

# COCHIN INFORMATION



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[ No. 2



Coir Products—Off to the Market

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# “COCHIN CALLING”

## VISIT COCHIN

FOR

## A REAL HOLIDAY

### COCHIN IS, ADMITTEDLY, A LAND OF BEAUTY

It has a rich variety of splendid scenery, the like of which few places in India can boast of.

Its many miles of backwaters, alive at all times with picturesque craft of all kinds—from the primitive *vallam* laboriously pushed along by a long bamboo pole to the most modern launch driven by steam or motor—and fringed on both sides by ever-green groves of luxuriant coconut-palms, constitute a sight that is as rare as it is refreshing.

It has, besides, a first-rate harbour, with all the modern equipments, constructed after years of labour—a veritable romance of marine engineering.

Possessed of a historical background, replete with romance and adventure, and of a distinctive culture and civilisation, Cochin has several fascinating features that mark it out from the rest of India. There is, in fact, a good deal in its social, religious and economic institutions that will provide food for thought and reflection.

There are a number of ancient temples and churches in the State which, from the point of view of their structural beauty as well as their sanctity, stand in a class by themselves and are well worth visiting.

Among the other attractions are a number of well laid out gardens and parks, beautiful roads, pleasing land scapes, waterways, etc.

All the important towns have well-equipped travellers' bungalows and there are also good hotels to stay in.

*For additional information, please write to.—*

**THE INFORMATION OFFICER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF COCHIN,**

**ERNAKULAM**



## NATIONAL SAVINGS

**T**O check inflation, to induce people to save and to help in the war efforts a National Savings Campaign was inaugurated in the State recently. Presiding over the inauguration meeting which was addressed by Mr. Krishnamurthi, Defence Loans Commissioner, Madras, Sir George Boag, K.C.I.E. C.S.I., Diwan of Cochin, said.—

The object of this meeting is to arouse interest in the subject, rather the dull subject of Defence Loans. We are fortunate in that Mr. Krishnamurthi, who for the last few months, has been employed by the Madras Government to organise their drive for the collection of money

for this purpose and has found time to come here and explain to us what he has been doing in Madras and indicate how we might proceed here. I may say that Mr. Krishnamurthi's efforts in Madras have been very successful. I was associated with him myself when he began this work and we had decided with some hesitation to set before the people of Madras a loan of Rs. 10 crores to be collected by the end of December. Well, we had not fixed sufficiently high because by the end of December not only ten crores but 12½ crores had been collected in the province of Madras. Now I do not know what Mr. Krishnamurthi is going to say this afternoon, but I am



*Elephant procession inaugurating the National Savings Campaign in the State*

quite sure that he will from his experience of this work in Madras be able to give us information of great help and value.

By way of introduction to what he is going to say I should like to draw your

attention to the importance of this subject. In the first place, Government are spending, as you all know, a very large sum of money for war purposes. There are now a very large number of men in all the fighting services and they all have to be

paid. A great deal of money is being spent on military works. We see a good deal of that here. More money still is being spent in Ordnance Factories, on munitions of one kind or another or on supplies of materials which are required for the manufacture of those materials, and for other purposes connected with the army. Government, therefore, need large sums of money. A great deal of this money comes back to the people of the country. The labour employed on these military works has to be paid wages. Supplies have to be paid for before they are obtained and a great deal of money comes back to all our villages in the form of family allotments made by men who have gone on active service. So in one way or another there is an unusually large amount of money in the hands of a great

many people. At the same time there has been, for various reasons, a great reduction in the quantity of commodities available for purchase. The imports have very largely disappeared. A large number of factories which used to turn out goods for the use of the ordinary public are now working entirely on war work turning out goods required by the army. So for various reasons the quantity of goods available for the purchase has been greatly reduced. Now that there are more people anxious to spend their money and when the number of goods available for them to buy is small, prices naturally go up; and everybody complains of these high prices. Nobody likes to spend them but at the same time those who have got money want goods badly enough, and they will pay. Now in order to check



*National Savings Campaign—a procession in connection with its inauguration*

this, it is important that all the money that people can spare should be diverted from the scramble for the small quantity of goods available. People should be deprived of their surplus cash to prevent them from doing the harm that is doing now and diverted to the useful purpose of providing the money necessary to carry

on the war.

One other point. It is a good thing for the individual himself to be prevented from spending his money now when whatever he buys will cost him two or three times as much as it costs in normal times. He should be prevented from

spending this money and he should be compelled to save it, to lend to the Government, so that when normal times return and the commodities resume something like their normal prices, the individual may have his money and be able to spend it. He won't spend it on buying goods at extravagantly high prices. So that from every point of view it is important to give to the people an opportunity to save their money. They are doing good to the country by providing

the money necessary for war purposes, they are mitigating the evil of an inflated currency and they are doing good to themselves by saving their money in order to be able to spend it when it will buy more than it will now. That is the importance of the subject and now I am going to ask Mr. Krishnamurthi to deal with the subject in detail and give us his advice as to how we should set about this work here.

