

TRAVANCORE

INFORMATION & LISTENER

DELIGHTED WITH HIS CROP



JUNE 1947

TRAVANCORE INFORMATION & LISTENER

Contents

Vol. VII.

JUNE 1947

No. 10

	Page		Page
1. MARCH OF EVENTS	5	8. INDEPENDENCE OF TRAVANCORE—STATE'S MINERAL POLICY—By Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar	35
Vindication of Travancore's Independence—Travancore's Peculiar Position—Sri Swati Tirunal Centenary Celebrations—The Pre-University Course—Radio—Sonde Station for Travancore—Sri Chitra Economic Conference		9. 27TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS (INDIA)—SOME IMPRESSIONS—By Mr. G. Krishnaswami Rao	40
2. A 'WAY OF LIFE' RATHER THAN AN OCCUPATION—By Mr. S. Basu	9	10. MINATORY ATTITUDE OF LEADERS DEPLORED	42
3. FIRST RESEARCH STATION OF THE INDIAN CENTRAL COCONUT COMMITTEE.	11	11. INDEPENDENCE OF TRAVANCORE—WHAT IT MEANS AND IMPLIES? TREATY RIGHTS AND PARAMOUNTCY—By One Who Knows	45
4. FIRST INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO RICE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION Food and Agricultural Organisation Rice Study Group—Welcome Address—By Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar	13	12. WHAT OTHERS SAY—	
5. TREAT THE WHOLE WORLD AS A FAMILY—By The Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad	19	The Travancore Constitution—By Mr. N. K. Venkiteswaran—The New Travancore Constitution—People's Control over Administration—Independent Travancore—The Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad's Visit to F A C T Ltd.—Rayon Plant for India—Processed Rice	47
6. NEED TO COME TOGETHER AND APPLY METHODS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY—By Mr. S. Y. Krishnaswami			
7. MAHARAJA SWATI-TIRUNAL—By Vaidyasatranipuna Dr. L. A. Ravi Varma	29		

PICTURES :

COVER—Delighted with his Crop—Royal Tour—Harvesting Paddy—Palmyrah Plantation—Sculptures in the Trivandrum Museum—Buddha—Nataraja—Siva—Picturesque Mountain Road in the High Range—In the Heart of the High Range.

TRAVANCORE INFORMATION and LISTENER, June 1947



ROYAL TOUR

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA,
AND HER HIGHNESS MAHARANI
SETU PARVATI BAYI, at the Trivan-
drum Aerodrome. Their Highnesses left by
Air recently for Kotagiri.





B U D D H A—
Trivandrum Museum

Recent notable additions to the Trivandrum Museum consist of rare and valuable specimens of Gandhara Sculpture of the second century B. D., depicting Buddha in seated and standing postures. Ancient Hellenistic or Greek influence is noticed in some of these figures. Here one of the exquisitely sculptured figures of the Bodhisatva.

TRAVANCORE Information & Listener

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March of Events.

SACHIVOTTAMA Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, who met Lord Ismay, prior to his departure to England, and thereafter had interviews and discussions with the Viceroy and Sir Eric Mievile regarding Travancore's attitude in respect of the constitutional discussions, stated that it now appeared to be clear that the scheme of a United India which was the ideal of the Indian National Congress and which many persons including himself wholeheartedly advocated was in the present circumstances impracticable of achievement. The Congress and the League had both made up their minds to effect the partition of parts of India and bring into existence more than one sovereign State in this country.

The Sachivottama affirmed that in the events that have happened and are happening he was fortified in the decision that the obvious course to be pursued by a State, geographically and educationally situated like Travancore, was to assert and vindicate its existence as an independent State pursuing, at the same time a policy of close co-operation in trade, commerce, research, education, communications and other matters of common concern with the

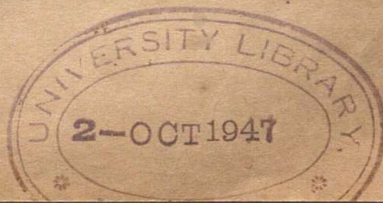
rest of India. Everything that had happened in India and in Delhi had reinforced the attitude which Travancore had decided to adopt.

TRAVANCORE'S PECULIAR POSITION

THE following statement in respect of the resolutions passed at the Trichur Aykiya Kerala Convention and in Gwalior has been issued by Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan.

