaign, our forests have an important role to play, namely to conserve water, to increase rainfall, to prevent erosion of soil, to stop manure from being used as fuel by producing firewood and to provide building material. Forests can also become a useful source of national revenue, because of the various industrial products they yield.

Intensive Cultivation

"I do not blame anybody for not realising the importance of forests in national economy. For the people have never been told about the role trees play in a country's food production. There has been merciless, cutting down of forests in the past, and especially in war-time. It is no use apportioning blame; we have to take things as they are and make efforts to better them. There are no considerable cultivable areas of lands that can be put under cultivation. The only alternative is intensive cultivation. And, as I said just now, forests are absolutely necessary for enriching our land. Remember that the average forest acreage per head in North America is 9.6; in Europe, 1.4; in the West Indies, 1.3 and in India,

only 0.5. The countries with more forests are not certainly backward agriculturally.

Two-Fold Responsibility

"Let us resolve on this auspicious day to make a concerted effort to enrich our forests, and thus enrich the soil. Let us fix a target; let there be a new tree per head every year in our villages and cities. Here is an activity which is as pleasant as it is useful, as simple as it is valuable. The Day of National Independence is the most appropriate day for this work. Your responsibility, however, does not end here. Mere planting of trees will take us nowhere. Your effort must be a sustained one. You must see to it that the trees you plant grow well. You should always be vigilant. You must also educate your fellowmen in the villages in the use of trees. Many of you, I suppose, visit villages once a year. You have to take that opportunity to tell the people there about the importance of trees and convince them of the national crime they have been committing in putting trees to such uses as fuel, fodder for cattle and the like. The Government is also taking steps to carry this message to the villages.

"This is one of the missions of the rural magazine, which made its appearance in the three regional languages of the Province only to-day. Your responsibility, therefore, and for that matter of us all, is two-fold—to plant more trees and prevent the misuse of existing trees. Let us be true to ourselves and review one year's achievements in this field this day next year. I hope the verdict of that day will be one of which we shall be truly proud." [No. N 442 of August 15, 1948]

"CELEBRATE AUGUST 15—BY PLANTING TREES": FORESTS MINISTER'S APPEAL

"A date has been fixed for tree planting so that a concerted effort, symbolic of our unity, can be made", said Mr. M. P. Patil, Minister for Agriculture and Forests, in his speech broadcast from the Bombay Station of All India Radio on July 2. The Minister asked: "Could there be a more appropriate day than August 15, a day of such national importance to us? A truly appropriate way of commemorating that day will be to plant trees, symbolic of our determination to stick to our soil and to build up our own strength". Mr. Patil referred to the country's overall deficiency in forests, the drain on the forest wealth caused by the war and the importance and urgent need of making it up.

He said: "I think I owe some explanation in undertaking this broadcast. In recent years, owing to the world shortage of foodgrains, the

energies of all peoples are being directed to the production and distribution of foodgrains. I, as the Minister in charge of Agriculture, have had my share in the campaign for the production of more foodgrains, popularly known as the "Grow More Food" Campaign. Many of my listeners may be aware that the Government of Bombay has produced a scheme by which the deficiency existing in the Province will be largely made up within five years. I am, however, not going to enlarge on this subject to-day, for to-day, in my other role as the Minister for Forests, I propose to make a plea on behalf of trees, a plea for growing more trees, for it has been clear to me, handling as I do the two subjects of Agriculture and Forests, that there is in this Province a great need for the growing of trees and that, essentially, there need not be any incompatibility between cultivation of crops and the growing of trees if a proper balance is maintained in the use of land.

Backwardness In Forests

"There are, of course, our forests. The overall percentage of the country's land area classed as forest is only 20 as against what the experts say it should be, namely, 25 to 30. Fully a quarter of the forest area is unproductive and the proportion of coniferbearing area, which is relatively more important from the industrial point of view, is only one-fifteenth. As against this picture, our Province can boast of only a little over 16% of the land area of the Province classed as forest. Not all this area is wooded, none of it is of conifers and only about 7,12 ths is productive of revenue, the rest being as yet unremunerative or actually bare or serving to protect the steep slopes of our mountain ranges. As a Province, we are part of the whole and it behoves us to strive not only to bring up our own proportion of productive forest area to the desired limit but even to exceed it so as to make up, to some extent, the country's deficiency in this respect.

Soil And Trees

"The distribution of our forests is even less satisfactory. Whereas at one end, in the Kanara District, 80% of the district area is under Government forests (not to mention other areas covered with trees), at the other end, in Kaira and Ahmedabad, there is no forest, with other districts falling in between, for example, Thana and West Khandesh, each having 40%, Kolaba 25% and Nasik 22%. The particularly deficient districts are Ahmedabad, Ahmednagar, Bijapur, Broach, Dharwar, Kaira, Poona, Ratnagiri, Sholapur and Surat. However much we would like each district to be self-sufficient, due to climatic and economic reasons it is impossible and it would also be unwise to attempt to distribute forest areas on a uniform basis. For example, if a district endowed with fertile soil and

peopled by an industrious peasantry is divested of a part of its area to be put under relatively less valuable tree crops, it is bad economics; it is bad use of land. The cost of production of foodgrains in such a district of course will depend on the cost of living of its peasantry which, in its turn, will include the extra cost they have to pay for their supplies of timber, firewood and other goods required to be brought from another district. But this arrangement, from the point of view of the economy of the Province, is preferable, as I stated before, to growing forests on good agricultural lands. When I say forests, I mean tracts of land, of considerable extent, covered with tree growth. I do not mean scattered growth of trees which can still be grown on little bits of uncultivated land that can always be found in the districts of fertile soil, on boundaries of fields, on road-sides, in house-compounds and in a host of other places. It will be found that however fertile the soil, however intensive the cultivation, it always pays to have at hand some trees.

Drain On Forest Wealth

“You can be sure that, during the last war, this Province was called upon to supply enormous quantities of timber and firewood, far in excess of the annual production, from our forests.’ The Government is taking every measure to rehabilitate our forests, for they are a sacred trust we have to administer on behalf of succeeding generations as well as of our own generation, as national emergencies may arise again. We must remember we are a nation standing on our own feet and must, in future, rely on our own strength, on our own resources. It is not generally known that despite the low proportion of forests in some districts, e.g., in Ratnagiri or Broach, they actually had many trees on private lands and that a large number of these trees were cut down to meet the very large demand for timber, firewood, matchwood and the like which arose as a result of the war. It will be appreciated that trees planted or preserved by their forefathers came in handy, as a sort of saving, when the present generation felt the need. Unfortunately, human nature is such that the wisdom of replanting trees is not appreciated to the same extent. The Government is proposing to remedy this state of affairs, but Government action alone is not enough. No law can instil into the people a sense of their own responsibility, a spirit of co-operation or an innate love for trees. Here again, the Government, which is no more and no less than the people’s servant, has a scheme which embodies educative propaganda and practical assistance to all who wish to plant trees. A countrywide effort is to be made in the Province from this year. I appeal to you all to take active part in it.

An Appeal

"A date has been fixed for the tree planting so that a concerted effort, symbolic of our unity, can be made. Could there be a more appropriate day than August 15, a day of such national importance to us? A truly appropriate way of commemorating that day will be to plant trees, symbolic of our determination to stick to our soil and to build up our own strength. I appeal to the 20,000 and odd educational institutions in the Province, to the more than 21,000 villages and 385 townships, to the scout organisations, to all bodies which will take part in the annual celebration on August 15 to make it a point to plant trees. The Government and the District Rural Development Boards have made arrangements to supply seedlings and information to the public through the agency of the Agricultural and the Forest Departments. I appeal also to the cultivators who have profited by cutting and selling trees on their land to replant at least twice the number of trees they have cut down. By following this programme, you will bring beauty and prosperity to your land and security to the future generation. Your children will ever remain grateful to you for this." [No. N 374 of July 2, 1948]

"A NEW TREE PER HEAD EVERY YEAR": PREMIER'S APPEAL

A fervent appeal to the people to take part enthusiastically and in a spirit of national service in the tree-planting ceremony on August 15 has been made by the Premier of Bombay, Mr. B. G. Kher.

The Premier says: "On the 15th of August last year, we gained the freedom to live our lives and build up our future in our own way. This freedom, however, is of little value, if we continue to be dependent on others for our very subsistence. The battle for self-sufficiency must still be fought and won.

"Our Province is not self-sufficient in the matter of food. Every year we have to meet a deficit of food by imports which have to be subsidised to the extent of Rs. 15 crores. We cannot obviously go on spending this huge amount year after year. The remedy is to grow as much more food as possible. 'Produce or perish' should be our slogan to-day in agriculture as in industry.

"Government has taken in hand various schemes for helping the campaign for more food. All cultivable fallow land will be brought under the plough and the existing cultivated land made to yield more with the use of more and better manures, greater facilities for irrigation, better means of cultivation and supply of improved seed. In this cam-

paign, our forests have an important role to play, namely, to conserve water, to increase rainfall, to prevent erosion of soil, to stop manure from being used as fuel by producing firewood and to provide building material. Forests can also, because of the various industrial products they yield, become a useful source of national revenue.

Their Aesthetic Value

“But to a lover of beauty perhaps the most important aspect of trees is their aesthetic value. He can find ‘sermons in trees and books in running brooks’. A tree, a cluster of trees, a forest, can be made a national spot of beauty, if properly developed.

“I have, therefore, great pleasure in lending my full support to the campaign for a new tree per head every year in our villages and cities. Here is an activity which is as pleasant as it is useful, as simple as it is valuable.

“The Day of National Independence should be the most appropriate day for this work. I am sure all people in this Province will respond to this call heartily and take part enthusiastically and in a spirit of national service in the Tree Planting Ceremony on the 15th of August and will also nurture carefully the trees planted from year to year as national wealth. Plant as many trees as you can on this day.” [No. P 1297 of August 2, 1948]

“PROGRESS THROUGH SEVERE TRIALS”: GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S INDEPENDENCE DAY MESSAGE

“On the 15th of August 1948, we reach the end of one year of Independence. Our misfortunes have been great and unexpected. We can trace the causes now, but it is a different thing to be wise beforehand. There is no doubt that our Government and our people have had to face what they had not been prepared for. That our Government and our national leaders have not done badly is the opinion of competent international observers who have not spoken to flatter. It is through severe trials that a nation's fibre is strengthened. Otherwise, a people cannot progress.

“The greatest of our misfortunes is the passing away of Gandhiji at a time when his wise and inspiring guidance was most necessary. This misfortune has compelled us, those who have been left behind, to fall back on our own light. Gandhiji brought the precepts of all the scriptures into the plane of dynamic worldly action and removed the distinc-

tion between the teachings of religion and wisdom in the affairs of the world. If we isolate his teaching from our daily activities as individuals or as a State and pay reverent worship to his memory and his word without making it give direction to our activities in the way he desired, erecting a wall between politics and the virtues and restraints which he preached, then, indeed, our worship would be an empty hypocrisy. Let us, in conducting our affairs, try on each occasion of doubt or difficulty to think as he would have thought if we had gone to him for advice. And let us act as if he were still among us and watching.

Need For Constructive Thought

“A long struggle, such as we have gone through, has a tendency to leave behind a certain inelasticity of mind and hesitation in tapping all resources which the new context requires. We must learn to think constructively and to pool all talent and resources for the national work before us.

“The first thing is to avoid the vanity of hatred, for, indeed, there is nothing more than vanity in hatred and in the plans that follow from it, as we can see if only we read past history to purpose and not for mere entertainment.

“The next thing to realise is that to be independent is only an opportunity, and it is only integrity in public life and industry in constructive work that can build and, making up for lost time, bring out the potential greatness of our country.

“The Motherland expects every one now to go full steam ahead in all work. She wants the maximum civic spirit and co-operation.” [No. P 1359 of August 10, 1948]

BOMBAY CITY—GREATEST IN WORLD: GOVERNOR'S TRIBUTE TO MINISTERS

“Whatever happens, I have no doubt the City of Bombay will remain the greatest city in the world”, said Raja Maharaj Singh, Governor of Bombay, at the banquet given by the Mayor of Bombay at the Corporation Hall in celebration of the Independence Day. The Premier and Ministers attended the banquet.

The Governor, in response to the Mayor's suggestion in the speech made on the occasion, said that he would always be glad to forward the Corporation's request for larger grants for the sympathetic consideration

of the Government. Expressing his satisfaction at the Greater Bombay Plan prepared by the Municipality, the Governor said that he had visited a large number of countries and found that Bombay ranked high amongst the greatest cities not merely of India but also of the world.

Turning to the achievements of the Province and the country during one year of independence, the Governor said the Ministers of Bombay Province had worked extremely hard for the welfare of the people. The Provincial Government, he added, had provided not less than Rs. 8 crores for education and a substantial portion of the huge amount would be utilised towards primary education, that is to say, for the uplift of the poorer classes of the population. The Governor also made a pointed reference to the fact that peace and order in the Province had been preserved under difficult conditions which, he said, was an important achievement.

"We must have patience", the Governor observed, adding, "What is one year but a drop in the ocean of India's history?" He said the country was passing through difficult times and that there was no country in the world what was not surrounded by difficulties. Finally, he said that criticism levelled against the Government should be constructive, not destructive. [No. N 443 of August 16, 1948]

AMERICANS' GREETINGS ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

The American Consul General in Bombay, in his letter dated August 14., 1948, and addressed to the Premier of Bombay, writes:

"It gives me the deepest pleasure, on behalf of my Government and the American community in Bombay, to extend to you and the people of this Province our congratulations and sincere good wishes on this First Anniversary of the independence of India.

"A year ago, I was in Calcutta and was privileged to witness the ushering in of Indian independence in a great wave of happiness and enlightened public consciousness. During the year which has followed, India has taken its rightful place among the world's community of nations and its democratic outlook has won it international recognition and respect.

"May the ties of warm friendship, strong sympathy and great understanding which bind our two countries together grow ever stronger."