## TECHNICAL TRAINING AND WAR EFFORTS

**A**N exhibition organised by the Technical Training Centres in the Maharaja's College was opened by Sir George Boag, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Diwan of Cochin. A message received from His Highness the Maharaja was read at the meeting. The message emphasised the importance of technical training in the war efforts and stated, "Cochin has contributed a fair share, and hundreds of technicians trained in the various centres in the State are playing their part in manning the mechanised divisions of the armies of the United Nations. Yet, we have to contribute more, and our young men must respond nobly to the nation's call. These training centres are not only helping to win the war but also laying foundations for an industrialised India."

Mr. N. R. Ramachandra Ayyar, the Professor in-charge of the Technical Training Centre in the Maharaja's College, read a report on the progress of the scheme in the four centres. The exhibition revealed the immense value of the training given,

involving an emphasis on some aspects of the educational system, unfortunately neglected. If a happy blend could be achieved of the theoretical aspects of science and engineering studies at educational institutions with the practical and productive aspects of industrial life, as evinced in the India Technical Training Scheme, it would be the true basis on which an intelligent and practical-minded young man could be trained to take part in the expansion, required in Indian industry, to enable India to stand on her own legs, in the matter of self-sufficiency in industry. Educationists and Governments would have to turn their mind to that question. The scheme prepared by Mr. John Sergeant, took note of that two-fold integrated aspect of academic, and technical education and had stressed them.

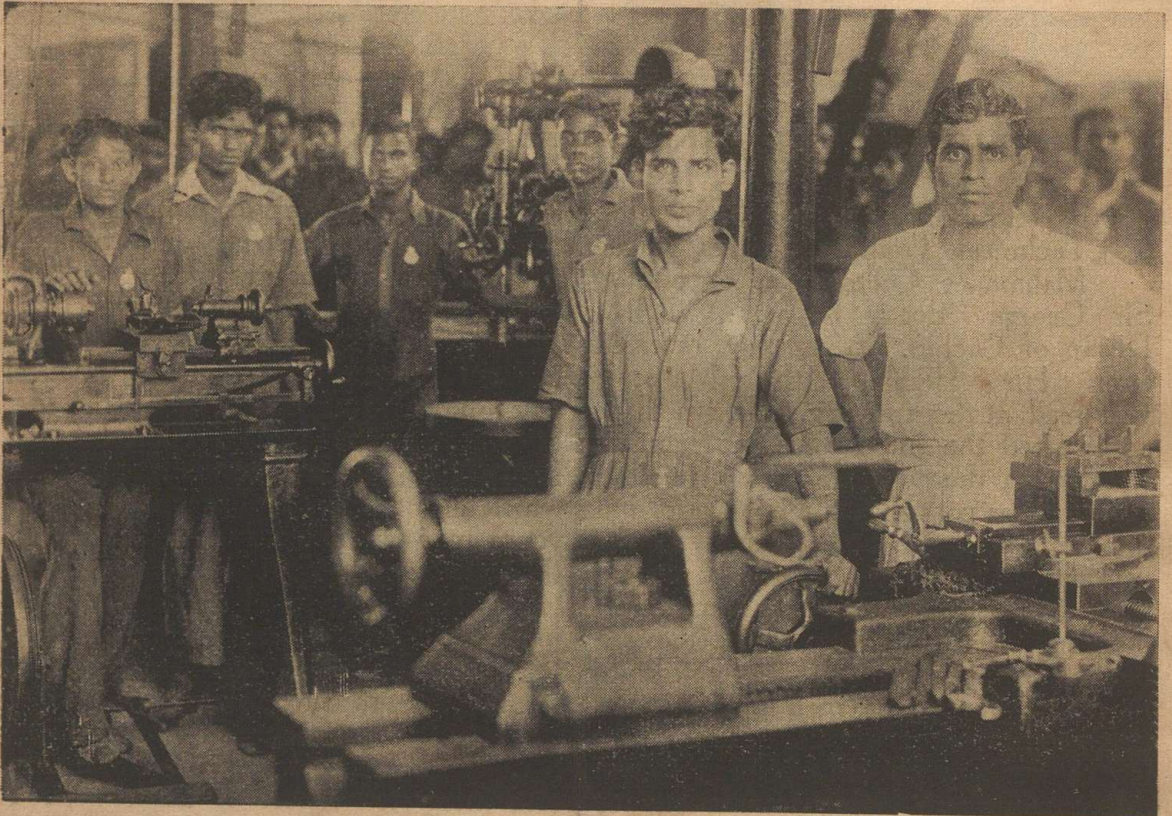
Sir George Boag, after distributing prizes, congratulated the organisers of the exhibition and the prize-winners. He stressed the fact that the recipients of

the training were fortunate in that it qualified them for technical employment, and they were fitting themselves to make a direct personal contribution to the war effort of the State. Looking to the future, they were fitting themselves to play a useful part in that great development of industry which everyone expected would follow war in this country. To repair the wastage caused by the war, great industrial development was necessary, and a great army of technicians would be required to

switch from war to peace work.