In order to dispel the apparent misconceptions evidenced by some of the speeches made recently at Gwalior and during the Trichur Conference it should be clearly understood that it has been the uniform and long continued practice of the Maharajas of Travancore, apart from issuing Proclamations and exercising their prerogative powers according to established conventions, not to make pronouncements of a political character or on controversial subjects.

Statements and speeches on such subjects are made when necessary by the Dewan of



the State who is His Highness's duly constitutional adviser and executive agent. Acting in that capacity, I wish to make it clear that the distinction sought to be drawn at recent meetings is untenable. It may be definitely taken for granted that the Travancore Government does not propose to become a unit of any such province as is envisaged in the Trichur Resolution. The position is quite apart from the Government to enter into appropriate arrangements with an all India Government on matters of common concern. Such arrangements are specially called for and have to be negotiated irrespective of what takes place with regard to other Indian States.

Travancore occupies a peculiar position amongst the Indian States, not only as an important maritime State but as one possessing certain special and ancient rights in respect of coinage and currency, postal services, imports and exports and other commercial matters that have been recognised and implemented by the British Government.

SRI SWATI THIRUNAL CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

IT has been proposed to organize an Exhibition during the Sri Swati Tirunal Centenary Celebrations displaying articles of interest intimately associated with Sri Swati Tirunal. Among these are such outstanding treasures like the safe he was using, the image of Sri Rama he was worshipping and the musical instruments he was playing on. Some contemporary paintings of the Royal Composer, specially one depicting him as a child appear to exist, and attempts are being made to exhibit them also. It is also proposed to get together as many pictures as possible of great musicians from various localities for being exhibited. Some manuscript books on Art in Sri Swati Tirunal's own

handwriting will also be among the exhibits. The Committee has been able to locate some interesting exhibits such as a wooden statuette of Sri Swati Tirunal, pictures of His Highness Sri Swati Tirunal's father, mother, and aunt. They have also been able to procure an old though slightly damaged black and white portrait of the Royal musician from one of the Palaces.

PRE-UNIVERSITY COURSE

IN consonance with the recommendations of the Travancore Education Reorganisation Committee, the Government of Travancore propose to start a Pre-University School from the beginning of the academic year 1947-48 in the old Arts College buildings, Trivandrum. According to the new scheme the University Previous School prepares students for the University Entrance Examination after an year's course. Those who are duly certified to have passed the Examination can choose for the Degree Course one of the following faculties :—

Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Oriental Studies and Fine Arts, and Faculty of Engineering.

The present Intermediate Course will continue for some time till the Pre-University course becomes the sole channel of entrance to the Faculties in the University.

Candidates who seek admission to the University Previous Class must have passed English School Leaving Certificate Examination. Provision is made for instruction in the following subjects :—

1. English. 2. Malayalam. 3. Tamil.
4. Sanskrit. 5. Hindi. 6. Indian History
7. English History. 8. Mathematics.
9. Physics. 10. Chemistry. 11. Botany.
12. Zoology. 13. Drawing.

TRAVANCORE INFORMATION and LISTENER, June 1947

English will be compulsory subject. Candidates should take three optional subjects also. It is proposed to adopt the following grouping with regard to the optional subjects :—

1. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry ;
2. Physics, Chemistry, Botany ;
3. Physics, Chemistry, Zoology ;
4. Zoology, Botany, Chemistry ;
5. Mathematics, Indian History, British History ;
6. Indian History, British History and one of the languages ; and
7. Malayalam, Sanskrit and Hindi .

Such of the students as wish to join the Faculty of Engineering should do a fourth optional namely drawing, besides learning compulsory English and three optionals.

The school opens on the 9th June.

RADIO-SONDE STATION FOR TRAVANCORE

Due to the initiative of Rajyasevapravina Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Director of Research, Travancore University, and the keen interest of the Government in scientific and technical advancement, a "Radio-Sonde" station has been established at the Trivandrum Observatory by the Indian Meteorological Department and the first flight was conducted recently up Trivandrum with a network of fourteen other radio-sonde stations distributed all over India

Radio-sonde is the latest development in meteorological science for the determination of temperature, pressure and humidity of upper regions atmosphere.

The technique was entirely worked out by the officers of the Indian Meteorological Department during the last five years, and

incorporates many new and ingenious devices, rendering the instrument accurate and reliable and easy of construction, reproduction, installation and operation. The method consists of sending up four—meter—wireless transmitters attached to a balloon which sends out regularly signals of pressure, temperature and humidity. These signals are picked up by specially constructed receivers and are recorded on moving paper tape. From these records, the pressure, temperature and humidity of air over Trivandrum at various altitudes are calculated.