The Premier of Bombay, in his reply, has reciprocated the Americans' sentiments. [No. N 444 of August 16, 1948]

ALL COMMUNITIES' PLEDGE OF SUPPORT TO FREE INDIA: FREEDOM ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES TO PREMIER

On the occasion of the first anniversary of India's Independence, Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier of Bombay, received a number of messages from individuals and associations extending felicitations on the occasion of the first anniversary of Independence Day and pledging loyalty and service in the cause of the nation.

The messages came from all sections of the people, rich and poor—doctors, pleaders, businessmen and social workers, home guards, minority communities and refugees—and from all corners of the country and representative associations of foreign communities.

The Muslim community of the Province was not slow in expressing its appreciation of the Government's successful efforts in safeguarding its interests during the critical days following the partition of the country. Among the many messages received from representative associations of that community were those from Godhra Muslims, and the Juma Masjid of Bombay. The Czechoslovak Technical Mission and a representative association of the Iranian community of Bombay also sent greetings. [No. N 451 of August 18, 1948]

TWO MINUTES' SILENCE IN MEMORY OF MARTYRS

The Government of Bombay desires that two minutes' silence should be observed at 12 noon on Sunday, August 15, in memory of those who sacrificed their lives in the cause of India's freedom. The public is requested to co-operate in observing complete silence.

Sirens will announce the beginning and end of the two minutes' period. [No. P 1358 of August 9, 1948]

HONOUR YOUR NATIONAL FLAG: AN APPEAL

A month has elapsed since the Independence Day Anniversary celebrations, but the Government regrets to notice the National Flag still being flown on some residential and business premises. The attention of the public is drawn to the rules which the Government of India framed some time ago for the display of the National Flag.

As regards buildings, both official and residential, the rules prescribed that the Flag will be flown on all occasions on important Government build-

ings, such as High Courts, Secretariats, Commissioners' Offices, Collecto- rates, Jails and offices of the District Boards and Municipalities; at special places in frontier areas; as also the residences of Ministers (at the Centre and in the Provinces), of Chief Commissioners, India's representatives in foreign countries and States, and ruling princes and Raj-Pramukhs.

Display On Special Occasions

On special occasions like the Independence Day celebrations, the National Week, January 26 and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, as well as other particular days of national rejoicing, the use of the Flag will be unrestricted.

Publicity to these rules was given by all conceivable means—through newspapers, pamphlets and posters. The Government has reason to believe that the rules must have reached every nook and corner of the Province. As such, any irregular use of the Flag can only be taken as indifference towards the national emblem.

The National Flag is not the property of an individual; it is the emblem of the nation. Hence, it behoves everyone to honour it by proper use of it and not allowing others to misuse it. [No. P 1559 of September 16, 1948]

NEED TO STIMULATE MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL MEMORIAL FUND COLLECTIONS

The Premier, Mr. B. G. Kher, who is the President of the Mahatma Gandhi National Memorial Fund, Bombay Committee, met Bombay's editors and the members of the Committee this evening at the Committee Room, Secretariat, to discuss matters connected with the collection of the Fund so far as Bombay was concerned.

Enumerating the noble objects for which the Fund was being collect- ed, the Premier made a fervent appeal to the editors to lend their fullest and most active co-operation in accelerating collections. Mr. Kher stated that it was not the target but the contribution of even the smallest man that was more important and, for creating the necessary atmosphere, the help of the Press was required. Drawing attention to the non-party and non-political character of the Fund, the Premier reiterated what Dr. Ra- jendra Prasad had stated, namely, that the Fund would be utilised for the furtherance of the constructive activities for which Mahatma Gandhi lived and died.

Mr. S. A. Brelvi, speaking on behalf of the Press, assured the Premier of every possible help that could be expected of the Press for the collec-

tion of the Fund. Mr. Brelvi, who is already on the Bombay Committee of the Fund, was authorised to set up a small committee of journalists to help the Committee with advice in regard to publicity for the Fund collections. [No. N 463 of August 25, 1948]

CONTRIBUTION TO MAHATMA GANDHI MEMORIAL FUND BY LOCAL BODIES

The Government of Bombay has, in a circular issued to the local bodies, explained the legal position regarding the contribution to the Mahatma Gandhi National Memorial Fund by the local bodies.

The Government has pointed out that the powers of the local bodies to contribute to such central funds are strictly limited and must be used with caution.

While it is lawful for the municipalities to make contributions towards expenditure incurred by a public fund outside the municipal area, provided such expenditure is for measures affecting the health, instruction, safety or convenience of the public and calculated to benefit the residents within the limits of the contributing municipality, the local boards and village panchayats may make contributions only for any of the purposes of the Bombay Local Boards Act or the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, as the case may be.

Erection of Statues Not Favoured

Some local bodies propose to erect statues of Mahatma Gandhi and of other national leaders. The correct legal position as to whether a local body can spend money on such items is being examined. In the meanwhile, the Government desires to impress upon local bodies that it is not in favour of statues being erected by them.

As regards contribution by the employees of local bodies to the Mahatma Gandhi National Memorial Fund, the Collectors have been requested to invite the attention of all local bodies to the orders issued by the Government in July last in the matter of contribution by Government servants to the Fund. The local bodies have been recommended to issue similar orders. [No. P 1404 of August 17, 1948]

“GRAM SUDHAR SAPTAH” IN BOMBAY PROVINCE: PREMIER KHER'S APPEAL FOR CONSTRUCTIVE WORK

Gram Sudhar Saptah (Village Improvement Week) will be observed in Bombay Province from October 2, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday anni-

versary, to October 12, the Dassara Day. The Government desires that such a Week should be observed every year.

Mr. B. G. Kher, the Premier, has issued the following appeal in connection with the Saptah:

“I cannot think of a more appropriate manner in which we could pay our homage and do honour to the memory of the Father of the Nation than by striving to achieve his ideals in the sphere of rural development. The programme of the Gram Sudhar Saptah mainly consists of village cleaning, promotion of social amity and the removal of untouchability. This programme was nearest to the heart of the Mahatma as an important part of the scheme of Sarvodaya envisaged by him. Real India, according to him, was to be found mainly in her seven lakh villages—not in her handful of cities. I urge the public of Bombay Province to devote its energy to the observance of the Saptah and show that it is second to none in the sphere of constructive work, even as in its sacrifice for the achievement of the goal of independence. This is the most fitting manner in which the rich and the poor, the old and the young, men, women and children, can commemorate his life and its message to the world”.

The Government, in a circular letter, says that the Week should be inaugurated with a meeting in which the importance, utility and urgency of village improvement work should be stressed by local leaders.

The Main Programme

During the week, the main programme should consist of the following.

(i) A general cleaning of the village. Where possible and necessary, the lay-out of the village should be improved.

(ii) Such of the refuse collected as a result of the cleaning as is suitable for composting should be made use of for that purpose.

(iii) Digging of compost pits in and around the village.

(iv) Some common pits should also be dug, where refuse from the village as such, that is, apart from the refuse collected from each household, could be composted.

(v) Concrete steps should be taken to bring about an atmosphere of social amity between individuals and groups in the village.

(vi) Special attempts should be made towards the removal of disabilities suffered by the untouchables in the village. The breaking up of undesirable customs in this respect may be arranged during the week.

Items Of Village Improvement

In addition to the above programme, which can be practised in each and every village, an attempt should be made to undertake as many items of village improvement as possible, depending on local circumstances. The following items are suggested.

- (a) Making arrangements for the disposal of night soil, e.g., by construction of latrines, especially for women.
- (b) Finalising plans for the digging of irrigation wells and repairs to old wells.
- (c) Discussing and formulating plans for soil conservation.
- (d) Planning better management and improvement of village grazing lands.
- (e) Constructing Silo pits.
- (f) Organising co-operative multi-purpose societies and grain banks.
- (g) Considering the feasibility of opening primary schools and adult literacy classes.
- (h) Collecting subscriptions and arranging for the opening of a village library.
- (i) Organising young folk for playing group games, preparation of playgrounds and, where possible, preparing plans for the establishment of a gymnasium.
- (j) Considering measures for making the policy of prohibition successful in the village.
- (k) Improvement of village roads and construction of approach roads, where necessary.
- (l) Improvement of the sources of supply of drinking water.

Popularising Spinning

(m) Popularising spinning. Where a sufficient number of spinners exists, a competition for producing the maximum quantity of yarn during the Saptah would be useful. Training of persons in spinning may also be

undertaken during this period. The need for making every village self-sufficient in the matter of cloth may be impressed on the villagers.

(n) The organisation of Home Guards or Village Defence Parties, wherever possible and necessary, may be undertaken.

(o) Planning cropping in the village with a view to making the village self-sufficient in the matter of food.

(p) Meetings might be held for explaining the various schemes of the Government for village improvement and the Grow More Food campaign and for explaining the benefits of rural legislation already passed or proposed to be passed by it.

(q) The improvement of village cattle may be discussed. The purchase of breeding bulls and premium cows may be encouraged during the week.

The work done by each village during the Gram Sudhar Saptah will be taken into consideration at the time of assessing the work of the various villages for the award of village improvement prizes. [No. P 1538 of September 13, 1948]

OCTOBER 2 DECLARED A PUBLIC HOLIDAY

The Government of Bombay has declared Saturday, October 2, 1948, to be a public holiday in the Province on account of the Birthday anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. [No. P 1613 of September 23, 1948]

COMPENSATION TO DEPENDANTS OF 1942 MARTYRS

Following the Government's decision to grant compensation to the families of political prisoners and detenus, who died in the jails of the Province, while undergoing imprisonment or detention in connection with the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1942, in those cases only in which the dependants were rendered destitute or have no appreciable means of support, sanction is accorded to ex-gratia compensation to dependants of 13 such deceased persons.

The total amount of compensation is Rs. 6,700.

The deceased persons, whose dependants will receive compensation, are: Mr. Basappa Parappa (Belgaum District), Mr. Ramchandra Pivaji

(Dharwar District), Mr. Mahadeo Arajunappa Pawar (Dharwar District), Mr. Karya Shettappa Maddav (Dharwar District), Mr. Dyamappa Ramappa Bhavi (Dharwar District), Mr. Nabisab Badesab Paiar (Dharwar District), Mr. Shantaram Anant Gumaste (Satara District), Mr. Shankar Bala Khurde (Satara District), Mr. Jagappa Bharmappa Lavazi (Belgaum District), Mr. Shidram Dodappa (Belgaum District), Mr. Madhav Govind Manjire (Poona District), Mr. Iggappa Annayya Hedge (Kanara District) and Mr. Prabhakar Ganesh Gadkeri (Poona City). [No. P 1636 of September 25, 1948]

SACRIFICE OF LIFE DURING COMMUNAL RIOTS—GRANT OF DONATION TO INSTITUTION

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned the grant of a donation of Rs. 4,000 to the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas, Parsi Division, Bombay, on account of the loss of life of two of its members, Messrs. J. A. Navdar and G. N. Gazdar while on duty during the communal riots in Bombay City in September 1946.

The Government has also authorised the management of the Division to utilise the amount towards commemoration in a suitable manner of the sacrifice of life made by the two men in the discharge of their humane voluntary work. [No. P 1340 of August 6, 1948]

RELIEF TO VICTIMS OF FLOOD IN AHMEDNAGAR DISTRICT

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned a scheme with a view to enabling the victims of the flood-affected areas in the Ahmednagar District to construct houses as early as possible through the agency of the co-operative housing societies.

Under this scheme the Government has agreed to grant loans to the co-operative societies to the extent of two-thirds of the cost of the houses to be built by the members and some other concessions. [No. P 1256 of July 27, 1948]

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS OF MERGED STATES

While taking over the administration of the States that have merged with the Province of Bombay, the Government of Bombay declared its intention to absorb all permanent State servants as far as possible in Bom-

bay Government service. Pending settlement of the terms and conditions of absorption as far as possible, the State servants have been continued in their posts, except those who have reached the age of 55 years or the age of superannuation according to the Rules of the States, whichever is later.

The Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that there is some uneasiness among the State servants about their pay-scales, conditions of service, etc. The Government is keenly alive to the well-being of the State servants and steps are being taken to bring them on a level with the personnel of the Bombay Government services. The settlement of the whole question will take some time.

Interim Orders

In the meantime, in order to alleviate the conditions of the State servants, the Government has passed the following orders: (i) Dearness allowances to be granted to all, irrespective of their final absorption in service at the rate at which it is sanctioned to Government servants in mofussil areas of the Province. (ii) Owing to the exigencies of public services, some of the State servants in the Police Department have been transferred from one State area to a taluka or district office of this Province. As such "transferred" State servants are required to discharge their duties in somewhat different conditions, such as higher cost of living, difficulty of securing housing accommodation, etc., orders have been passed that such State servants are now entitled to the pay-scales attached to the cadre or service to which they belong in the district in which they are working.

In the case of State servants other than those in the Police Service who are transferred from one State area to another State area, the servants are allowed to draw their pay equal to the pay which they were drawing at the time of their transfer and in addition a compensatory allowance not exceeding 25 per cent of the pay.

The revision of pay-scales of State servants who have been continued in service is under the consideration of the Government. The State servants who will be absorbed finally in the services of this Government will, on the day of absorption, draw the minimum of the scale of the posts to which such servants are appointed, in case it is higher than the pay they were drawing on that day. If the minimum of the scale happens to be lower than they pay they were drawing on that day, the pay in such cases will be fixed in the scale at a stage higher than their pay. [No. P 1341 of August 6, 1948]

GOVERNOR'S "FLAG DAY" APPEAL

His Excellency Raja Maharaj Singh, Governor of Bombay, has issued the following appeal in connection with the Flag Day for Ex-servicemen on October 1.