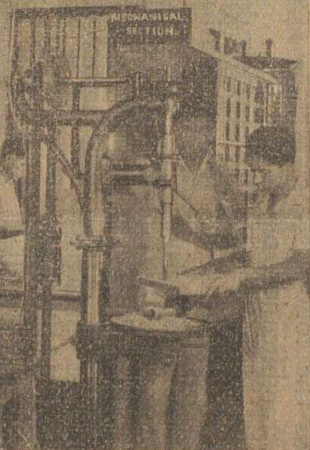
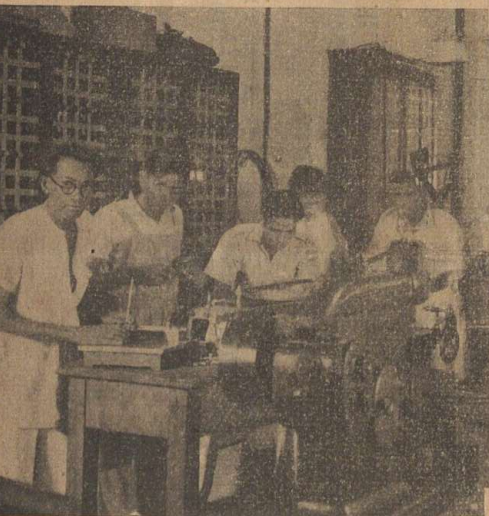
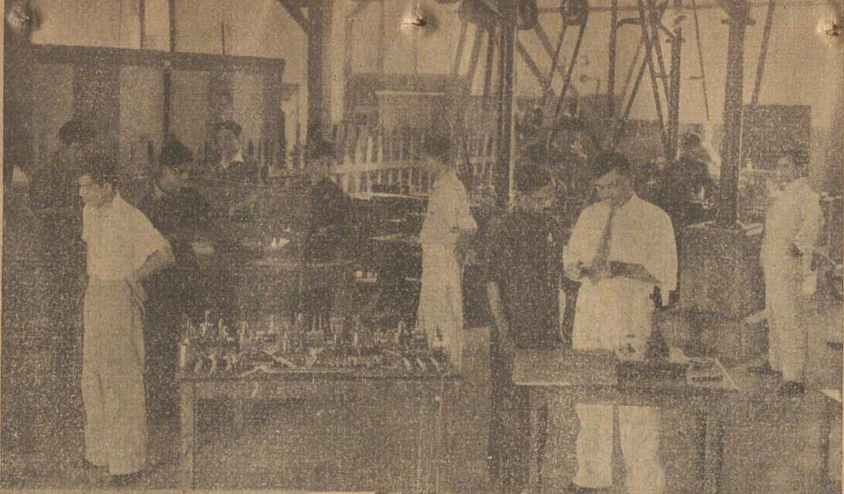
The learning of a trade, continued the Diwan, would inevitably develop the individual's self-consciousness and self-respect. From all these points of view, the scheme was going to be of the greatest value to this country, both in the immediate future, and in the distant future as well.

The Diwan next declared the exhibition open.



*War Technicians undergoing training in one of the Centres in the State*

*War Technicians*



*Different trades taught in various centres*

# PUBLIC SERVICES AND THE WAR

[RESERVATION OF SEATS IN PUBLIC SERVICES FOR THOSE IN WAR SERVICE]

**I**N 1942 Government reserved fifty per cent of all substantive vacancies which existed in the Public Services in the State on the 16th of August of that year or which arose after that date and which had to be filled up by direct recruitment to candidates with war service as was done by the Madras Government.

1. The Madras Government have since modified their order and are now reserving for candidates with war service all the substantive vacancies in the Madras Government service. A large number of persons belonging to the State are serving the country in different branches of war service and the question of reserving a larger percentage of the substantive vacancies for these candidates as is done by the Madras Government has been under the consideration of the Government for some time past. Government are now pleased to pass the following orders in the matter in modification of the orders already issued.—

(i) Fifty per cent of all substantive vacancies in any public service in the State which existed on 1st Chingam 1117 or which arose between 1st Chingam 1117 and 31st Karkadagam 1118 (both days inclusive) and which should be filled by direct recruitment and 70 per cent of all substantive vacancies which arose on or after 1st Chingam 1119 or may arise hereafter and which should be filled by direct recruitment, shall be reserved to be filled by the appointment of persons who have rendered war service.