The data obtained daily are expected to yield valuable information regarding mechanism of monsoons and, in conjunction with those from fourteen other stations in India, it provides valuable aid to weather prophets at several centres of meteorological offices.

Until recently, before the introduction of radio method, balloons with self-recording instruments were used by the Department for the same purpose.

But, since the success of each flight depends on the chance recovery of the instrument after it falls to the earth, those flights were only of limited use for daily forecasting work. Radio-sonde helps obtain meteorological data at different stations at the same hour, and thus places the science of weather forecasting on a surer basis. In these days of rapid progress and travel such data are of enormous value to the pilot. It may also be mentioned that the Indian Meteorological Department itself manufactures every part of these instruments, calibrates them, and arranges to send them to different radio-sonde stations set up and run by them.

SRI CHITRA ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

THE eighth session of the Sri Chitra Economic Conference held at Trivandrum recently was presided over by Mr. W. H. Cummings, Leader of the United States Delegation to the Rice Study Group and was attended by a large and representative gathering, including a number of members of the Rice Study Group delegations

Mr. Cummings, in the course of the presidential observations, said that though he had not yet had an opportunity of studying the conditions here as much as he would wish, he knew what an important role fisheries could play in a maritime State. Citing the instance of his own country, he stressed the nutritive value of fish as an article of diet particularly to a country like India faced with acute food shortage and possessing a vast coast line and hoped that ere long, thanks to the researches being carried on in the State, it would become self-sufficient in the matter of food and that India as a whole would be able to offer her teeming population with the nutritious and balanced diet in the near future.

Rajyasevapravina Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Director of Research, Travancore University spoke on fishery development in Travancore.

He pointed out that 1,820,000 cwts. of fish were caught annually in the State, half of which was exported, their value aggregating to nine crores of rupees in normal years. The Government of Travancore in co-operation with the Government of India had started fishery research in the State at a cost of four lakhs of rupees per year for three years. He stressed the need for scientific work and provision in regard to storage, transport and the study of the habits of fish and surveys of the bottom fauna of the sea. The Government had acquired a vessel for assisting fishermen and carrying out research and a company has been started for carrying out deep sea fishing on a commercial scale.

Travancore, he said, had the potential capacity of producing eight to ten thousand gallons of shark liver oil annually sufficient for the nutritional needs of Travancore. He sought the co-operation of Mr. Cummings in securing a small distillation unit from the U. S. A. where the work of distilling fish oils had made great progress and Mr. Cummings agreed to do his best in this matter. Concluding, Dr. Moudgill recounted the great and meritorious services that the fishing community was rendering to the State and thereby helping its economy and appealed to public men and social workers to do everything possible to ameliorate their conditions.

A 'WAY OF LIFE' RATHER THAN AN OCCUPATION

Part played by Coconut Industry in the economic life of Travancore

Requesting His Highness the Elaya Raja of Travancore to lay the foundation-stone of the Central Research Station of the Indian Central Coconut Committee, at Krishnapuram, near Kayamkulam, Mr. S. BASU, C. I. E., O. B. E., I. C. S., Vice-Chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi said:—

I consider it a great privilege to welcome Your Highness this afternoon and my first duty is a pleasant one, namely to convey to Your Highness on behalf of the Committee and on my own behalf our grateful thanks for responding so graciously to our humble invitation. It is indeed a red-letter day in the history of the Committee that we have no less a personage than the Elaya Raja of Travancore] to lay the foundation-stone of our first research station. This is one more proof, if proof were needed, of the keen interest taken by the Ruling House of Travancore for the welfare of its subjects among whom the growing of coconuts is a "way of life" rather than an occupation, and which plays an important part in the economic life of the State.

Travancore Government's keen interest

From its very inception, the Government of Travancore have taken a keen interest in the work of this Committee. We recall with gratitude and pleasure that its inaugural meeting was held at Trivandrum in April 1945 when Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyer, Dewan of Travancore, delivered the inaugural address in which he not only gave us sage counsels but made the generous offer that his Government would pay the entire expenses of buildings, plants and apparatus, in case the Committee decided to set

up such an organisation in Travancore. We bear witness here to-day to the gradual fulfilment of that promise.

I also take this opportunity of according a warm welcome to all ladies and gentlemen assembled here this afternoon.