"I heartily endorse the public appeal made by the Premier of Bombay a few days ago for generous support to the collections which will be made on October 1, 1948, for the benefit of ex-servicemen and their families. On this occasion, all of us, by making a contribution, big or small, to this cause can express our gratitude to the valour and sacrifices of our troops in the two Great Wars." [No. N 515 of September 28, 1948]

PREMIER'S APPEAL FOR FLAG DAY FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier of Bombay, has issued the following appeal:

"It has been decided by the Government of India to observe Friday, October 1, as a day for collections for the benefit of ex-servicemen and their families.

"As this day approaches, I would remind the people of this Province of the gallantry and devotion of our fighting men of the three services, who contributed to victory in the last two Great Wars. We must not forget that they are facing hardships because of the sacrifices they made to win peace and safeguard democracy.

"This is a very noble cause and I appeal to the public of Bombay City and the Province for giving generous support to it. You can contribute by purchasing flags on October 1 and I would ask everyone to make a contribution that is worthy of the giver and of the cause." [No. P 1618 of September 24, 1948]

CONCESSION TO EX-SOLDIERS' CHILDREN

The educational concessions to the children of soldiers who took part in the last World War have been extended to the children and dependants of ex-soldiers in the States which are merged in Bombay Province. [No. P 1476 of August 30, 1948]

SERVICEMEN OF GUJARAT STATES ELIGIBLE FOR CASH AWARDS

The scheme for the grant of cash rewards to servicemen awarded decorations for gallantry in the field during World War II has been extended to servicemen hailing from the Gujarat States (except Baroda, Shirohi and Danta) which have been merged in the Province of Bombay. [No. P 1281 of July 30, 1948]

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS AND COMMUNAL BODIES

It had been the policy of the Government of Bombay to permit Government servants to attend conferences of a purely social or educational nature, irrespective of whether they were organized by communal bodies.

The question whether this policy should be revised in view of the necessity to eradicate communalism from all spheres of life had been under the consideration of the Government for some time past, and it has now decided that Government servants should not be permitted to attend or participate in any conference which is organized by communal bodies. [No. P 1345 of August 6, 1948]

NEW MEASURE TO LIQUIDATE BLACK MARKET IN PETROL: CLASSIFICATION OF PUMPS INTO "PRIVATE" AND "COMMERCIAL"

The petrol pumps in Greater Bombay will be segregated into two categories as from September 1 next. The scheme is part of the general plan, the fruition of which, it is hoped, will go a long way in eradicating the black market in petrol.

All dealers up to and including Andheri on the West and Ghatkopar on the East will be affected by the scheme.

One of the chief 'modus operandi' for making black market coupons available is that of depositing with a dealer, by transport contractors, of surplus transport vehicle (goods lorry) coupons. Against these coupons, a dealer is able to make surreptitious petrol issues without coupons to those who are able and willing to pay the price.

After careful consideration and with the concurrence of the oil distributing companies, the petrol pumps have been separated into two categories, "private" and "commercial."

A "private" pump will be available for sale of petrol to motor cars and motor cycles only, while "commercial" pumps will serve only transport vehicles, i.e., lorries, buses, taxis and ambulances.

The petrol in the tanks of "commercial" pumps will be coloured green, while "private" petrol will continue to remain orange as at present.

Petrol dealers possessing two pumps and two underground tanks on the same premises will be permitted to sell "private" petrol from one pump and "commercial" petrol from the other.

Consumers' own pumps supplying petrol to their vehicles will be treated as "commercial" and the petrol will be coloured green.

Where To Get Petrol

"Private" pumps will serve petrol only against ordinary private basic coupons, which are green coloured with a green and mauve surface, and against supplementary coupons which are buffcoloured with a red and beige surface.

"Commercial" pumps will serve petrol only against transport vehicle coupons, which are yellow in colour with a green and red surface, against special receipts, which are pink with a brown surface, and industrial licence receipts, which are white with a green surface.

In the case of motor manufacturers and dealers who possess their own pumps for supply of petrol to either private or commercial vehicles, either on assembly or during repairs, and who do not sell petrol to the public, such pumps will be permitted to remain "private" subject to the condition that for every gallon of petrol issued from such pumps by a transport or commercial vehicle, there shall be, in addition to a coupon, an order from the workshop's manager or some other officer of a position of similar responsibility.

Owners or persons in charge and drivers of motor cars and motor cycles are requested to take all precautions to ensure that they do not allow coloured petrol to be poured into the petrol tank and should, as far as is possible, arrange to take petrol from the same pump on every occasion.

In order to prevent the issue of black market petrol to transport vehicles, all lorry operators are being asked to maintain a daily trip sheet with each lorry. [No. P 1436 of August 23, 1948]

RESTORATION OF RURAL BUS SERVICES TO NORMAL OPERATION

The Government of Bombay has decided to restore the rural bus services in the Province back to normal operation for the quarter, October to December 1948. This was made possible as a result of a careful review and rationalisation of issue to petrol consumers.

The other day the Government announced its decision to provide an additional supplementary quota equal to one half the present basic one for issue to each motor car and motor cycle owner for the quarter. [No. P 1608 of September 23, 1948]

READJUSTMENT OF BOMBAY'S PETROL DISTRIBUTION: CENTRE APPROACHED FOR RELIEF

The petrol quota of Bombay Province was reduced during the past nine months from approximately 60 lac gallons to 51 lac gallons per quarter. As a result of this substantial reduction against the everincreasing demands, some of which are of a vital nature, the Government of Bombay set up a committee to re-adjust the present distribution, which, in a number of cases, was alleged to be inequitable, and suggest ways and means to economise in the consumption of petrol.

The Committee first tackled the problem of re-adjusting distribution, particularly with reference to supplementary issues to cars in the City of Bombay. This work was to be completed before the beginning of the present quarter. Considering the large number of cars in the City, the Committee had to work hard to complete its work within the limited time.

Before proceeding with the work of re-distribution, the Committee first decided upon various categories according to essentiality and nature of work. These categories provide an operation of from eight to 16 miles a day, and the petrol quota is calculated on the basis of Horse Power.

The categories are as follows:

Categories	Basis
1 Doctors : A essentiality	700 miles per month.
Doctors : B essentiality	600 miles per month.
Doctors : C essentiality	450 miles per month.
Doctors : D essentiality	300 miles per month.

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|--|-------------------------|
| II Merchants, business firms, solicitors,
individual auditors, actors, professors,
teachers and priests. | 8 to 10 miles per day |
| III Industrialists and journalists. | 14 to 16 miles per day. |
| IV Civil engineers and architects. | 10 to 12 miles per day. |
| V Lawyers. | 10 miles per day. |
| VI Industrial firms' staff cars and Auditors'
firms' cars. | 12 to 14 miles per day. |

If a person resides between Matunga and Ghatkopar on the G. I. P. Railway and Santa Cruz on the B. B. C. I. Railway, additional allowances of 10 to 20 per cent. may be granted according to distance.

If there are two cars or more in the same family in different names and if more than one member of the family is actually in business for entirely different and independent business purposes, the second car should be granted 50 per cent. of the issue made for the first car according to the above categories. No supplementary will be granted to other cars.

The supplementary quota should not exceed twice the original basic.

"L" denotes the lowest mileage allowed.

"M" denotes the medium mileage allowed.

"H" denotes the highest mileage allowed.

New Cars

In the City of Bombay, cases of persons possessing more than one car registered either in one name or different names of the same family are numerous. There are also cases where owners of cars, not actively engaged in any vocation, have been in receipt of large supplementary issues. Besides, an average of about 500 new cars per month are being registered, despite the intimation that no supplementary would be given to new applicants. At present, the Government has no authority to refuse basic ration on such new cars, and therefore even in basic issue alone is represented a drain of approximately 4,000 gallons a month.

The Committee, therefore, did not assess a supplementary ration on such cars. In the case of more than one car, the same principle has been

followed except in cases where the use of such cars is considered to be essential for attending to multifarious activities by different members of the family.

Scope For Appeal

It is possible that the allotment of petrol may fall short of individual requirements in some cases. Realising this possibility, appeals have been invited and such cases are being examined by the Committee and readjustments made wherever found necessary. Cases of supplementary to new cars, which are found to be essential for the efficient performance of duty or business, are also being considered.

Most of the pool rations have been discontinued and stringent measures are being adopted to stop petrol coupons or petrol from going into the black market, the results of which will be evident to the public very shortly.

The saving that may result from the rationalisation of issues both to cars and lorries will be utilised to meet the most essential needs of the City and the Province, which are suffering at present from want of petrol, such as building activities, passenger services, goods services, etc.

The following facts will give the public an idea of the heavy liabilities this Province has to face in the supply of petrol.

Our Responsibility

(1) Ours is a highly industrialised and advanced province with its capital, Bombay, vastly populated.

(2) The port of Bombay has become the principal sea port where large imports of foodstuffs, machinery and other goods meant for use both within and outside the Province are handled.

(3) Bombay has become an international airport with a large number of daily in-coming and out-going air services.

(4) It is also a terminus of two of the largest railways.

(5) This Province, having been allotted the largest quota of refugees, has to meet their housing and other rehabilitation needs.

(6) The Government housing programme for industrial labour, which is the largest in Bombay, the Electric Grid Scheme, the scheme for

the nationalisation of transport services and expansion of air communication necessary to suit a major airport are already on hand.

(7) This City has also a number of Central Government Departments.

It may be rightly argued that most of these activities belong to the Central Government, and as such petrol requirements for such activities should be provided separately by the Central Government. The Government of Bombay is making a representation on the subject as also for an increase in its provincial quota, which if successful, will provide relief to a great extent. The Government is also pressing for the restoration of the cut in basic ration recently imposed.

The Advisory Committee recently referred to in the Press as being constituted by the Government is not, as was made to appear, to take the place of the present Committee, whose work will end on the completion of its review of individual distribution.

The Advisory Committee will be of a permanent nature composed of representatives of associations and bodies connected with petrol consumers and the functions of the Committee will be to advise the Government on the proportionate allocation of the Provincial quota between areas and between consumer categories. [No. P 1485 of September 1, 1948]

TICKETLESS TRAVEL IS DISSERVICE TO FREE INDIA: PREMIER'S APPEAL

How ticketless travel inflicts on the Indian nation the colossal loss of 10 crores annually and how the loss has to be made up by the travelling public is emphasized in an appeal Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier of Bombay, has addressed to ticketless travellers in this Province. The Premier, in reminding them of the harmful consequences of the evil and anti-national practice, has called upon the general public to mobilize all available resources and combat the growing and disastrous practice.

The appeal goes on to observe: "Many problems of urgent importance to the Province as well as to the country have arisen in the last year or two to claim the attention and anxious thought of all who have at heart the well-being and advancement of Free India.

"It would be no exaggeration to say that one of these problems, namely, the problem of ticketless travel on railways, has lately assumed

the proportions of a menace on a national scale, and is, therefore, exercising the minds of the first Government of Free India.

“The nation is now suffering the staggering loss of rupees 10 crores per year through ticketless travel by our countrymen on the railways of India.

A Colossal Loss

“This dishonest habit of travelling without tickets has now got such a vice-like grip on some of our people, that it threatens to become a permanent disgrace to our national existence. And, who pays the penalty of making up for this colossal loss? The majority of the people who pay for their travel on the railways are made to pay more, because a dishonest, degenerate minority persists in travelling without tickets.

“And unless this growing menace is exterminated once and for all, the realisation of our dream of a strong and prosperous Free India will be put off for a long time.

“The railways are our own national asset and with their prosperity is bound up the prosperity and glory of our country.

“It is a matter of shame to us as a nation that even the Father of our Nation found it necessary to draw particular attention to this menace and to caution the people against it.

“All patriotic and public-spirited citizens must consider it their duty to take every opportunity to eradicate this evil from our midst and to carry on a sustained campaign with this end in view. Leaders of the people in all walks of life can undoubtedly play an important part in this campaign.” [No. N 387 of July 10, 1948]

INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL

Mr. V. R. Saraf, District Judge, East Khandesh, has been appointed by the Government of Bombay as Industrial Tribunal for the adjudication of industrial disputes in relation to which the Central Government is not the appropriate Government. [No. P 1296 of August 2, 1948]

PENSIONERS' RE-EMPLOYMENT

The following pensioners wishing to accept any commercial employment before the expiry of two years from the date of their retirement,

should obtain the previous sanction of the Government to such acceptance: (i) A pensioner who immediately before retirement was a member of the Provincial Service Class I, Bombay Civil Services (Executive Branch) Upper Division, Bombay, Sales Tax Service, and (ii) all other pensioners who occupied posts carrying a maximum pay exceeding Rs. 1,000 p.m.

No pension will be payable to a pensioner who accepts a commercial employment, without such sanction in respect of any period for which he is so employed or such longer period as the Government may direct:

The term "commercial employment" means employment in any capacity, including that of an agent, under a company, firm or individual engaged in commercial business and includes also a directorship of such company and a partnership of such firm.

These orders do not apply in relation to any commercial employment accepted before April 1, 1948. [No. P 1228 of July 22, 1948]

REBUILDING NATIONAL LIFE THROUGH CINEMA INDUSTRY: BOMBAY FILM CENSOR BOARD'S SUGGESTIONS

With a view to ensuring that the cinema industry plays its proper role in the building up of healthy national life, the Bombay Board of Film Censors has offered detailed suggestions to producers as to how they should guard against the unhealthy type of entertainment being catered to the public.

Although entertainment is the chief aim of the film, the Board avers, only a healthy type of entertainment, which deprecates what is harmful and promotes what is helpful, can be expected to recreate and rebuild a people and lead them to better thought and ultimately to a better life.

The suggestions which were drafted in consultation with the Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association and endorsed by the Government of Bombay are classified under the following seven heads:

(1) Religions, Faiths. (2) Peoples, Ideals and Morals. (3) History and Mythology. (4) Law. (5) Crime. (6) Sex and (7) Miscellaneous.

Religions, Faiths:

(1) Profanity to God or to religions or faiths or to their founders or accredited ministers shall not be permitted.

(2) All religions and religious ceremonies shall be treated with respect.