(ii) In the case of posts (other than that of nurses) which must be filled by direct recruitment of women, only 25 per cent of the substantive vacancies shall be reserved for persons with war service.

*Note.*—In the case of the posts of nurses, the reservation will be as in sub-para (i) above.

(iii) Vacancies remaining after providing for such number of war service candidates as may become available shall be filled by direct recruitment in the ordinary manner.

2. All substantive appointments within or outside the purview of the Staff Selection Board, and all substantive appointments within the competence directly of the Government or their Heads of Departments in superior or inferior service will fall under the classes of vacancies to be reserved for persons with record of war service, provided the appointments involve recruitment of new hands without permanent lien in Government service.

3. For the purpose of this order, the term "war service" shall mean—

(a) service of any kind out of India with a mobilized unit;

(b) service in India under military, munitions or store authorities and service in a factory notified under sub-section (1) of section 4 of the National Service (Technical Personnel) Ordinance, 1940 (Ordinance No. 11 of 1940) in all cases with liability to serve out of India when required;

(c) training with military units with liability to serve out of India when required;

(d) service in the Civil Pioneer Force or in the Cochin State Labour Units;

(e) valuable service rendered to the fighting forces in other ways, e.g., by way of recruiting;

(f) whole-time service rendered in connection with A. R. P. or any other civil defence organisation specified in this behalf by the Government; and

(g) such other service as may hereafter be declared as War Service for the purpose of this definition.

4. Appointments to the vacancies which have been reserved to be filled under sub-para (i) and (ii) above shall, ordinarily be made irrespective of communal considerations and the vacancies shall be filled in the order in which "war service" has been defined in para 3 (a) to (f) above.

*Note.*—(i) Persons whose service in the A. R. P. Organisation has been characterised in their discharge certificates as "indifferent" or "bad" shall not be eligible for the benefit of this order.

(ii) Persons who have been discharged from war service for any reason other than medical invalidation, demobilization or completion of engagement shall not be eligible for the benefit of this order.

5. The vacancies reserved for candidates who have rendered war service shall not be filled substantively before the termination of the present war and until those vacancies are substantively filled by persons who have rendered war service, they will be filled temporarily as at present.

6. In the case of a person who has rendered war service, his period of war service shall be excluded in computing his age for appointment. Such person

shall, if invalided from War Service, be entitled to deduct from his age the period from the time when he was invalided up to the date of his application for appointment or until the end of the war, whichever is earlier.

7. A candidate who has rendered war service shall not be ineligible for selection to a service, class or category merely because he does not possess the education or other qualification prescribed by Rules for such service, class or category, provided the Government are satisfied that, in the case of selection for technical services or posts, the candidate is in possession of technical qualifications equivalent to those prescribed in the Rules and in the case of selection for non-technical services or posts that the candidate has acquired by experience or otherwise qualifications equivalent to those prescribed in the Rules or that his general education qualifications are such as may be deemed sufficient for the adequate performance of the duties of the services or posts.

8. This order shall be applicable in such a way—

(i) as to be consistent with public interest;

(ii) as to be fair to persons already in Government service who have had no opportunity of rendering war service; and

(iii) do not involve the appointment of any person to any post the duties of which he is not competent to perform.

# COCHIN GEOLOGICAL SERIES NO. III

## BALL CLAY DEPOSIT AT KOODAPPUZHA

[T. SUDHAKARA MENON, M.Sc., STATE GEOLOGIST]

**H**AVING come to know that the Cochin Potteries at Chalakudi are getting ball clay from Koodappuzha, the geological investigation of the deposit was carried out.

Koodappuzha is a village situated about three miles to the east of Chalakkudi. The ball clay deposit is found in the Kuttadan paddy fields, the total area of which is 18 acres and 1 cent. Some of the fields belong to Cherpu and Pariyari Devasswoms, while the others are owned by Mr. Kodasseri Ponnunni Kartha, Mr. Kodasseri Kavunni Kartha, Mr. Kodasseri Kotha Kuttan Ammunni Kartha, Mr. Erattuparambil Kunjipalu Ouseph, Mr. Erattuparambil Devassy Ouseph, Mr. Erattuparambil Kunjipalu Chakkappan, Mr. Thekkedath Madathil Subramania Ayyar Vasudeva Ayyar, and Mr. Naduvath Divakaran Narayanan Nambudiri. These fields are one-crop lands, and the clay is taken from pits dug here and there during the season when paddy is not cultivated.