You will perhaps be interested to hear a little about the circumstances which had led up to today's function and I will, therefore, ask for your indulgence for a few minutes while I make a brief reference to them.

Diseases of the Coconut Palm

I have been driving through your countryside and while I was charmed and fascinated by the beauty of backwaters and landscape, I felt not a little depressed too, for quite a large number of the coconut palms—the jewels of your landscape and the mainstay of your economic life—seemed a little less jewel like and looked as though they required a lot of support themselves before they could support you. Instead of being the sturdy trees that they ought to be, with green vigorous leaves and thick heavy bunches of nuts, they appeared anaemic, half-starved and unhealthy with yellowing leaves and few nuts or none at all. The coconut trees in this part of the country are heir to a number of ills. The rhinoceros beetle, the coconut caterpillar and the red

palm weevil all seem to harbour a special animosity for them, while certain diseases affecting their leaves and roots insidiously undermine their vitality.

The pests and diseases of coconut have assumed very serious proportions in certain parts of Travancore and Cochin. They have been known to exist in these areas for the last 70 years, although fortunately enough, they do not occur in other parts of India. Starting from a few isolated cases in different parts of Travancore, these diseases have spread considerably widely and in this State alone, nearly 200,000 acres under coconut are said to be involved. In Cochin State, more than two-thirds of the area in Cochin Kanayanur Taluks which has about half the total area in the State, fall within the infected belt. These diseases have wrought great havoc among coconut trees. In fact, a very serious menace hangs over the coconut growing industry on the West Coast threatening its very existence, and no measure could be considered too costly which is devised to ward off and eliminate that menace.

Employing all resources of Science

The object of the institution whose foundation-stone will presently be laid by His Highness the Elaya Raja is to launch an all-out offensive against all the pests and diseases that attack the coconut palm, employing for the purpose all the resources of science.

The first systematic attempt to investigate the diseases of the coconut palm was made in 1937 when a five year scheme for the purpose was sanctioned by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and started functioning in Travancore. In 1942 the scheme was extended by a further period of five years. With the setting up of the Indian Central Coconut Committee, however, it was decided that the Committee should take over the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research's share of liability in respect of the scheme and this was done with effect from the 1st January 1946. Its term as originally sanctioned, expired on the 31st March 1947, but it has been extended by one year from the 1st April 1947. The intention, however, is to absorb the scheme in the work of the Central Research Station that is being set up here, as soon as the latter starts functioning.

This station is expected to cost the Committee Rs. 4,21,000 as non-recurring expenditure and Rs. 72,000 as the annual recurring expenditure. But I am sure that these amounts, substantial as they are, will repay ample dividends in the shape of a rehabilitated coconut industry which, even as it is, plays such a vital role not only in the regional economy of Kerala, but in the national economy of India.

May I now request your Highness to lay the foundation-stone of the Central Research Station?

First Research Station of the Indian Central Coconut Committee

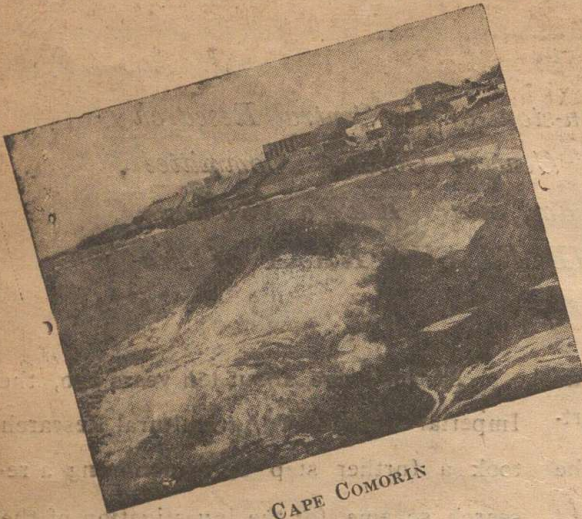
Laying the foundation-stone of the Central Research Institute of the Indian Central Coconut Committee recently at Krishnapuram, near Kayamkulam, HIS HIGHNESS THE ELAYA RAJA of Travancore said :—

THE occasion which has brought us together this evening is of great importance to the agricultural economy of the State and upon the successful outcome of this undertaking, we build our hopes for the improvement in the yield of the most important money-crop of the State and the eradication of the disease for which it has been liable for more than half a century. It does not mean, however, that the Travancore Government have been idly looking on while the coconut palm disease has been running its damaging course. On the other hand, the available resources of administrative and technical experience have been freely availed of and during the last four decades the active efforts of Government have been directed towards its check.