Peoples, Ideals And Morals:

(1) Ridiculing or indicting a whole nation, its race or people, its citizenry, its creeds, history and culture, its national emblems such as flags or national songs, its nation-builders, living or dead, or its accredited institutions shall not be permitted.

(2) Costumes and behaviour of characters shall not be presented in travesties so as to cause ridicule, contempt or hatred for the whole class or community which the characters represent.

(3) Noble ideals such as truth, justice, chastity, charity, etc., shall not be ridiculed.

(4) Salacious incidents, obscene, ambiguous and irrelevant titles, obscenity in talk or songs or gestures distasteful or prejudicial to good taste shall not be permitted.

(5) Treatment of low and disgusting aspects of life, necessary to show evil, shall be guided by good taste and shall not offend the finer susceptibilities of the public.

(6) No picture which will lower the moral standards of those who see it shall be presented.

History And Mythology:

(1) Presentation of history, mythology, legend and classical works shall, as far as possible, be based on recognised documentary evidence. If dramatic license is taken in their treatment, nothing which will lower the respect of the public for the honoured historical characters concerned shall be permitted.

(2) Characters of Indian or other mythologies of gods and goddesses, of historical heroes or of sacred personalities shall not be presented in a frivolous manner.

(3) Anachronisms in historical settings, costumes, music, etc., shall as far as possible be avoided.

(4) Obscene or undesirable historical facts or similar mythological episodes shall not be presented.

Law:

(1) Law, natural or human, shall not be ridiculed, nor shall sympathy be created for its violation.

(2) Travesty of the administration of law or justice shall not be permitted.

(3) No act, word or gesture which ridicules law or creates sympathy for crime against law shall be permitted.

(4) No scene shall ridicule or produce the total effect of bringing into contempt or hatred law-enforcing officers in the discharge of their duties.

(5) No member of the public services shall be shown to behave in a manner derogatory to the honour of the service to which he belongs.

(6) Scenes showing illegal production of drugs or traffic in forbidden drugs shall not be shown.

(7) Any scene showing or suggesting the use of liquor or displaying of liquor, except to show its evil consequences, is forbidden.

(8) Wholesale beating, shooting or killing even as punishment for crime, shall not be shown.

(9) Controversial politics leading to class-hatred, violence or disorder shall not be permitted.

Crime:

(1) No crime shall be presented in a way which will create sympathy for it or inspire its imitation. The sympathy of the public shall never be thrown on the side of crime, wrong-doing or evil.

(2) Theft, pick-pocketing, robbery, dacoity, safe-cracking, mining of buildings or bridges, dynamiting of public vehicles, arson, etc., shall not be shown, unless they are adequately punished. Even when punishment follows, their gruesome aspects shall not be shown. Under no circumstance shall an exposition of the technique or method of crime be shown.

(3) The presentation of third degree methods, executions by hanging, decapitating, or electrocution, even as legal punishments, shall not be permitted.

(4) Gruesome murders with ghastly wounds, causing excessive flow of blood or murder by torture, such as strangulation, shall not be shown.

No Physical Torture

(5) Any form of brutality such as excessive beating, whipping, branding or any other form of physical torture shall not be shown in detail, only symbolic gestures necessary for the continuity of a story shall be permitted.

(6) Planned murder, even by way of revenge for harm done, if predominant in plot, shall not be permitted.

(7) The use of fire-arms daggers, knives, etc., shall be restricted to essentials.

(8) Physical assault on women shall not be shown. If at all it is absolutely necessary for a story, it should be shown only in a symbolic manner.

(9) Cruelty to children and presentation of children in undesirable environments such as gambling dens, houses of ill-fame, etc., shall not be shown.

(10) Cruelty to beasts of burden or other animals shall not be shown.

(11) Kidnapping a child and abducting a woman are highly undesirable themes; if, however, these are necessary for plot, the offenders shall be severely punished. Methods and details of committing these crimes shall not be shown.

(12) Blackmail associated with immorality shall not be shown.

(13) Addiction to opium, morphia, cocaine or any other drug shall not be shown as desirable, or even tolerable.

Sex

(1) Sanctity of the institution of marriage and respect for the home shall be maintained.

(2) Illegal forms of sex-relationship such as free-love, companionate marriage, or virgin motherhood shall not be upheld.

(3) Adultery or illicit sex-relationship, if necessary for plot, shall not be justified, nor presented attractively.

(4) Incest, rape or sex perversion shall not be permitted.

(5) Prostitution and procuration as themes are undesirable. Trade in women, women selling virtue, slavery of men and women, or seduction of girls shall not be presented, unless they are punished severely. Scenes in houses of disrepute in their ugly details shall not be presented.

(6) Any licentious or suggestive reference to nudity, lecherous reference to persons in life, in statues or in pictures shall not be permitted.

(7) Scenes of bathing in public baths or on the sea-beach or in a river or lake or at home, if necessary for plot, should be presented within the bounds of propriety. In no way shall they be shown so as to stir the lower passions.

(8) First-night scenes, or bed-room scenes, with men and women together in bed, shall not be shown.

(9) Sex hygiene, contraception, scenes of child-birth, venereal diseases inherited or acquired except in films restricted to be shown to doctors, nurses or medical students, shall not be shown.

Impropriety To Be Eschewed

(10) Scenes of undressing to the extent of impropriety shall not be shown.

(11) Impropriety of conduct or gestures or dress of male or female characters, exhibition of their under-clothing or vulgar accessories of stage-dressing shall not be shown.

(12) Kissing or embracing by adults exhibiting passion, repugnant to good taste, shall not be shown. Though common in western countries, kissing and embracing by adults in public is alien to our country.

(13) Very passionate love scenes, stimulating the lower passions or emotions, suggestive postures or gestures, shall not be presented.

Miscellaneous

Dancing

(a) Dancing is acknowledged as an art. It should, therefore, be presented beautifully, in keeping with the finer traditions of our country.

(b) Indecorous or erotic dancing with vulgar movements of the body shall not be permitted.

(c) Indecent or undue exposure of any part of the body in a dance ordinarily expected to be covered is strictly forbidden.

Location:

As background, brothels, houses of disrepute or houses of accommodation, booths or dens of thieves or robbers or opium eaters or gamblers, etc., shall not be shown as desirable or attractive.

Comic Scenes:

Though light comedy of a humorous and wholesome nature is commendable, its ugly and vulgar presentation is undesirable.

Stunts:

Incredible and crude presentation of feats in stunts shall not be shown.

Miracles:

The use of miracles permissible in religious and mythological pictures shall, like the exercise of supernatural powers, be severely restricted. [No. N 450 of August 18, 1948]

BOMBAY BOARD OF FILM CENSORS

The Government of Bombay has constituted a Board of Film Censors, with the Director of Publicity as President, for the next four years, from October 1, 1948.

The other members of the Board are: Prof. R. N. Welingkar (Vice-President), the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Bombay, Spl. Br. 1, Dr. D. G. Vyas, Mrs. G. R. Billimoria, Mrs. Zarina Currimbhoy, Mrs. Kulsum Sayani, Mrs. Audrey H. Kellock, Mrs. Kamala S. Dongerkery, Mrs. Ramababen M. Gandhi, Mr. V. Shantaram, Mr. H. L. Kaji, Mr. B. R. Dhurandhar and Prof. M. R. Palande.

In addition, there will be a trade representative on the Board, whose name will be notified later. His term of appointment, however, will be one year only. [No. P 1652 of September 29, 1948]

"GHADDAAR" EXEMPTED FROM ENTERTAINMENT DUTY

The Government of Bombay has exempted from the payment of entertainment duty the future performances of 'Ghaddaar' organised in the

Province by the Prithvi Theatres till July 31, 1949. [No. P. 1532 of September 11, 1948]

MAKING TAMASHA HEALTHY ENTERTAINMENT: INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The Government of Bombay has appointed a committee to investigate into the abuses that have crept into Tamashas and make recommendations for their improvement with a view to making them a healthy form of entertainment.

The members of the Committee are Mahamahopadhyaya Prof. D. V. Potdar (Chairman), Prof. N. R. Phatak, Mr. B. V. Warekar, Mr. G. L. Thokal and Mr. Sopandeo Chaudhari.

The office of the Committee will be located at Poona at a place to be selected by the Chairman. [No. P. 1450 of August 25, 1948]

“RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE IS EMBODIED IN NATIONAL PARK”: PREMIER LAYS FOUNDATION STONE

Laying the foundation-stone of the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial and inaugurating the “Krishnagiri Upavan”, the Kanheri National Park, at Pavilion Hill, Borivli, Bombay, on the morning of October 1, Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier of Bombay, said:

“I am here to inaugurate the First National Park in India—the ‘Krishnagiri Upavan’—by laying the foundation stone of this ‘Smritimandir’.

“The scheme of establishing a National Park is new in India in modern times, I say in modern times because centuries ago national parks were known as Tapovanas and Upavanas and they used to be created by the State and then presented to the people for enjoyment. In India today there are some reserved forests and game sanctuaries of this magnitude but they are reserved for the few.

“It was my long-standing dream, that if we could have a large park in which Nature displayed its varied charms, untampered with and unmolested, nothing could be more desirable for the people, especially the city-dwellers who have no opportunity to go outside Bombay even for a short vacation or on week-ends.

Nature's Charms

"If you look all round from this spot—the rolling hills, the distant silvery gleams of monsoon waterfalls, the luxuriant valley with its green cushion of trees and shrubs and climbers, the murmuring rivulets, the small and big ponds—surroundings which fit in with an old description meaning—Mother Nature at her best has spread her glorious charm to captivate our imagination and thrill our hearts.

"We can hardly find such a beautiful sight which attains new charms anywhere except in Nature.

"As you see for yourself, Government could not have selected any better site than this for a unique venture of this type near the vicinity of a busy city like Bombay. The other thing which prompted us to choose this site is the existence of over a hundred rock-cut caves, some of them dating back to about 200 B. C. In the group of these caves, now popularly known as Kanheri Caves, there are some which are the oldest Buddhist caves in India. They were later on a hill as famous as Sahya, Vindhya and Malaya.

Sanctuary of the Holy Ones

"From many inscriptions which exist on some of these caves, it appears that Kanheri prospered before the Christian Era, during the reign of Shat-karni Kings, 200 B.C-350 A.D. when they were considered abodes fit for devotion, recognised as seats of learning and shelters for contemplation. Then, and even many years after, this place was not the lonely neglected area Government acquired last year from private owners. As many authentic records show, Kanheri was rich. It was famous and the caves were not the hiding places for wild animals and doubtful characters. These were the abodes of thousands of monks, talented and learned, and full of wisdom. The rock-cut town resounded with the foot-steps of 'Upasakas' and 'Upasikas', 'Shramanas' and 'Shravakas', 'Acharyas' and 'Arhatas,' who had sought refuge in Buddha.

"There would be great feasts and fasts, too, on appointed days, when the monks would collect the visitors under the various 'Van mandapas' to tell them the story of Buddha's life and work.

Memorial to Gandhiji

"The decision to embody such a rich and magnificent cultural heritage in the first National Park has been most appropriate. And it is a matter of great significance that the name of our 'Rashtra Pita', Mahatma Gandhi, whose life followed the pattern of the great Buddha, is now being associated with this memorial.

"In this National Park, which is five square miles in area, it is proposed to build tourist cabins, open-air kitchens, and to provide camp sites, and establish trails to reach the mountain peaks. It is also proposed to have bathing pools and other recreational facilities in this area. A park museum, depicting the local flora, fauna and geological specimens, is also being planned for students who care to visit this place in search of first-hand knowledge about the mysteries of Nature.

"The new road which you see at the foot of this hill is being extended right upto the caves, so that visitors could reach them speedily and in comfort.

Popular Resort

"I have heard some people say that hardly anyone comes here; some say this place is too far from Bombay; while others are heard as saying that the area is too near. Records of visitors have been maintained throughout the year and we have found that hundreds of visitors and holiday-makers pass this region on Sundays and thousands throng here on Maha Shivaratri Day. School children, college boys and girls, hikers and naturalists can be seen visiting this place practically throughout the year.

"I have not the least doubt that proper and organised control of this area will attract innumerable visitors to this National Park. As compared with the majority of national parks in other parts of the world, ours is a small beginning. But in due course, many more parks with diverse characteristics will be opened in the Province.

"The benefits of a cultural scheme like this cannot be measured in rupees, annas and pies. The real test will lie in the impression which men's minds will carry after a visit to this ancient area, rich in scenic beauty, architectural wealth, and cultural background.

"Now I have great pleasure in laying the foundation stone of this 'Smriti Mandir'." [No. N 517 of September 29, 1948]

ENROLMENT TO NATIONAL CADET CORPS: TRAINING STAFF READY

The Government of India decided in April 1948 to constitute the National Cadet Corps on an all-India basis. For the present, it has decided to have only the Senior and the Junior Divisions of the Corps from male students of colleges and schools. A girls' division is contemplated but is not to be constituted just yet.

The total all-India strength of the Corps for the present is 15,000 cadets for the Senior Division and 30,000 for the Junior Division. Bombay Province has been allowed a quota of 2,619 cadets for the Senior Division and 4,000 for the Junior Division.

Officers from the regular army will be attached to the Senior Division. They will be assisted by a number of officers from the college staff after the latter have undergone the requisite training course and commissioned by the Government of India.

The Junior Cadet Corps will be officered from the selected members of the staff of the Schools concerned after they have undergone the requisite training course and commissioned by the Government of India.

Allocation of Expenditure

The Government of India has agreed to bear the expenditure on the pay and allowances of the officers from the regular army attached to the Senior Division and to provide arms, ammunition and equipment. All other expenditure has to be borne by the Provincial Government.

Fifty-five members from the staff of the various colleges have already been sent for training for the Senior Division and are expected to return very shortly. Eighty-five teachers from the various schools have already completed their training but have yet to receive their commissions.

Enrolment in the Senior Division is now proceeding.

The Government of India have allotted 15 companies of the Infantry for the Senior Division. The distribution of the Companies and the platoons among the various colleges is in hand and will be finalised shortly.