Two varieties of ball clay are found in these fields—brownish and bluish-grey varieties. The bluish-grey variety is the

better one, from a ceramic point of view. Dr. K. N. Menon of Maharaja's College, who analysed these two varieties of clay, has given the following results.—

	<i>Brownish clay</i>	<i>Bluish-grey clay</i>
Silica ..	56.06	56.6
Alumina ..	34.41	30.37
Ferric Oxide ..	4.53	3.2
Lime ..	0.4245	0.87
Magnesia ..	Traces	1.0
Alkali ..	1.232	3.01
Moisture ..	2.983	..

Pits dug in the fields revealed two feet of surface soil, nine feet of brownish ball clay below it, one to two feet of bluish-grey ball clay below it and clay with large quantities of sand below it. Large quantities of both the varieties of ball clay can be obtained from these fields for industrial purposes.

The ball clay deposit of Koodappuzha must have originated from the silt of the Chalakkudi river, which flows a little to the south of the Kuttadan paddy fields. The presence of pieces of decayed wood here and there in the ball clay confirms this view.

## GOVERNOR'S VISIT

**T**HEIR Excellencies Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras and Lady Hope visited Ernakulam in the last week of March and stayed as the guest of Sir George Boag, Diwan of Cochin. Their Excellencies visited certain important places of interest. His Excellency paid a visit to H. H. the Maharaja of Cochin. Her Excellency Lady Hope visited the War Exhibition and was much impressed by the variety and beauty of the various exhibits.



*H. E. The Governor of Madras*

## NOTES

**Panchayats Bill.**—In the February Session of the Cochin Legislative Council the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development introduced the Panchayats Bill. The objects and reasons for introducing the Bill are thus stated: The existing Village Panchayat Act was enacted about thirty years ago and the Village Courts Act passed last year has repealed the major part of the Village Panchayats Act and the few provisions of the Act that alone remain have been found to be imperfect and inadequate. Though the existing Act provides for the exercise by the Panchayats of very wide powers they are not in practice exercising or allowed to exercise sufficient powers. Further, the main work that they were expected to discharge was judicial and with the constitution of separate village courts the Panchayats have been relieved of a large part of their work and their services, may, with advantage, be utilised to further and improve the activities of Government in rural areas. The primary aim that actuated Government in the establishment of Panchayats was to transfer the responsibility as regards village administration to the panchayats by more closely associating them with the day to day administration of village life. Though the activities of Government in rural areas have developed considerably in recent times there has been no tangible attempt, so far, closely to associate the Panchayats with such extended activities.

The proposal to co-ordinate and decentralise the diverse activities of Government in rural areas is particularly desirable in that it will tend to enhance the effectiveness of the work done by supplying the necessary local check and control. Further it is proposed to make the Panchayats responsible for a part of the collection work and this will, it is hoped, make them more interested in their work, than when merely act as a committee to advise

on the spending of money set apart for them by Government. While greater and extended powers have been vouchsafed to the Panchayats by this bill, care has been taken to provide adequate safeguards against possible misuse of powers.

**Purchase and Sales Scheme.**—The system of banking in seeds by licensed individuals was tried in 1118 M. E. but in practice has revealed serious defects, states a Press Note. The license has occasionally been abused and used as a cover for black-marketing. After giving serious consideration to the supply of seeds to cultivators in need of it, and in consultation with the Food Advisory Council, Government have decided to replace the "Banking Scheme" by a "Purchase and Sales Scheme".

It is proposed to entrust reliable landholders with suitable quantities of paddy for the preparation and storage of seeds. These landholders will be allowed 15 per cent shrinkage in respect of Virippu paddy and 10 per cent in other cases. For the labour and expense involved, they will be allowed four annas per para of seed. The landholders will be liable to account as seeds the quantity of Government paddy delivered to them, less the shrinkage allowed. The parties should execute a kychit for the fulfilment of the contract. The seed will be sold to cultivators by Government at the prevailing controlled rates. Landholders and parties who intend to take up the work may apply to the Director of Food Supplies through the Tahsildar of the Taluk concerned.

It may take some time before this scheme begins to function, on a State-wide basis. Meanwhile the Tahsildars have been instructed to meet the immediate requirements by purchasing excess seeds available and selling it to the needy

ryots. It has to be remembered that allowance is made for seed when the Government paddy demand is fixed, and as such all agriculturists are normally expected to have their own supply of seed. Anybody purchasing seed and using it for purposes other than paddy cultivation will be severely dealt with.

**Red Cross Week.**—The Red Cross Committee celebrated the days between 12th and 19th March as Red Cross Week. The programme of the celebration took in football matches, cinema shows, dramas, entertainments, and various other amusements. The week was opened by the Diwan of Cochin, at a public meeting.