At this stage, about ten years ago, the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research took a further step by sanctioning a research scheme for the investigation of the disease.

But the present scheme is part of a four-sided tackling of the problem under a statutory body known as the Indian Central Coconut Committee under whose auspices we have gathered here to-day. I have been asked to lay the foundation-stone of a Central Research Station for Travancore in a centre considered particularly suitable and it gives me great pleasure to do so. Full of hope in the future prosperity of the coconut palm divinely bestowed on our land, I now declare the stone well and truly laid.

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HARVESTING PADDY





PALMYRAH PLANTATION

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO RICE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION RICE STUDY GROUP

THE First International Conference of the Rice Study Group met in Travancore's Parliament House at Trivandrum in the presence of a representative gathering. That modern Chamber provided a brilliant setting for that historic occasion, the deliberations of which are fraught with tremendous possibilities for the teeming millions inhabiting the South East Asia countries. Both the Travancore Dewan (Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar) who welcomed the delegates and the Food Member of the Government of India, the Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad, who declared the Conference open, and the Chairman of the Study Group, Mr. S. Y. Krishnaswami, stressed the appropriateness of holding the session of the Rice Study Group in India and specially in Travancore.

The Rice Study Group of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation, is determined to tackle the problems connected with rice production, collection and storage of the cereal, and measures connected with its distribution, and price control. The Group has split up into various Committees, meeting every day to discuss and study particular problems.

The Study Group owes its origin to the decision arrived by the Preparatory Commission of the Food and Agricultural Organisation, at Washington that rice being an Asiatic cereal, it would be proper that the Conference should meet somewhere in South East Asia to deal with the problems of rice. Reports of this Study Group, which promises to be exhaustive, will be submitted for discussion at the International Rice Conference, which will be held some time in July or August.

Welcoming the Members of the Plenary Session of the Rice Study Group, SACHIVOTTAMA SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR, Dewan of Travancore, said as follows :—

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Mr. Vogel, Members of the Rice Study Group and Friends.

IT is my duty as it is my privilege to welcome the Members of the Rice Study Group who are beginning their deliberations and investigations today. In doing so, I wish to remind the Group and this audience and the public at large of the circumstance that this is the first international investigation into the matter of rice production and rice distribution. Wheat,

Sugar, Tea and Rubber have been dealt with so far on an international status. Rice is essentially an Asiatic Crop and I am not making any accusations nor am I making any reflections when I say that for some reason or other, perhaps not wholly unconnected with the fact that it is an Asiatic crop, the question of the problem of rice has not received as much international investigation and deliberation as its importance deserves. And it is, therefore,

with special gratification that on behalf of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, on behalf of the Government and the State of Travancore, I accord a hearty and most cordial welcome to the members who have assembled here on what I consider to be extremely important and creative work.

A True and Veteran Administrator

It is also a matter of special pleasure and gratification that we have amongst us today Dr. Rajendra Prasad. We have known each other for many years. I have studied him at close quarters as a person belonging to a deficit area and as one who has appealed to his sense of justice and humanity as Member for Food and Agriculture in the Interim Government. Very very few public men of India have had as unsullied a career and history as Dr. Rajendra Prasad; his self-sacrifice, his learning and his devotion to duty are proverbial. But over and above that, as an Administrator of some standing I may say that I have found him a tried and veteran administrator born to the task, and it is a matter of luck and for satisfaction that he is amongst us today to guide the deliberations and to bless the labours of this conference.

International Planning

International planning in regard to rice is necessary and overdue. We have been accustomed to many disappointments because of the lack of such international planning. Here again I am uttering no reproaches but people all over India have been scanning in the newspapers the utterances of responsible public men. Today we are told that there is surplus grain in Indonesia and it is coming in large quantities for the purpose of supplementing our deficiency; tomorrow we are given certain figures about Burma; the day after, about Siam. We get temporary satisfaction, but

at the end we find, whether on account of transport difficulties or political complications, or something else, the expected supplies do not come. A certain amount of international planning and international work is therefore necessary, firstly in the matter of production, secondly in the matter of collection and storage, thirdly in the matter of distribution, and fourthly in the various problems that arise in this connection.