The Government of India have allotted 45 'troops' for the Junior Division and their distribution among the various schools will soon be announced.

The arms, ammunition and equipment have also arrived and will be distributed as soon as the allotment of companies and "troops" among the colleges and schools is finalised.

Six officers from the regular army who will be attached to the Units of the Senior Division have reported for duty on August 20. They are having consultations with principals of colleges and making other preliminary arrangements to start training almost immediately. [No. P 1555 of September 15, 1948]

WARNING AGAINST BOGUS LOTTERY TICKETS

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that certain unscrupulous persons continue to circulate lottery tickets amongst bidi shop keepers and at small shops and establishments in Bombay City. Very often these tickets bear inscriptions such as "Exempted from Licence" or "Sponsored by Government" or "Approved by Government" to lend them an appearance of authenticity.

Members of the public are warned that these inscriptions are bogus and unauthorised and that they should guard themselves against being duped. No such lotteries have been authorised by the Government. Actually, it is the policy of the Government not to approve of any lottery, raffle or sweepstake. [No. P 1487 of September 1, 1948]

BOMBAY'S SLAUGHTER HOUSE RESTRICTIONS

The slaughter houses at Bandra and Bombay City have been prohibited from slaughtering more than 108 she-buffaloes in a week commencing with Sunday and ending with the following Saturday. The corresponding figure for Kurla has been fixed at 97.

The new figures represent a reduction by 12 and 11, respectively. [No. P 1554 of September 15, 1948]

SLAUGHTER OF USEFUL CATTLE PROHIBITED

The Government of Bombay has issued an order prohibiting the slaughter of useful cattle.

The order lays down that no person shall slaughter, cause to be slaughtered, acquire for slaughter or resale for slaughter any of the following kinds of cattle, namely, (i) bulls, bullocks and he-buffaloes which are useful or are likely to become useful for draught or breeding purposes and male calves; or (ii) cows, she-buffaloes and heifers which are useful or are likely to become useful for purposes of milk or for bearing offspring and female calves.

The order does not affect the acquisition for slaughter or slaughter of cattle for bona-fide religious purposes and by the Vaccine Institute, Belgaum, for purposes of extraction of lymph. [No. P 1543 of September 14, 1948]

SITE FOR SHRI V. J. PATEL'S STATUE

The Government of Bombay has allotted a new site, admeasuring 18' x 18' on the Chowpatty foreshore, for the erection of a statue of the late Mr. Vithalbai J. Patel. The previously allotted site was 18' x 16' which was later discovered to be unsuitable for the purpose. [No. P 1418 of August 20, 1948]

REGULATIONS FOR FERRY BOATS: DISCRETIONARY POWERS GIVEN TO LICENSING OFFICER

The Government of Bombay has prescribed certain rules for licensing vessels and plying them for hire. Every licence will be granted for one year and may be renewed thereafter for a period of one year each time. It will be in the absolute discretion of the Licensing Officer either to grant or refuse the licence.

The plying of a vessel without a licence, or with load-line under water, has been made punishable with fine not exceeding Rs. 500.

The Rules have been published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of August 19, 1948 (Part IV B).

In future, the power-driven ferry boats will be inspected annually by the Principal Marine Officer, who will tour in a specified month along the coast and pass the boats, instead of their being taken to Bombay for inspection purposes. [No. P 1542 of September 14, 1948]

REVISION OF BOMBAY DISTRICT GAZETTEERS: COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The Government of Bombay has appointed a committee, with the Chief Secretary to Government as Chairman and the Historical Archivist as Secretary, to settle the general lines on which the scheme of revision of the Bombay District Gazetteers should be undertaken. The work of revision of the volumes after over 50 years is a very big task involving the collection of considerable statistical data as also other information of historical and cultural value in every district.

The other members of the Committee are the Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University, Prof. C. N. Vakil (Bombay), Dr. S. M. Katre (Poona), Prof. G. S. Ghurye (Bombay), Mr. Rasiklal Parekh (Ahmedabad), Prin-

cipal S. C. Nandimath (Bagalkot), Mr. S. R. Tikekar (Bombay) and the Director of Archives, Government of Bombay. [No. P 1431 of August 21, 1948]

VALUATION COMMITTEE FOR POONA ZONE

The Government of Bombay has appointed a Valuation Committee consisting of the following persons for fixing the valuation of motor vehicles and other equipment to be taken over from the existing operators of the Poona Zone for State Transport:—Mr. M. N. Memane, M.L.A., (Chairman); The Provincial Motor Transport Controller, Bombay, or any one appointed by him. (Nominee on behalf of State Transport); Nominee on behalf of the particular operator whose assets proposed to be taken over are to be assessed; The Executive Engineer, Building Project No. 1, Poona, (Adviser); and The Regional Transport Officer, Poona, (Secretary).

The Valuation Committee for the Poona Zone will have jurisdiction over such services as are taken over along with that zone. [No. P 1396 of August 14, 1948]

ECONOMIES IN GOVERNMENT HOUSE EXPENSES: RS. 4 LAKHS SAVED SINCE ARRIVAL OF NEW GOVERNOR

An annual saving of over Rs. 4 lakhs has already been made in Government House expenses since His Excellency Raja Maharaj Singh assumed office as Governor of Bombay Province.

The volume of work in the Governor's Secretariat having decreased owing to the constitutional changes after August 15, 1947, the posts of Secretary and Assistant Secretary to the Governor carrying, respectively, a pay of Rs. 3,000 p.m. and grade pay in the junior time-scale of the I.C.S. 'plus' Rs. 150 special pay p.m. were abolished and in their place the previous post of Private Secretary to the Governor on grade pay in the senior time-scale of the I.C.S. was revived. Steps were also taken simultaneously to reduce the Governor's secretarial staff and to disband the Band and Bodyguard.

The pay of the present Governor is Rs. 5,500 a month as compared to Rs. 10,000 a month paid to his predecessors. The pay is in fact further considerably reduced on account of income tax and super tax. The sump-

tuary allowance of the present Governor is Rs. 15,000 a year as compared to Rs. 31,250 received by his predecessors. In addition, His Excellency has voluntarily agreed to a reduction in the Inauguration Grant from Rs. 1,15,000 to Rs. 75,000 over a period of five years and in the annual allowances placed at his disposal for various items of Government House expenditure from Rs. 6,43,750 to Rs. 2,85,571.

General Reduction of Staff

The post of Military Secretary to the Governor has been abolished and his duties are now performed subject to the general control of the Private Secretary to the Governor by the Comptroller of the Governor's Household on a far smaller pay. The number of Aides-de-Camp has been reduced from six to two and 232 out of a total of 429 members of the superior and inferior establishments (including the Band and Horse Body-guard) have been retrenched. Similarly, the number of motor vehicles, including motor vans, has been reduced from eight to five. All the State and other horse carriages, together with the horses, have been dispensed with, and 17 out of the 37 telephones in Government House, Bombay, alone have been surrendered and expenses on trunk calls have been curtailed as far as possible. The overall economies thus effected have resulted in an annual saving of Rs. 4,11,179 in Government House expenditure. This does not include the savings effected in the Governor's pay. It also does not include savings due to the reduction in the number of air conditioning units from 12 to 2, the reduction in the number of telephones, the economy in the consumption of electricity, water, fuel, paper, postage, etc., as exact figures in respect of these items cannot be ascertained at this stage.

In other directions, too, economies have been and still continue to be effected. For example, His Excellency has directed that in the course of his visits to districts in the Province, special trains should be avoided, that only the minimum retinue should be taken and that no unnecessary expense should be incurred in connection with his tours by the district officers and non-officials who kindly help to arrange his programmes. Instructions have also been issued to the Police to see that traffic is not held up and no inconvenience is caused to the public. His Excellency has also issued orders for the observance of strict economy in the consumption of electricity, water, etc., throughout the Government House estates in Bombay, Ganeshkhind (Poona) and Mahableshwar.

Move To Poona Retained

The Governor's move to Ganeshkhind (Poona), undertaken after consultation with the Premier, was prompted by the important consideration that the Government House in Bombay, owing to its close proximity

to the sea and exposed location, is unsuitable for continuous residence during the monsoon and that its adaptation in order to render it habitable during that period would involve considerable capital expenditure.

As is generally known the old Government House and estate in Ganeshkhind (Poona), covering about 800 acres, will shortly be taken over by the Poona University and will no longer be used as Government House. A much smaller Government House and estate covering about 65 acres is at present in process of construction and adaptation for the use of the Governor, his staff and establishments.

After providing for the reasonable requirements of the Government Houses, such movable and immovable property, as tentage, band equipment, saddlery, residential and other accommodation as has been found surplus has been progressively placed at the disposal of Government. Such furniture as will be surplus to the diminished requirements of Government Houses will be similarly made over to Government.

It will thus be seen that considerable savings in Government House expenditure in this Province have already been secured. This, however, does not rule out further economies if and when feasible. [No. P 1410 of August 17, 1948]

**RELIEF TO SUFFERERS FROM HYDERABAD RAIDERS:
BOMBAY GOVERNMENT'S DECISION**

The Government of Bombay has decided to grant compensation and relief to those who were injured, lost the earning member of the family, or suffered substantial damage to property (including agricultural produce) as a result of firing and arson indulged in by raiders from across the Indo-Hyderabad border.

The relief will be given in the following two ways:

(i) Gratuitous relief will be given up to Rs. 2,000 to any family which has suffered on account of the death of the earning member or destruction of property. The criterion will be whether the applicant is in need of immediate relief and has no other means of getting adequate financial help in his or her distress. Whether the loss is large or small will not be of material consideration. The survivors of the persons will be entitled to relief, even though their property might not have been destroyed, provided that the family was dependent upon the earnings of the deceased and there are no other persons who could support them.

Loans To Be Granted

(ii) Loans will be given to the sufferers up to Rs. 25,000 to enable them to rehabilitate themselves. For the first year, no interest will be charged and in subsequent years, the rate of interest will be 3 1/8 per cent. The loans will ordinarily be repayable in seven years; but in exceptional cases, the period of repayment may be extended to 10 years. Adequate security of lands or houses, or both, will be taken for the repayment of these loans from the applicants who will execute mortgage bonds. Where the applicants do not possess any lands or houses, bonds from sureties might be taken of the required amount. Stamp duty and registration fee payable on these documents will be remitted.

The Collectors and Chief Administrators will be responsible for granting relief under this scheme. [No. P 1541 of September 14, 1948]

MACHINERY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT: TALUKA ASSOCIATIONS TO BE REORGANISED

The existing taluka development associations are being reorganised and designated Taluka Development Boards. The object of this reorganisation is to create a taluka machinery for carrying on rural development work.

The Taluka Boards will act as agencies of the District Development Board in carrying on its functions in the talukas and will assist and advise all officers engaged in or connected with schemes of rural development approved by the Government. In fact, they will act generally as co-ordinating agencies between the officers of different departments and rural workers. They will also formulate schemes for the improvement of rural areas for submission to the Government and assist and advise village institutions in carrying out their functions efficiently.

The Taluka Board will consist of the Mamlatdar or Mahalkari, as the case may be, the Agricultural Officer in charge of the Revenue Sub-division, the Agricultural Assistant, Taluka Officers of the Co-operative and other Departments interested in development work, individual members who pay a lump sum towards membership and nominal annual fees, as at present, representatives of co-operative societies, active members to be nominated by the District Rural Development Board or Government and all members of the District Rural Development Board resident in the taluka.

While the Board will elect its own Chairman and appoint Vice-Chairman and non-official Secretary, if necessary, the Mamlatdar or Mahalkari, as the case may be, will be its ex-officio Vice-Chairman and the Agricultural Assistant the official Secretary. [No. P 1562 of September 16, 1948]

VILLAGE BODIES TO ASSIST IN DEVELOPMENT WORK: LIAISON BETWEEN BOARDS AND VILLAGERS

In order to supervise the rural development work done by the various Government Departments and District Rural Development Boards, the Government of Bombay has proposed to create agencies which will form a sort of liaison between the Boards and the villagers. They will also provide information about their respective villages, which is often required by the Boards.

In the order of priority, these agencies will be (1) village co-operative societies—credit, multi-purpose or better farming, (2) gram panchayats and (3) village improvement committees.

The Government has directed that the village co-operative societies should provide, under their by-laws, for the appointment of rural development sub-committees, and the District Rural Development Boards should nominate on these committees as their representatives persons who will be doing rural development work in the villages concerned.

Many Committees To Be Set Up

Where there are no gram panchayats or co-operative societies, the District Rural Development Board should nominate village improvement committees entrusted with rural development work and for supplying information required by the Board. The Government desires that as many of these committees as possible should be set up during the Gram Sudhar Saptah, which commences on October 2, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. The Saptah would offer good opportunities for the committees to make their functions known to the villagers and also to make a start with their work. [No. P 1576 of September 18, 1948]

NEW DISTRICT CREATED: DANGS MERGED IN BOMBAY

Due to constitutional changes, the Government of India has decided to merge in the Province of Bombay the area of the Dangs as a separate district. The Government of Bombay has, therefore, constituted, with

effect from July 15, a separate district to be called the Dangs District, comprising about 335 villages with headquarters at Ahwa.

Mr. R. K. Desai has been appointed as the Collector of this new district which will be included in the Northern Division of this Province. [No. P 1195 of July 15, 1948]

RE-FORMATION OF TALUKAS IN SHOLAPUR DISTRICT

With a view to facilitating the efficient administration of certain heavy talukas of the Sholapur District, a new taluka of Mohol and a new Prant of Madha were created by the Government, as a temporary measure, from November 1, 1945, by adjusting the boundaries of certain talukas of the Sholapur District. On representations being made to the Government complaining about the hardship caused by these territorial changes, the Government reviewed the whole position and came to the conclusion that, while the territorial changes in question were conducive to efficient administration, they entailed hardship to the residents of some villages in the Sholapur District. The Government has, therefore, decided to retransfer those villages to their respective former talukas from August 1, 1948, as shown below and to continue the Mohol Taluka and the Madha Prant in the Sholapur District as a permanent measure.