**Cochin State Labour Units.**—Government of Cochin have now been instructed to pay compensation money to the dependants of deceased labourers of Cochin State Labour Units in accordance with the State Workmen's Compensation Act. The Diwan Peishkar has been appointed the Authorised Officer and in the work connected with the distribution of compensation he will be assisted by a Special Assistant. Steps are now being taken to pay the compensation expeditiously. The rules and notifications governing the procedure relating to the distribution of compensation have already been published.

**Educational concessions to children of war employees.**—At present only the children of those who serve in the present war are given educational concessions in the State. These concessions are now extended to one dependant also nominated by the war employee concerned, if he is a bachelor or one without any children. In the case of the former he can nominate a direct brother or sister or a step-brother or step-sister and in the case of the latter his wife. In the case of one who has children, the children alone will be

eligible for the concessions and not other dependants.

**A munificent donation.**—Dr. Rm. Alagappa Chettiar has made a donation to Government of Rs. 100,001 for purposes charitable, educational or ameliorative or for war effort as His Highness the Maharaja may be pleased to approve. It has been decided to utilise the amount in the following manner: Rs. 70,001 will be utilised for starting technological courses in the Maharaja's College associated with Dr. Chettiar's name, Rs. 15,000 will be given to the Branch of the Red Cross Society in the State and Rs. 15,000 will be utilised for building a maternity home attached to the Government aided dispensary at Cherppu. The last will also be associated with the donor's name.

**Payment of rent in kind.**—The following Press Note has been issued: According to clause 9 of the Cochin Paddy Acquisition Order, 1119, as amended by Notification No. 100 dated 20th January 1944 both the landlord who is to receive rent and the tenant who is liable to pay has to intimate to the Grain Purchasing Tahsildar or the Director of Food Supplies, the fact of non-payment of rent in kind and such quantity of paddy as is intended for payment of rent to the landlord, can be disposed of by the tenant only according to the orders of the Director. There is apprehension in certain quarters that (1) the tenant who has already paid rent in money by selling to the Government the paddy earmarked for such rent will have to keep and account to the Government the grain left for his consumption and (2) by the time orders regarding the disposal of such paddy is received from the Director of Food Supplies the tenant may have to starve. Government wish to make it clear to the public that such apprehensions are unfounded. Paddy sold to Government

will naturally be considered as having been disposed of under the orders of the Director of Food Supplies and hence the provision does not apply to such transactions. The intention is only to apply the provision to such cases in which the tenant manages to procure sanction from the Purchasing Officers to keep stipulated amounts of paddy for payments in kind, defaults such payment and appropriates the paddy. Such tenants are required to comply with the orders of the Director of Food Supplies in regard to the safe-keeping, disposal or acquisition of the said paddy.

The aim of the amendment is to minimise possibilities of malpractices, clandestine disposals and misuse of stocks and to secure all such paddy for an equitable distribution among the masses. Government hope that, realising the object underlying the provisions, the public will actively co-operate with them in carrying into effect this provision of the order.

**Cochin State Soldiers' Board.**— Government have constituted temporarily a State Soldiers' Board under the control

of the Indian Soldiers' Board with effect from the 1st of April 1944. The Honorary Military Welfare Officer will be Secretary of the Board and the office of the Board will be at Trichur.

**Beggar Relief in Municipalities.**— Temporary arrangements for giving relief to beggars, pending the introduction of permanent measures on the basis of the report of the Beggar Relief Committee, have been ordered in the municipalities of Ernakulam, Mattancheri and Trichur. The arrangement is to provide about 200 beggars with home, food, cloth and medical aid. At Mattancheri they will be housed in the evacuation sheds at Palluruthy Veli, at Ernakulam in the evacuation sheds near Vytila and at Trichur in Kuriachera compound. In the selection of beggars for protection in these beggar homes utmost discretion will be used and only the most deserving cases will be admitted, e.g., the old and the infirm, women and small children. These arrangements will rid the public of the nuisance due to beggars and at the same time give relief to the destitutes in their respective areas.

## THE LATE ELAYA RAJA OF COCHIN

**W**E record with great regret the demise of H. H. Ravi Varma, Elaya Raja of Cochin, on the 20th of March 1944. His Highness was the brother of the late Maharaja who abdicated in 1914 after an eventful and vigorous reign crowned with glorious achievements.

The late Elaya Raja was born in 1866. He had his early education under the expert guidance of that erudite scholar Robert White. Education imparted at that time did not create any thirst for

academic honours or University distinctions. It provided equipment to face and solve the problems of the world and gave training to assume the responsibilities that a member of the Ruling Family would be called upon to discharge. He attained proficiency in Sanskrit, English, Hindustani and Vedanta philosophy. After his education at Trippunittura he went to Madras to take advantage of the educational facilities available there. He extended his knowledge by wide reading and studied first hand the problems of



*The late Elaya Raja of Cochin*

administration by undergoing a course of training in one of the District Offices in British India.