The Indian Food Delegation—and I here refer to Sir S. V. Ramamurty in particular—on which it was the good fortune of Travancore to have a representative, pressed very strongly for such a Rice Study Group as has now been summoned in Travancore for the purpose of collecting all the material and making the data available for a fuller world conference which I trust will not be very late in coming, and it will deal efficiently and finally with the problems that arise in this connection. A Conference of the United Nations declared that there has never been enough food for the health of all people and therefore the production of food must be greatly expanded. The United Nations Organisation went on to say words which are fit to be remembered and pondered over—it requires imagination and firm will on the part of each Government and people to make use of the knowledge that is available. It was as a result of the United Nations Organisation work that the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations Organisation was started. The short term work before this Body is the determination of surpluses and deficits and facilities for collection and transport so as to avoid disappointment as in the cases I have already adverted to.

Appropriateness of the First Session at Trivandrum

There is perhaps a certain appropriateness in the first meeting of this Rice Study

Group being held in Travancore. The annual import of rice into India during the pre-war years was about 12 lakhs of tons; during the corresponding period the import of rice into Travancore consisted of 3.60 lakhs of tons. In other words, during the years before the war, Travancore was taking in nearly 30 per cent. of the total Indian import of rice. Honourable Members of the Rice Study Group, and visitors from outside Travancore who come into this State either by aeroplane or by train and see the luxuriance of vegetation, the abundance of water, and all the other facilities that go with agricultural prosperity, may wonder why and how Travancore is a deficit area, and has been before the war dependent on imports for her food. There was a time when the price of paddy and rice fell, partly on account of want of international planning and regimentation and partly on account of other reasons.

Travancore's Food Position

There are parts of Travancore which are one of the most fertile in the world; generally speaking, agricultural fertility in Travancore is well known. But Travancore, rightly or wrongly, concentrated upon what may be called luxury crops. I do not include in those crops the characteristic products of Travancore—the coconut palm. We produce a not inconsiderable proportion of coconut oil, coconut fibre, and other products of the coconut palm. We have practically the largest percentage of that production in India. Our monopoly products are coconut and the products of coconut, coir, fibre, tea, rubber, pepper, ginger, cardamom, and cashew nuts. These are very largely cultivated in the State and the cultivation of these products was taken up because that cultivation was profitable and much more paying than the cultivation of paddy or rice. Therefore

what happened was that on the outbreak of the war when Japan over-ran the countries of the Far East, suddenly on one fine morning we found that the rice supplies to Travancore were cut off, our main suppliers being Burma, Malaya and Siam. We had to find for ourselves. At that time the Government of India started central regimentation and planning. That planning was indifferently successful to start with. I have said more than once that if things had been more thoroughly prepared for and designed we could have got our rice from Madras, Madras could have got its rice from Bombay, Bombay from Sind and so on. What happened was we had to wait for rice from Kashmir. Literally Kashmir rice came in the early years to Travancore and Madras rice went somewhere else. We complicated the problems of planning. But gradually because of correct planning, procurement and rationing, the difficulties of the deficit areas were solved to a great extent and this was due to the interest which the Government of India took in the matter of providing for the needs of the deficit areas. We were therefore dependent on the Government of India and we continue to be so dependent. In the meantime however our calculations were all upset. I am mentioning this not for the purpose of presenting to this august body our local difficulties, but in order to point out how important it is to have an over-all planning of rice production.

We had therefore to look out for other sources of subsistence. There was *tapioca*. Tapioca was introduced by one of the heir-apparents of this State from outside Travancore. It grew well in Travancore and people began to use it to a very very large extent. The food of the rural population even now consists of *tapioca* and rice. But the medical authorities

came to us and said *tapioca* is not nutritious and consists only of starch; you must not use too much of it; there are no vitamins in it. So it fell to the lot of the Government of Travancore to conduct propaganda asking people not to touch *tapioca*. Burma fell, rice did not come in and then there was state-wide propaganda that we should grow *tapioca* and use it. It went on like that and we supplemented our meagre rice resources with *tapioca*. The result was that at this moment the figures are somewhat like this:—

The area grown under paddy is about 657,000

The area under coconut 575,000

The area under tapioca 491,000

So that next to paddy and coconut the acreage under *tapioca* is the largest and but for this humble and despised *tapioca* we should have all starved.