The following 16 villages which were included in the Mohol Taluka, as a temporary measure, will be retransferred to the Pandharpur Taluka:

(1) Ahirbabhulgaon; (2) Tungat; (3) Narauan-Chincholi; (4) Ishwar-Wathar; (5) Susta; (6) Tarapur; (7) Degaon-Budruk; (8) Ajansond; (9) Phulchincholi; (10) Kharsoli; (11) Paluj; (12) Pochargaon; (13) Ite; (14) Shankargaon; (15) Ambechincholi; and (16) Nali.

The following 17 villages which were included in the Pandharpur Taluka, as a temporary measure, will be retransferred to the Sangola Taluka:—

(1) Achakdani; (2) Itki; (3) Katfal; (4) Khawaspur; (5) Gaigavan; (6) Chikmahud; (7) Dhaiti; (8) Mahud-Budruk; (9) Mahim; (10) Lote-wadi; (11) Waki; (12) Shirbave; (13) Sangwadi; (14) Hal-Dahiwadi; (15) Manjari; (16) Methavade; and (17) Shivane.

More Villages Retransferred

The following six villages which were included in the Pandharpur Taluka, as a temporary measure, will be retransferred to the Malsiras Taluka:—

(1) Tondale; (2) Desur; (3) Tandulwadi; (4) Phalvani; (5) Kolegaon; and (6) Bacheri.

The following four villages which were included in the Sangole Taluka, as a temporary measure, will be retransferred to the Pandharpur Taluka:

(1) Gunjegaon; (2) Gharniki; (3) Marapur and (4) Donaj.

The Government is also aware of the demand of some people for the creation of a new taluka in the Sholapur District, comprising 96 Kannada-speaking villages in that district, with headquarters at Sholapur. This request is at present engaging the attention of the Government and it is being considered along with the general question of re-formation of the districts consequent on the absorption of the areas of the merged States in this Province. [No. P 1273 of July 29, 1948]

NEW TALUKA IN THANA DISTRICT

With a view to facilitating efficient administration and for the convenience of the public, the Government of Bombay has decided to create, from November 1, 1948, a new taluka in the Thana District with headquarters at Borivli. The new taluka will consist of the following 48 villages to be transferred from the Thana Taluka:—

Bhaindar, Raimurdha, Ghodbunder, Kashi, Mire, Uttan, Dongari, Tirandaj, Kherabad, Sai, Gundgaon, Paijapur, Paspoli, Pawai, Kopan, Tungawa, Tulshi, Chindawali, Erangal, Darawali, Oshiware, Goregaon, Pahadi, Majaj, Are, Vyaroli, Kurar, Akse, Marave, Chinchavli, Dindoshi, Malad, Borivli, Kaneri, Magathane, Kandivli, Shinpawali, Charkhop, Poisar, Akurli, Mandaposhwar, Eksar, Dahisar, Malvani, Vadhawan, Valnai, Gorai and Manori. [No. P 1461 of August 26, 1948]

NEW TALUKAS TO BE CONTINUED

The Government of Bombay has decided to continue as a permanent measure the Belapur and Pathardi Talukas of the Ahmednagar District. [No. P 1818 of August 4, 1948]

PROVINCIAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Mr. G. A. Hiremath has been nominated as a member of the Bombay Provincial Rural Development Board and of its Agricultural Extension Sub-Committee.

Mr. Hiremath was formerly Deputy Collector of Dharwar. [No. P 1493 of September 2, 1948]

BIJAPUR RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Messrs. N. A. Patil and Ramanna Sanned have been nominated members of the Bijapur District Rural Development Board. [No. P 1451 of August 25, 1948]

AHMEDNAGAR RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Mr. V. E. Vikhe has been nominated as a member of the District Rural Development Board, Ahmednagar. Mr. Vikhe is a District Honorary Organiser of Co-operative Societies, Ahmednagar District. [No. P 1547 of September 14, 1948]

RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR MAHI KANTHA

The Government of Bombay has constituted a District Rural Development Board for the newly-formed Mahi Kantha District, with the Collector as its ex-officio Chairman, for a period up to March 31, 1949, in the first instance.

Besides the Chairman, there are five officials and 22 non-officials on the Board. [No. P 1589 of September 20, 1948]

MR. S. D. PATIL

Mr. S. D. Patil, M.L.C., has been appointed to serve as a member on the Soil Conservation and Irrigation Sub-Committee of the Provincial Rural Development Board. [No. P 1272 of July 29, 1948]

MR. B. J. SHINDE

Mr. B. J. Shinde, M.L.A., has been appointed by the Government of Bombay as a member of the Provincial Rural Development Board and of its Agricultural Extension Sub-Committee. [No. P 1354 of August 9, 1948]

MR. M. P. GANDHI

Mr. M. P. Gandhi has been nominated as a member of the Provincial Rural Development Board and also of its Economics and Statistics Sub-Committee. [No. P 1599 of September 22, 1948]

MR. GANPATRAO JADHAV

The Government of Bombay has accepted the resignation of Mr. Ganpatrao Jadhav, of Kasegaon (Sholapur Taluka), as a member of the District Rural Development Board, Sholapur. [No. P 1505 of August 4, 1948]

MR. A. J. DODDAMETI

The Government has accepted the resignation of Mr. A. J. Doddameti as a member of the Rural Development Board, Dharwar. [No. P 1548 of September 15, 1948]

RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD NOMINATIONS

Khan Saheb V. B. Inamdar has been nominated as a member of the District Rural Development Board, West Khandesh. Mr. Shankar Kurtkoti has been nominated on the Dharwar Rural Development Board. [No. P 1459 of August 26, 1948]

MR. G. M. KARNODIA

Mr. G. M. Karnodia, Chairman, Godhra City Co-operative Urban Bank, has been nominated as a member of the District Rural Development Board, Panch Mahals. [No. P 1628 of September 25, 1948]

MR. G. V. BHATWADEKAR

Mr. G. V. Bhatwadekar, Chairman, Chiplun Urban Co-operative Bank, has been nominated as a representative of the Co-operative Movement on the District Rural Development Board, Ratnagiri. [No. P 1629 of September 25, 1948]

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO INFERIOR VILLAGE SERVANTS

Pending a final decision on the general question of ameliorating the service conditions of inferior village servants in the Province of Bombay, the Government has sanctioned, by way of an immediate interim relief for six months from September 1, 1948, the grant of dearness allowance at a uniform rate of 100 per cent of their pay in the case of inferior village servants wholly paid in cash and 66 per cent of the cash remuneration in the case of those paid partly in cash and partly in land.

The orders will not apply to Ugranis in the Kanara District who have been granted dearness allowance at half the rate of dearness allowance sanctioned to full-time Government servants. [No. P 1188 of July 13, 1948]

INDUSTRIES MINISTER AWARDS VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SHIELD

"It was the wish of Mahatma Gandhi that the tiller of the soil should learn to administer his own affairs in the village, and the ceremony that is now taking place seems to me a part of the whole scheme conceived by Gandhiji towards the fulfilment of his wish and I am really happy to award this shield to you in recognition of your useful activities for the improvement of your village". Thus observed Mr. G. D. Tapase, Minister for Industries, Fisheries, and Backward Classes, while awarding the Village Improvement Shield to Lodhavade, Koregaon Taluka, Satara District, on August 29. The Village Improvement Shield is generally awarded to the village which stands out for its many activities which go to improve rural life. Village Lodhavade stood first among the villages of the six districts in the area.

The shield that was awarded was not the usual shield; it was an iron plough, which the Industries Minister called the real symbol of agricultural life; he expressed his wish that the iron plough that he was presenting to the village would bring every patch of cultivable land under cultivation and contribute to the prosperity of the people. Mr. Tapase in his address drew attention to the need to augment agricultural production.

The Industries Minister further observed: "Ours is an agricultural country and the prosperity of our people depends upon the development of agriculture and Government is doing its utmost to encourage and help people in their efforts to grow more food, and the award of this shield is part of their programme".

Referring to the novel award, the Minister hoped that the plough that he was presenting would not remain idle but would herald a happy and

prosperous life to the village. Mr. Tapase referred to the various schemes such as those of compost-making, digging of new wells and repairing old ones and the like which helped agriculturists in their campaign against hunger and famine and urged them to take advantage of the same. [No. N 475 of August 31, 1948]

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT PRIZES

The number of prizes awarded for village improvement work by the Government of Bombay will be increased to three prizes in each district with effect from the current year, i.e., 1948-49.

The Government, at present, gives a prize of Rs. 100 every year to one village in each district of the Province, which is adjudged to have shown the best results in the various items of village improvement. The form of the prize to be awarded is settled in consultation with the winning village.

The Government has now decided that from 1948-49, the number of village prizes should be increased to three prizes in each district, the first prize being of Rs. 200, the second of Rs. 150 and the third of Rs. 100, with a view to giving additional incentive for village improvement work.

The present practice of awarding the prizes in the form chosen by the recipient village will be continued.

The District Rural Development Boards will arrange to display in their offices wall boards, showing the names of villages winning these village improvement prizes. [No. P 1108 of July 2, 1948]

DISTRICT PRIZE ANNEXED BY KARAMSAD VILLAGE

The district prize of Rs. 100 has been awarded to the village Karamsad in the Anand Taluka of the Kaira District, in recognition of the best village improvement work done by it in the district during the year 1946. This prize is in addition to the Sir Frederic Sykes Village Improvement Challenge Shield for the Northern Division which the village has already won. [No. P 1362 of August 10, 1948]

AWARD FOR KHANAPUR VILLAGE

The Government has awarded the district prize of Rs. 100 to the village Khanapur in the Haveli Taluka of the Poona District in recognition of the best village improvement work done by it in the district during the year 1946. [No. P 1250 of July 26, 1948]

ANOTHER VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT WORK AWARD

The Government of Bombay has approved the recommendation of the District Rural Development, Nasik and has awarded the district prize of Rs. 100 to the village Madkijamb in the Dindori Taluka, in recognition of the excellent village improvement work done by it during 1946. [No. P 1203 of July 17, 1948]

VILLAGES TRANSFERRED

The villages of Pimpri-Loki-Ajampur, Dadh Khurd, Zarekathi, and Chanegaon in the Rahuri Taluka of the Ahmednagar District will be transferred to the Sangamner Taluka from August 1, 1948. [No. P 1236 of July 23, 1948]

MERGER OF DESERTED VILLAGES

The deserted villages of Dhodi and Dhamani in the Dhulia Taluka of the West Khandesh District have been amalgamated with the inhabited village of Dhamane in the same taluka. They will bear the name of the inhabited village. [No. P 1499 of September 2, 1948]

Redewadi hamlet under Palus village in the Tasgaon Taluka of the Satara District has been renamed as Sawantpur. [No. P 1647 of September 28, 1948]

"HAMIRSINH'S MUVADI"

The village "Hamir Pagi's Muvadi" in Nadiad taluka of the Kaira District has now been named "Hamirsinh's Muvadi". [No. P 1294 of August 2, 1948]

ANAND MARKET AREA

The area within a radius of 13 miles from Anand Town in the Kaira District, comprising 43 villages has been declared by the Government of Bombay to be a Market Area from October 15, 1948, for transactions in tur, mug, udid, val and gram. [No. P 1575 of September 18, 1948]

UMRETH AND NANDGAON MARKETS

The Government of Bombay has decided that from October next the area within a radius of seven miles from Umreth Town in the Kaira District will be the market area for purposes of purchase and sale of tur, gram, chola, udid, mug, math, val, groundnut (shelled and unshelled), castor seed, sesamum, paddy (husked and unhusked), bajri, bavto, kodra and wheat.

The Government has also decided that from September 15, 1948 the area of the Nandgaon Taluka in the Nasik District will be a market area for purposes of purchase and sale of cotton (ginned and unginned), groundnut (shelled and unshelled), sesamum, safflower, gram, bajri, wheat and jowar. [No. P 1524 of September 10, 1948]

HALIYAL MUNICIPALITY SUPERSEDED

The Government of Bombay has superseded, due to inefficient and unsatisfactory administration, the Haliyal Municipality in the Kanara District for a period of two years from July 15, 1948. [No. P 1197 of July 15, 1948]

LOCAL BOARDS ACT EXTENDED TO PARTIALLY EXCLUDED AREAS

The Governor of Bombay has directed that the Bombay Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1948 (Bom. XIX of 1948) shall apply to the partially excluded areas in the Province. [No. P 1616 of September 24, 1948]

SIR H. P. MODY

Sir H. P. Mody who was the only candidate duly nominated for the vacancy in the Constituent Assembly caused by the resignation of Shri M. R. Masani has been declared elected. [No. P 1153 of July 8, 1948]

NEW BOMBAY M.L.A.

Mr. H. J. Mulleneux has been declared to be elected as a member of the Bombay Legislative Assembly from the Bombay City-cum-Bombay Suburban District, Anglo-Indian Constituency, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. S. H. Prater. [No. P 1508 of September 4, 1948]

MR. D. S. SURYAVANSHI

Mr. Daniel Shantwan Suryavanshi has been declared to be elected as a member of the Bombay Legislative Assembly from the Poona-cum-Almednagar Indian Christian Constituency in the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. B. B. Chakranarayan. [No. P 1243 of July 24, 1948]

REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES: ADVISORY BOARD CONSTITUTED

The Government of Bombay has constituted an advisory board to assist it in the planning and execution of schemes for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees in the Province.

The Board will work in close touch with the Administration and furnish assistance and advice to the Government in regard to the reorganisation and acceleration of the present relief arrangements, particularly in refugee camps; the examination of resettlement schemes already in existence and preparation and execution of new schemes; the co-ordination and correlation of the various activities and interests devoted to the solution of the refugee problem; the enlistment to the maximum extent possible of support of non-official agencies in the work of relief and rehabilitation and the co-ordination of such non-official efforts and the devising of such other measures as are calculated to bring about a speedy and satisfactory solution of the refugee problem.