After his return from Madras he settled down at Trippunittura and devoted his attention, time and energy to the re-organisation and improvement of the system of education imparted to the junior members of the Ruling Family. He organised the Palace School and the Palace Girls' School and remained as guardian of the young Princes for a long

period. Later on, he settled down at Trichur.

His Highness took an active and enthusiastic interest in the Ramakrishna Mission, the Boy Scouts Movement and other organisations founded for the physical, mental and cultural development of the younger generation. He was highly religious. All those who came into contact with him had been impressed by his wide humanity, austere simplicity and ascetic disposition.

May his soul rest in peace !

# DEVELOPMENT OF BELL-METAL INDUSTRY

[BY V. K. ACHYUTA MENON, DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE]

**T**HE cast bell-metal work has been a hereditary occupation in Cochin with a set of artisans called Moosaris. They are distributed throughout the State though a little concentrated at Trichur, Irinjalakuda and Kadavallur. In the Chittur Taluk some of them are immigrants from the Tamil Districts. At Ernakulam there are a few families of Konkanyes following this industry as their occupation. It is estimated that there are over 200 families of them engaged in this industry in the State.

Moosaris are village artisans and they used to supply to the people their requirements of household utensils, lamps, bells, etc. They can do all kinds of castings, light and heavy and Cochin Moosaris as a class are noted for their exquisite workmanship also. Before the advent of glass mirrors, the Moosaris used to supply this essential toilet requirement made of bell-metal. Some years back purchase of bell-metal vessels was considered to be an investment and there are families now who are the owners of wares of different varieties and sizes including big cauldrons weighing half-a-ton and more and valued at hundreds of rupees. In those days the manufacture of a cauldron, for example, used to provide continuous work for a few families of Moosaris for months together. The social functions in villages in those days were also of such a character that there was constant demand for bell-metal wares of various kinds. A change in the social life of the people and a change in tastes and fashions and competition from cheap aluminum and other wares, however, have decreased the market for bell-

metal wares. Still they are in demand. In spite of cheap substitutes the villagers, when they can afford, go in for bell-metal wares as they are well aware of this advantage, that, if these wares break, the metal can be used for re-casting. It is possible to develop the industry and to increase the demand for bell-metal wares. The lines of development involve the improvement of the process of manufacture as also the creation of conditions favourable for increasing the market.

All bell-metal wares have to be moulded and cast individually. Green sand moulding of at least plain articles can be successfully attempted. From the preparation of the core to the polished final product there are a series of intermediate processes all of which are now done by the same worker. Some kind of division of labour and specialisation can be adopted with advantage. It has also to be seen whether more labour saving lathes and such like other equipments than those in use at present could not be introduced. All these will reduce cost of production and put bell-metal wares in a better position to compete with the other cheap wares that are selling in the market.

Improvement of technique has to be supplemented by other means for pushing on sales. Most of the models done by the Moosaris at present belong to the old-fashioned type. By a careful study of the various kinds of utensils and other articles that are now being sold, in the market, new designs of bell-metal wares have to be manufactured to satisfy modern tastes and fashions. In fact there are many articles which can be successfully

imitated. It is not enough if a new design is adopted, but it must be the aim to improve constantly so that novelty of design may be kept up.

Bell-metal is an alloy containing a definite proportion of copper and tin. By varying the proportion of the two metals as also by introducing brass and other inferior alloys it is very easy to tamper with the quality of bell-metal wares and sell them as the genuine stuff. This is generally done and as a result the public has lost confidence in the wares. This dishonest practice has to be stopped which itself will go a long way in increasing sales. Bell-metal wares made in Cochin and sold to the public must have some sort of guarantee behind them regarding their genuineness. Cochin bell-metal wares should try to establish a hall-mark of their own.

Improvement of the technique of production and the quality and design of the product will not by themselves bring about the desired result. Generally the Moosaris are working on a cottage basis. Some of them purchase their own copper, tin and other raw materials, finish their own models and market them themselves. In other cases the Moosaris work out firm orders in their cottages for which the party that places the order supplies the required metal—the other materials, like wax, charcoal, etc., being purchased by the workmer. The working conditions in either case are not effective enough to introduce the improvements in technique and quality and design suggested above. For this concentrated supervision is necessary. This is achieved by the factory system of working.