Now such a state of things demands that the utmost possible care should be taken to increase the yield and facilities for storage and to arrange for distribution. Our problems therefore are so acute and so immediate that there is perhaps some appropriateness in Travancore being the venue of the first conference of the Rice Study Group. Today we are in this position

Rice Cultivation in Travancore

The total imports is 5 lakhs tons, of which Travancore has to be allotted 1,83,000 tons. The State has now to depend on 36.6 per cent of the total imports. The same is the case, though to a less aggravated and accentuated extent in Mysore and Madras and in Cochin. You have certain other facilities in Travancore when you are studying this problem. Though Travancore is small in area, it contains a very wide range of climate and the method of production of rice is very greatly different. I was telling Dr. Rajendra Prasad, as we came in here, that at one corner of the State—Cape Comorin—the rainfall is about 50". At another end of the State the rainfall is 300." All within the State therefore you have places where

irrigation is necessary, and I invite the Members of the Rice Study Group and the Members of the Conference to visit the irrigation projects. In the south of this place, the problem of rice is different. The problems in the north are completely different. There you have to pump out the water. Most of the land is submerged. The backwater area has to be pumped out and hydraulic electric power used for purpose of lift irrigation. These two are essential features of rice cultivation. Every variety of rice cultivation in India is exemplified and typified in Travancore, and I would invite the Members of the Rice Study Group to go round and see what we have done.

The First Chemical Fertiliser Factory in India

We have established experimental stations for improving strains of paddy and we have brought into existence the first chemical fertiliser factory to be started in India. I hope all of you will make it a point to visit that factory before your labours are concluded. That factory will produce sulphate of ammonia and in the enterprise the Government of Madras and the Government of Cochin are partners. They are entitled to a share of the produce of that factory. The Government have done it practically as a Government subsidized measure. The Government of Travancore have taken 51 per cent. of the shares in that concern. A small percentage has been taken by Madras and a smaller percentage by the Cochin Government. But it is conducted with the full approval and the continuous support of the Government of Travancore and the sister Governments of Madras and Cochin. The Government of India were at first doubtful of the utility and possibility and feasibility of the projects, but I believe that that idea has been given up now and the Government of India have themselves started preparations for a huge factory in Bihar which will, I trust, come into existence in the course of the next few years. But until then, our factory will be the first sulphate ammonia factory to be started in India, and I invite you to see the factory. We have already

begun to produce sulphuric acid. Ammonia was produced a week ago and in a fortnight from now sulphate of ammonia will be produced. Therefore, before the labours of this group are over you will have an opportunity to see things for yourselves.

Not over-population but under-development of Resources

Now India has the largest acreage under rice in the world. But statistics say that even before the War China produced at least as much rice as India with half the acreage and one of the points to be considered by every investigating and research organisation in connection with rice is that development which has recently taken place in ideas regarding these matters. The theory is held that the problem of India is not so much of over-population. We see in a big brochure which has been circulated to us that some emphasis has been laid on this over-population. But perhaps the emphasis need not be so much on over-population but on under-development of resources. The available resources have to be conserved by proper processes and preparations and also the best nutritional ingredients of our food must be availed of. I must say that as soon as these stringencies were manifest, Travancore forbade the milling of rice. No rice can be milled within the State. We did that for two reasons. There was a large unemployed population and hand-pounding gave a very useful avenue of employment to these people. Secondly, unmilled rice is much more nutritious and we thought we might make an experiment. I am glad to say many other local Governments have taken up that line.

Problems for Consideration

I have rightly indicated what are the main problems for consideration; the need

for producing better seed by selection; the introduction of iron ploughs; the extension of transplantation; botanical research for the production of important varieties: breeding for disease resistance; and the utilisation of green manure, oil cakes and fertilizers. These are amongst the problems to be discussed and a very comprehensive survey and examination of the soils and the treatment of these soils has also to be done. This is a meeting of experts. There is a great field and scope for work. We on behalf of the Travancore Government welcome you to start on these labours and wish you God-speed, hoping that by consideration of these problems the question of the scarcity of rice, the question of mal-nutrition, the question of adequate transport, the question of adequate collection and procurement, and ultimately the question of getting the utmost nutrient possibilities of each variety of rice, will engage your attention and will lead to fruitful results. On those results depend not only the happiness but the subsistence of vast millions of Asia. It is to be hoped that this organisation may be the torch-bearer of life and of hope to the starving or half-starving millions of Asia.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad in a very important speech made the day before yesterday, pointed out that in certain parts of the country it is not the failure of the crop that has led to a difficult and aggravated situation. It is the failure of procurement and various other matters. Let us hope that on all these matters we shall get guidance and a good lead from this body of experts. I welcome you again and bid you God-speed.