The Board, which is purely consultative and advisory, consists of the Chief Secretary to Government (Chairman), the Secretary to Government, Agriculture and Rural Development Department, the Joint Secretary to Government, Education and Industries Department, the Director of Relief and Rehabilitation, Mr. D. B. Advani, Rao Bahadur Kimatrai Asoomal, Sir Vithal N. Chandavarkar, Mr. K. N. Desai, Swami Govindanand, Mr. B. S. Hiray, Mrs. Kikiben Lalvani, Mrs. Mithan Lam, Mr. S. K. Patil, Sardar Pratap Singh, Mr. C. T. Valecha, Mr. H. D. Vasudev, Mr. Nichaldas N. Vazirani and the Deputy Secretary, Relief and Rehabilitation Department (Secretary). [No. P 1484 of September 1, 1948]

PROBLEM OF IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES: PREMIER EXPLAINS WORK DONE AND PROGRAMME PROPOSED

Inaugurating the Provincial Relief and Rehabilitation Advisory Board, at the Secretariat on Thursday morning, the Premier of Bombay said:

"It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this inaugural meeting of the Provincial Relief and Rehabilitation Board. Ever since we reassumed full responsibility for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees who have migrated to this Province, we have given anxious consideration to the question of associating the public with the rehabilitation programme of the Province. Government finally came to the conclusion that the best way would be to appoint a Rehabilitation Advisory Board, on which you have so kindly agreed to work, whose function would be to assist and advise Government on all matters pertaining to relief and rehabilitation. Though your function is essentially advisory, the scope of your activities will embrace all the aspects of the refugee problem. The refugee problem is both a short-term problem, which is to provide immediate relief by way of food and shelter to indigent refugees in the various refugee camps opened in this Province, and also a long-term problem for providing permanent shelter and useful employment to the refugees. The latter is the more important and difficult problem which will have to be tackled in various ways simultaneously. While, therefore, you will no doubt make suggestions for improving the relief measures taken by Government in the various refugee camps, I would request you to concentrate on the preparation of a planned programme of resettling the refugees and to place before Government definite rehabilitation schemes.

"I need not recapitulate to you the tales of mass murders, looting and arson which followed in the wake of Independence and which resulted in mass migrations from Pakistan to India. The task of providing immediate shelter and food to these uprooted masses who fled from their homes in vindication of their religious faith and the honour of their women was indeed a difficult one. Owing to the cessation of all building activity during the war and post-war period, the problem of accommodating even the local population had become acute, and all through these years our country had to depend on foreign imports of foodgrains to meet local requirements. In spite of these difficulties, the Government of India, which was taken quite unawares by the outbreak of communal disturbances and the consequent mass migrations, stood firmly and faced all the difficulties with great calmness and courage. It opened immediately refugee camps all over India to provide shelter to the refugees. So far as Bombay Province was concerned, military barracks at Virar, Chembur, Borivli, Mulund, Visapur and Kalyan were taken over one by one from the military authorities to house the refugees. With a view to expediting evacuation and the transfer of refugees from one province to another, the Central Government assumed the management of all the refugee camps in India, and it was only on the 14th of June that the control of these camps was handed over to us.

Refugee Camps

“It is estimated that about 1.7 lakhs of refugees have taken shelter in these camps. A note has already been circulated to you by the Secretary giving you a resume of the important steps taken by Government to reorganise the camp administration and improve the condition of the camps. Government has decided that the camps should be run as small municipal towns in charge of administrators who will be assisted with suitable staff for rationing, welfare and rehabilitation, repairs, sanitation and medical relief. When we took over the administration of these camps, we found to our utter dismay that the refugees, some of whom had filled very important positions in Pakistan, had grown into the habit of depending on Government for the satisfaction of even their smallest wants. With a view to teaching them self-reliance and thus helping them to discard their habit of dependence on Government aid and inducing them to take an active part in the social and economic life of this Province, it has been decided to set up elected sub-committees of refugees to advise the camp officers in their welfare and rehabilitation work, and also an Advisory Council for every camp consisting of elected members and some social workers of the locality who take interest in the refugee problem.

Relief Given at Camps

“In these refugee camps, no rent is charged to the refugees who are not staying in independent rooms, and they are supplied with water and electricity free. Extensive repairs had to be carried out to these barracks to make them habitable during the monsoon. Rations are supplied free to destitute refugees on a scale which is more generous than that in force in Bombay, and adequate precautions have been taken to ensure that the stock position of rationed articles at the various camps never falls below one month's requirements. At every camp a dispensary has been opened, and an adequate sanitary staff has been appointed to look after the sanitary arrangements of the camp. Refugee associations and panchayats have been encouraged to open primary schools at the various camps, and these will be taken over for management by the Municipal and District School Boards.

“The programme of rehabilitation which this Government proposes to undertake in future is two-fold, firstly, the provision of housing for residential and business purposes, and secondly, the resettlement of refugees in industry, agriculture and Government and private employment. Until now it has been difficult to formulate any such programme for want of data regarding the occupational structure of the refugee population which has migrated to this Province. The Bombay Refugees Act, 1948, which was enacted at the instance of the Government of India to supply

the basic statistical data regarding the refugees, has met with a stout opposition from them on grounds which are largely sentimental. I hope you will all agree with me when I say that without complete information regarding the previous occupational status and experience of the refugees, it is impossible to undertake any planned programme of rehabilitation. Government proposes to introduce, in the next session of the Assembly, an amending Bill to modify certain provisions of the Act so as to meet the objection put forth by the refugees as far as possible. The Government of India have also asked us to hold a one-day census of refugees in order to obtain the necessary information, and a Census Act is on the anvil of the Central Legislature. I fervently hope that the refugees will realise the advantages of the census and will readily come forward to give all the required information in the form which has been devised by the Government of India.

The Housing Problem

“The problem of providing permanent shelter to the refugees is the crux of the whole rehabilitation programme. If this problem is satisfactorily solved, then a large proportion of the refugees, who are sufficiently enterprising, may be able to find suitable employment for themselves. At present this Government has not embarked upon a definite programme of housing for refugees. Beyond the fact that the refugees have been encouraged to form co-operative housing societies and beyond extending to them the facilities of loans given by the Housing Department to local co-operative housing societies, nothing has been done in the direction of tackling the housing problem on a planned basis. There are various difficulties in the way of undertaking and completing any special housing programme for the refugees within the course of the next three or four years. In the first place, the number of Muslims who have migrated to Pakistan completely from this Province is very small, and consequently, there are no houses left vacant by Muslim evacuees as in East Punjab and Delhi. On the other hand, the bottle-necks in the implementation of any building programme undertaken by Government are many: building materials are in very short supply, transport difficulties are serious, skilled labour is not available to meet the potential demand, and the personnel of engineers and other technical staff required cannot be secured. This problem of housing the refugees assumes formidable proportions when considered against the background of the acute scarcity of housing accommodation experienced by the local population even before the advent of refugees. In addition to the above bottlenecks, there is the question of financing the housing schemes if undertaken by this Government. At a recent conference of Premiers and representatives of the States which I attended, the quota of refugees allotted to this Province has been 4 lakhs. Of these,

it can be safely assumed that about 50,000 will not require any financial assistance for constructing their own houses. As regards the remaining, Government will have to provide housing accommodation, and on a modest estimate the cost of providing housing for this number will come to about Rs. 20 crores, assuming that the average size of a family is 5 persons and that each tenement would cost about Rs. 2,500. You will, I hope, agree with me that unless the responsibility for financing this scheme is borne substantially by the Government of India, we cannot make any headway with it. In the meantime, the refugees can participate in the general housing programme of the Housing Department in common with the local population.

“You must have noticed a tendency on the part of refugees to concentrate in larger cities like Bombay. With a view to settling the refugees and relieving the pressure in larger cities like Bombay, it is necessary to distribute such of them as depend on Government help for their rehabilitation over urban areas in proportion to the economic capacity of each town or city to absorb the refugees. This question has been examined and it has been found that there is scope for suburban development to some extent near Satara City, in the Greater Poona area, the Ahmednagar District and near Jalgaon and Amalner in the East Khandesh District. The question of converting some of the existing refugee camps like the Kalyan Camp into municipal towns is also under consideration of Government. I hope I have been able to emphasize the complexity and magnitude of the housing question, and would exhort you to give your immediate attention to it and put before Government a detailed scheme for housing the refugees.

Education Of Refugee Children

“I next come to the problem of providing educational facilities to refugee children to which, I may assure you, Government attaches great importance. Government policy in this connection was until recently that Government undertook no responsibility for primary education unless the medium of instruction was one of the regional languages. Primary education in other Indian languages was left entirely to voluntary effort, though such schools were eligible to a certain grant-in-aid covering a portion of their annual expenditure. It was soon realised, however, that it was impossible to expect the refugees, the majority of whom had found no permanent shelter and employment, to organise primary schools on a voluntary basis. An alternative course was to open primary schools in the regional language at all camps and persuade the refugees to send their children to these schools. While this would have greatly facilitated their absorption into the economy of this Province, it was evident that Sindhi had to be the medium of instruction, especially for advanced studies.

Government have, therefore, decided to assume as a special case responsibility for running primary schools for Sindhi students, even though the medium of instruction will be Sindhi, but with the proviso that the regional language will be taught compulsorily. The field beyond the compulsory stage of primary education will, however, be mainly for voluntary effort. Secondary schools will be eligible for uniform grant-in-aid subject to the condition that provision is made for the compulsory teaching of the regional language. It is realised that it may not generally be possible for refugee children to pay the high fees for studies in high schools and for the management to bear the expenditure in running such high schools, and the question of giving more financial aid in such cases is under consideration. Orders have been issued regarding the grant of certain educational concessions to refugee students, such as the grant of loans for the prosecution of studies, exemption from capitation fees charged by technical institutions and continuance of scholarships which they were holding in Pakistan.

Resettlement In Trade, Industry And Agriculture

“While the execution of the building programme for the refugees is of vital importance and has to be immediately attended to, it would be unwise to postpone the more fundamental problem of providing useful employment to them in trade, industry and agriculture. It has been truly said that an idle mind is the devil’s workshop, and unless the refugee population in this Province is provided with gainful occupation in the near future, it will not take them long to degenerate and become dole-minded. It is, however, difficult to find any useful employment for them, as their occupational distribution is very peculiar and as hardly any of them know any of the local languages. It will not be possible to have an accurate picture of the occupational structure of the refugees until after the census is held, but observations at the refugee camps have revealed that a large majority of them were traders, merchants and Government employees, while only a small proportion of them were engaged in handicrafts, agriculture, etc., and were producers in the full economic sense of the term. It is needless to point out to you that our country is short of all the essential commodities such as food grains and consumer goods and has to depend upon foreign imports for its basic requirements. In a controlled economy such as exists in this Province, the number of additional traders, shopkeepers and commission agents which can be absorbed in the local markets would be extremely small. This problem has been further aggravated by the fact that many of the towns in this Province have been experiencing an acute scarcity of residential and business premises during the war and post-war period, owing to the cessation of building activities. It is a truism to say that the absorption of the refugees in the economic and social life of this Province will be permanent only if it is done with-

out conflict with the existing sources of employment and income of the local population and without creating provincial jealousies.

A Loan Scheme

“While, therefore, the more enterprising of the refugee shopkeepers and traders will get themselves rehabilitated in trade and industry, a major portion of them will have to take up such occupations as will augment the material wealth of the Province by handicrafts and the production of industrial goods. With a view to facilitating the settlement of refugees in business, trade and the professions, the Government of Bombay has sanctioned a scheme of granting loans not exceeding Rs. 5,000 to refugees for starting cottage and smallscale industries. Recently, the Government of India have stopped individual loans which are to be given only in hard and exceptional cases, and have asked us to grant loans only to co-operative societies. To give financial assistance to largescale enterprise by the refugees, the Government of India have set up the Rehabilitation Finance Administration which will grant loans exceeding Rs. 5,000 to individuals, joint families, limited companies and co-operative societies. With a view to enabling the refugees in this Province to participate in the benefits of the scheme, the Government of Bombay has requested the Finance Administration to open its branch in Bombay, which I am glad to say they have agreed to do.

“As stated earlier by me, it is my firm conviction that the question of resettlement of refugees can be only solved if they take to occupations which are productive. Training will, therefore, occupy an important place in the rehabilitation programme. A scheme for the technical and vocational training of ex-service personnel had already been started by the Ministry of Labour to train them for the civil professions. The scheme has already been extended to the refugees, but I am sorry to say that this concession has not been availed of by the refugees to the full extent. While this may be due to the fact that they are in their present state of health incapable of hard work which the various handicrafts involve, I am not satisfied that it is not partially due to a middle class distaste for manual work which is regarded as disrespectful. I would request each one of you to spare some time every month to visit at least one refugee camp and carry on propaganda to bring home to the refugees that no profession by which a man makes an honest living is dishonourable, and that it is really not desirable for an able-bodied person to live on Government dole or private charity for any length of time.

Vocational Training

“Government has also sanctioned a scheme for starting a vocational training centre in the Kalyan Refugee Camp where training in different

occupations, such as black-smithy, fitting, motor mechanics, leather work, weaving, carpentry, etc., will be given. With a view to providing employment to the refugees who were already pursuing their professions or who have been trained by Government, it has been decided to start cottage industries in the various camps, preferably on a co-operative basis. I have already asked the Joint Registrar, Village Industries and Industrial Co-operatives, to formulate a scheme for starting industrial workshops at the various camps.