Cochin bell-metal wares are sold not only locally but in other places particularly in the Tamil Districts of the Madras Presidency where large sales are done. These sales have been increasing by the efforts of private dealers. They have to a certain extent surveyed these markets

and ascertained the exact requirements of the consumers. They have organised private factories in which Moosaris are engaged to work on daily wages or piece-work system under the direct supervision of the dealers. In these factories attempts are made to specialise processes and to introduce new designs and patterns of bell-metal wares. It is gratifying to note that they have been doing successful work in improving the bell-metal trade in general. It would do well to encourage them in their efforts. Private gain is their main motive. But the lines of development are clear. It would do well to organise the Moosaris on similar lines on a co-operative basis which would bring to the workers themselves maximum benefit.

Left to themselves, however, the illiterate, poor and unorganised Moosaris may not be expected to do much to develop the industry. They are traditional and conventional. They are also not in touch with changing conditions. They are not qualified, at present to guide the activities of a society of bell-metal workers. They have to be helped into it. Bell-metal industry is a business proposition. The work of uplifting the poor artisans, however, involves philanthropic considerations also. Government may educate the Moosaris in co-operation and help them in the formation of primary societies. This will give them experience in managing the business and, in course of time, they may get confidence to take up the work of organising the industry themselves.

The war has made scarce, household utensils, etc., which are in competition with bell-metal wares. This has expanded the market for bell-metal wares. The same war conditions have also given scope for new lines of development. Advantage has to be taken of these features for the permanent benefit of the industry.

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# THE COCHIN STATE MILITARY BENEVOLENT FUND

The Government of India have instituted a fund called the "Indian Army Benevolent Fund" with a view

- (1) to help the families of combatants and non-combatants killed or disabled on active service,
- (2) to relieve distress not attributable to field or foreign service, and
- (3) to help ex-soldiers who have lost a limb on active service or on duty in peace.

2. The grants made from the Indian Army Benevolent Fund are generally small. This Government therefore consider it highly necessary to supplement these grants. With this object, Government propose to institute a fund in this State called the "Cochin State Military Benevolent Fund". The Cochin State Forces also will get the benefits of this fund.

3. The fund is intended to be built up by public subscription and will be administered by Trustees.

4. Cochin can be proud of her magnificent contribution in men to the victories of the Allies and to the triumph of the glorious causes for which the United Nations are fighting. It is only proper that the subjects of this State who are undergoing hardships, difficulties and perils are assured of a secure future. This fund has been started to give them the necessary assurance and it deserves the largest public support. Government expect that every individual and organisation will render all possible help to constitute this fund for the relief of those who are fighting for us. His Highness the Maharaja has graciously donated a sum of Rs. 1 lakh to the fund.

5. All donations may be sent to.—

M. R. Ry. P. V. Raphael Avl., M. A., Comptroller of Finance and  
Accounts, Chairman and Treasurer, The Cochin State  
Military Benevolent Fund, Trichur.

6. The donations will be acknowledged in the Cochin Government Gazette from time to time.

# Save Now—

## ENJOY LATER

### HOW TO SAVE:

A. Invest in any of the following.—

(1) **Victory Loan** 3 per cent Victory Loan Redeemable at par on 1st September 1944. Issue price on any date from 1st April to 8th April Rs. 100—2—8; 10th April to 15th April Rs. 100—3—4 and thereafter at prices increasing by 8 pies per cent weekly until further notice. Interest payable half yearly on 1st September and 1st March. Liable to income-tax and surcharge.

(2) **Defence Bonds.**

(3) **Interest Free Bonds.**—Minimum Rs. 50—Repayment will be after 3 years or after 1 year or 3 months' notice to the Reserve Bank or even within one year in case of real need.

(4) **National Savings Certificate.**—Units costing Rs. 10, Rs. 50, Rs. 100 and Rs. 1,000. An individual can invest up to Rs. 5,000 and institutions up to Rs. 20,000. A ten rupees certificate after 12 years will fetch Rs. 5 as bonus.

(5) **Defence Savings Deposits.**—Minimum that could be deposited is Rs. 2 and maximum Rs. 10,000. It could be withdrawn only one year after the war. Interest is 2½ per cent and is income-tax free.

(6) **Defence Provident Fund.**—Any Government servant can join. Payment—Annas eight or in multiples. Income-tax free and interest is 3 per cent. Apply to the Comptroller of Finance and Accounts, Trichur.

(7) **Prize Bonds.**—Interest free Prize Bonds in denominations of Rs. 10 and Rs. 100 in the form of bearer bonds.

On the 15th of January and 15th of July lots will be taken and prizes will be distributed in the manner mentioned below:

Rs. 100 denomination :	One first prize	Rs. 50,000
	Two second prizes	Rs. 20,000 each
	Two third prizes	Rs. 5,000 each
Rs. 10 denomination :	One first prize	Rs. 2,500
	Two second prizes	Rs. 1,250 each
	Five third prizes	Rs. 500 each
	Ten fourth prizes	Rs. 250 each

**JOIN NOW. SAVE NOW. ENJOY LATER.**

**Information Officer**