“Rehabilitation of the refugee agriculturists does not yet constitute a serious problem, as the character of the population which has migrated to this Province so far is largely urban, or at least non-agricultural, except for zamindars who do not cultivate the soil with their own hands. A survey of the existing waste lands available for cultivation in the Province has already been undertaken, and it may be possible to assign some small areas to the refugees on the basis of limited peasant proprietorship or to organise Government co-operative farms in which the refugee agriculturist can be employed. Government has worked out a scheme of development of waste lands in Indoor in the Kanara District where it was proposed to settle 100 families of refugee agriculturists. Whether for reasons of bad climate or because the Sindhi agriculturists were not accustomed to rain-fed agriculture, the scheme has not received response even though adequate financial assistance by way of subsidies and loans in obtaining cattle, implements, seeds, manures, food, etc., was sanctioned for the settlers.

Future Of Technical Men

“The rehabilitation of professional and technical men will not present any special problems, except in the case of lawyers, teachers and Government employees. Lawyers are specially hard hit, because many of them, being ignorant of any of the local languages, will not be able to practise in any part of this Province. Apart from absorption in services at the Headquarters, which can only be a gradual process, Government has not been able to do much for this class of people. While some of the primary and secondary teachers have been employed in the schools opened at the various refugee camps, the question of finding suitable employment for the rest remains unsolved. So far as employment in Government service is concerned, Government has already granted certain concessions to refugees, such as the relaxation of domicile and age limit. Orders have also been issued that vacancies occurring under the Bombay Government should be filled up to 20 per cent. by the appointment of refugees. A special Employment Exchange has been opened for the refugees where they can register their applications for employment and are put in touch with prospective employers through this agency.

Vastness Of The Problem

"My object in giving the above resume is not only to give you an idea of the efforts made by this Government for the relief and rehabilitation of the refugees, but also to emphasize the urgency and vastness of the problem. The task is no doubt a stupendous one and beset with many difficulties, and although we have many other problems which require all our resources and energies, we are determined to see that the refugees maintain their self-respect, are put on their legs as early as possible and play their part fully as progressive citizens of this Province. I would like to assure the refugees that we the Government as well as the people have the deepest sympathy for their sufferings and that we all are anxious to do whatever we can for their assimilation in this Province.

"It would, however, be true to say that Government, howsoever mighty its resources, will not be able to achieve much unless the requisite co-operation and goodwill are forthcoming from all quarters. I fervently hope that this co-operation and goodwill will be extended by all in abundant measure, to enable Government to solve this problem, the like of which has not been seen before, satisfactorily and speedily.

"I have now said enough. It is now for you to sit together and suggest ways and means to Government as to how the object which all of us have at heart can be achieved quickly, I do not envy your task, but I know that in carrying it out you will not spare yourselves and will hasten the day when there will be no such problem as the refugee problem in this Province. I wish you the best of luck in the task which you have undertaken and I shall now leave you to your work." [No. N 480 of September 2, 1948]

MAJOR-GENERAL J. K. BHONSLE

Major-General J. K. Bhonsle has been appointed Director of Relief and Rehabilitation, Bombay with effect from August 6, 1948. [No. P 1328 of August 5, 1948]

CUSTODIAN OF EVACUEE PROPERTY

The Government of Bombay proposes to appoint a custodian for all the evacuee property situated in the Province. The necessary enabling legislation, published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of September 23, contains provisions for the maintenance of accounts of the property of evacuees and its return to them on their coming back to the Province. [No. P 1621 of September 24, 1948]

MRS. LAM DEPUTED TO STUDY PROBLEM OF REFUGEE WOMEN

The Provincial Refugee Relief and Rehabilitation Advisory Board, immediately after its inauguration by the Premier, Mr. B. G. Kher this morning, got down to its business. Eight sub-committees were formed to deal with relief and welfare, housing, education, resettlement in trade, industry and agriculture, Government and private employment and women and children.

The Board deputed Mrs. Mithan Lam to visit New Delhi and study the working of the organisation dealing with problems of refugee women and children.

A women's committee is proposed to be formed on the return of Mrs. Lam. [No. N 481 of September 2, 1948]

EXEMPTION TO REFUGEES FROM REGISTRATION: AMENDMENT TO BOMBAY ACT

The Bombay Refugees Act, 1948, is proposed to be amended so as to make provision for exempting from registration or from other requirements of it, a certain class of refugees or individuals. The amending Bill, which is published in "The Bombay Government Gazette" of September 9, contains a new section (Section 16) laying down that the Provincial Government may, by notification in the official "Gazette," direct that refugees from any particular area or place or any class of refugees shall be exempted from all or any of the provisions of this Act or any requirements thereof. An officer authorised in this behalf will grant exemption to individual refugees.

A few more amendments to the Act have been made with a view to meeting certain hardships felt by the refugees by the operation of some of the provisions of it. [No. P 1522 of September 10, 1948]

REGISTRATION OF REFUGEES: TIME LIMIT EXTENDED

With a view to enabling all refugees who have not yet registered under the Bombay Refugees Act, 1948, to get themselves registered, the Government of Bombay has extended the period of registration by another two months, i.e., all refugees must get themselves registered by September 30, 1948. [No. P 1390 of August 13, 1948]

JOINT DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Joint Director of Technical Education, Bombay, has been nominated by the Government of Bombay as the authority competent to sanction loans to refugee students reading in institutions under his control. [No. P 1269 of July 29, 1948]

EDUCATIONAL CONCESSIONS FOR REFUGEE STUDENTS

Backward Class refugee pupils who intend to settle down in the Province of Bombay and are studying in the educational institutions of this Province are eligible, with effect from the beginning of the current academic year, for the educational concessions which are at present admissible to Backward Class pupils of this Province. [No. P 1394 of August 13, 1948]

ADMISSION OF REFUGEE STUDENTS INTO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The Government of Bombay has carefully considered the question of the admission of students from other Provinces and Indian States and refugee students to the Government technical and specialised institutions in the Province and has directed that from the current academic year, the capitation fees charged to extra-provincial students should be abolished on a reciprocal basis with the other Provinces and States of the Indian Union.

Admission of extra-provincial students to these institutions will be regulated as follows:

Persons who have passed the prescribed examination of the Bombay University required for entrance will be held eligible for admission, irrespective of their domicile.

Students with Bombay domicile, but with an entrance qualification from universities outside the Province will be admitted on a par with students within the Province subject, however, to certain higher standards of marks being prescribed with regard to individual universities.

Other Admissions

The number of admissions for students outside the categories mentioned above will be restricted, admissions being made subject to certain higher standards for admission, which will be prescribed hereafter.

Students from the States which have merged in Bombay Province and refugee students intending to settle down in this Province will be treated on a par for purposes of admission and fees in these institutions with the students from this Province itself. [No. P 1244 of July 24, 1948]

CRAFTS TRAINING CENTRE AT KALYAN CAMP

The Government of Bombay has accorded sanction to the establishment of a smallscale industry and a training centre at the Refugee Camp at Kaylan. The refugees will be trained in the various crafts and trades enabling them to earn their livelihood as skilled craftsmen.

For expenditure of a capital nature, such as the purchase and installation of initial equipment, plant, machinery and other accessories required in connection with the Scheme, a non-recurring grant of Rs. 500,000 has been sanctioned. Recurring expenditure on stipends to the trainees, raw materials and the cost of free board to honorary workers and other matters has also been sanctioned.

The scheme will be run on a commercial basis, and will be in charge of an Administrative Officer. Mr. A. N. Ray, at present working as Service Manager in the Victory X-Ray Corporation, Limited, Bombay, has been appointed as Administrative Officer.

To assist in and supervise the implementation of the Scheme, a Controlling Committee will be formed with the Director of Relief and Rehabilitation as Chairman. [No. P 1531 of September 11, 1948]

NO FREE RATIONS WITHOUT WORK FOR REFUGEES

The Government of India feels that those refugees who remain in camps should not get free rations and that they should be made to turn out some kind of work. Everybody in the camps must do something before he is given his ration. The work need not be gainful. All services in the camps should be manned by volunteers, if necessary. The volunteers will be given preference in the matter of rehabilitation.

In order to provide facilities for spinning, 'taklis' would be supplied and arrangements made for the supply of cotton, so that those refugees who cannot be employed on any other kind of work in the camp can engage themselves in this work. To start with, a moderate quantity of yarn would be prescribed for daily out-turn by each refugee. [No. P 1325 of August 4, 1948]

RELIEF FOR REFUGEE GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

The Government of Bombay issued orders some time ago that financial assistance equal to three months' pay or Rs. 2,000, whichever was less, should be granted to Provincial servants who have come as refugees from areas in West Pakistan and have subsequently been employed under the Government of Bombay to enable them to provide themselves with personal equipment essential for their duties as Government servants.

Following the representation that the provision under these orders, requiring temporary Government servants to produce personal security of permanent Government servants in order to draw the advance was causing hardship in certain cases where the Government servants concerned were unable to procure such surety, especially because they were in new stations, the Government has now directed that where a temporary Government servant requiring advance is unable to procure surety, he should be granted advance without such surety if the appointing authority can certify that his employment is not likely to be terminated within a period of three years—the period within which the advance is ordinarily payable. In cases where this period is shorter, an advance will still be given, but it will be made payable during the period covered by the certificate.

These orders apply to all refugees who are employed under the Government of Bombay, irrespective of whether they were previously in Government service or not. [No. P 1369 of August 11, 1948]

REFUGEES AND PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT

It has been brought to the notice of the Government of Bombay that refugees seeking private employment are asked to produce certificates that they are refugees from the Refugee Officer, Bombay, even though they possess registration certificates issued by the registering authorities under the Bombay Refugees Act, 1948. The registering authorities in Greater Bombay are the Inspectors of Police in charge of the Centres and are under the control of the Refugee Officer, and certificates issued by them are for all practical purposes to be treated as being issued by the Refugee Officer.

All members of the public are, therefore, informed that when refugees approach them for employment, they should not insist on specific certificates from the Refugee Officer, when they are already in possession of registration certificates issued by the registration authorities. [No. P 1208 of July 19, 1948]

REHABILITATION OF REFUGEE HARIJAN WEAVERS

There are a large number of Harijan handloom weavers displaced from Sind who are now residing in the Government relief camps. Their life avocation is weaving, and the Government is anxious that they should be given the benefit of opportunities available in the industry here.

Millowners and owners of handloom, power-loom and hosiery factories are, therefore, requested to make special efforts to absorb as many as possible of these displaced persons in weaving mills. This will not only help in relieving the present shortage of skilled labour, but will provide gainful employment to a large number of displaced persons who have been deprived of the means of livelihood due to circumstances beyond their control.

Prospective employers are advised to get in touch with the Relief and Rehabilitation Department, Secretariat, Bombay, which will supply all necessary particulars of the displaced persons. [No. P 1364 of August 10, 1948]

UNIFORM POLICY IN GRANTING LANDS TO REFUGEES

The policy of the Government of Bombay in respect of grant of lands to the refugees for housing sites and industrial purposes has been to treat the refugees in the same way as permanent residents of a similar economic class to which such refugees may belong, i.e., poor refugees get the same consideration as any other poor people of this Province and grant of land to rich refugees is governed by the same principles as apply to similar grants to the rich of the Province. [No. P 1096 of July 1, 1948]

LOANS TO DISPLACED PERSONS

The Rehabilitation Finance Administration, Theatre Communication Building, Connaught Place, New Delhi, has started granting loans to displaced persons, and already advances aggregating Rs. 1,34,000 have been sanctioned. [No. P 1518 of September 9, 1948]

REHABILITATION LOANS TO REFUGEES

The Government of Bombay has directed that the rehabilitation loans to refugees should be given, as a rule, only to co-operative societies. Loans to individual refugees will be given only in exceptional cases.

These orders will not be applicable in cases where applications for loans have been finally sanctioned or where part payment of loans has already been made. The assistance, as far as possible, will be in the form of machinery, tools, etc., necessary for the process of resettlement and not in cash.

Applications for loans under the scheme are to be made by letter, giving full particulars regarding the constitution of the co-operative society and enclosing copies of registration certificates. [No. P 1381 of August 12, 1948]

LOANS TO REFUGEES

The Government of India has constituted a corporation under the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948, called the Rehabilitation Finance Administration for giving financial assistance in the shape of loans on reasonable terms to displaced persons to enable them to settle in business and industry. At the instance of the Central Government and with the same object in view, the Government of Bombay has already introduced a scheme for the grant of rehabilitation loans to persons displaced from urban areas in Pakistan. But the scheme sponsored by this Government is essentially intended to assist small-scale undertakings, and under its terms a refugee will not be eligible for a loan exceeding Rs. 5,000. The object of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration is to provide displaced persons with greater credit facilities than are available under the Provincial Government's scheme and generally to assist all those whose cases may not be covered by the Provincial scheme.

The Terms

The terms governing the grant of loans by the Administration are set out in the Act. Briefly recapitulated, they are as follows:—

(1) Loans will be advanced upto the limits prescribed by the Central Government; (2) Interest will be charged at a rate not exceeding 6 per cent. per annum; (3) The period of the loan may not exceed 10 years; (4) The loan may be advanced either for fixed capital or working capital or for both; (5) The assets created from the loan will be deemed to be mortgaged to the Administration for the repayment of the loan and the interest thereon; and (6) The Administration may also take such further security for any loan as it may consider necessary.

Forms for application for loan have been received by the Government of Bombay and are being distributed to the Commissioner of Police, Bombay and all Collectors. There are three kinds of application forms according as the applicants are individuals (Form A), joint Hindu family firms (Form B) or partnerships (Form C). The forms will be issued, on payment of one anna per copy, by the officers mentioned above to displaced persons residing in this Province and wishing to apply to the Administration for loans for business or industry. Applications have to be made in triplicate.

Further particulars can be obtained direct from the Chief Administrator, Rehabilitation Finance Administration, whose office is at Theatre Communication Building, Connaught Place, New Delhi. [No. P 1207 of July 19, 1948]

**APPLICATIONS FOR LOANS: REFUGEES EXEMPTED
FROM STAMP DUTY**

The Government of Bombay has remitted the stamp duty payable on applications for loans and documents required to be executed by refugees in that connection.

The refugees who have already paid stamp duty are not, however, entitled for the refund of the same. [No. P 1479 of August 31, 1948]

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