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TREAT THE WHOLE WORLD AS A FAMILY

Declaring open the proceedings of the Rice Study Group at Trivandrum recently, the Hon'ble Dr. RAJENDRA PRASAD, Member, Government of India, Department of Agriculture and Food, spoke as follows:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

SIR C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar has extended a hearty welcome to the delegates who have come from different parts of the world. I on behalf of the Government of India have to declare the proceedings of this conference open.

The Staple Food of Indians

We are deeply interested in rice because it is the staple food of the greater part of Indians. Rice has been known in India from time immemorial. The word in Sanskrit which is used for paddy is the word "Danya" which means not only rice but every kind of cereal and a variant of that expression is used for all kinds of wealth. That indicates how from ancient times we in this country have attached the greatest value to paddy and to rice. Even today, the whole of the eastern portion and the southern portion of this vast country lives very largely on rice. Not only that, of all the cereals that are produced in this country, nearly 50 per cent consists of rice alone and those of other cereals put together constitute the remainder of the 50 per cent of cereals. It is therefore not surprising that our people have from the earliest times devoted the greatest possible attention to rice growing and we know that in this country we have developed a large number of varieties of rice and the saying in Northern India is that the varieties of rice are really numberless. We know also how this development of rice has been achieved in various directions. We have developed

varieties according to the soil where the rice is grown; according to the quantity of water that is available and according to the taste and flavour that that particular quality of rice gives us. In fact, there is hardly any consideration which has been left out in developing the varieties of rice in this country. We have qualities of rice which are grown more or less like dry crops without much water or without much irrigation. On the other hand, I have seen rice grown in deep waters, where the reaper has to go in a boat cutting the ears and leaving the stalk behind in the deep water. We have also areas of rice where the finest grain is available and other parts where pretty coarse grains are produced. We grow rice on the plains and flat alluvial country. We grow it at altitudes of 3,000 or 4,000 feet on hillsides where terracing is resorted to. We also grow rice not only in places where we have very heavy rains but even in a place like Sind, where the rain fall is about ten inches in the year. You can therefore easily understand how our people have used all their resources and all their ingenuity in growing this one crop which is of such vital importance to India.

But it is not for India alone that rice has its importance. It has its own importance for the whole of South East Asia, where 90 per cent of the total production of rice is really raised and where really 90 per cent of the total world's production is actually consumed. It is therefore in the fitness of things that the F. A. O. decided to have this Group in a country, where rice

has always played such an important part and which can in a sense be regarded as a centre of the rice producing areas. And, still further, the choice of Travancore, whose hospitality we are all enjoying has been another important aspect of this matter, because, as has just been pointed out, Travancore in itself can place before us practically all the problems which have to be dealt with in connection with rice. I am therefore very pleased and thankful that we have been given this opportunity by the World Organisation to have this conference here.

Studying the Various Problems

Because rice plays such an important part, the problems connected with it are numerous. It is a fact that while wheat has become more or less a world product and has received a great deal of attention from scientists, research workers and big producers in many parts of the world, rice has not had that good fortune so far, although, I believe, rice feeds the greater part of the world even today. The problems which are associated with rice arise from climatic differences in the countries where it is grown. They arise also from the fact that we have different peoples having different modes of life, having different social environments, who are engaged in cultivating and consuming rice. These problems arise, because no systematic attempt has so far been made on the scale which is necessary to tackle them. Therefore this attempt at studying these problems is doubly welcome.

Intensify cultivation

We have problems regarding production, for although India, as I have said, has been paying attention to rice from time immemorial our yield per acre is very low. It is somewhere in the neighbourhood of 800 lbs per acre, whereas in other countries, I am told, the yield is four times as much. Under better management and better cultivation even in this country people are able to raise as much. What we need is research in the direction of raising the yield per acre in our country.

Here we have a double problem of deficit. On the one side we have an actual present deficit in our food production and rice, if its yield can be raised, can meet that deficit without much difficulty. But there is the further deficit which is caused by an increasing population and that would tend to grow. We have to provide against that for the future. The only way to meet the present and the future deficits is to intensify our cultivation, to increase our production and that opens up many problems relating to the quality of the seed, kind of cultivation, the prevention of plant disease and such other problems relating to the yield of the plant or the yield of the produce.

No Waste

Another class of problems relating to rice arises in connection with storage. Our people were not altogether ignorant of this. We know that there are parts of the country where they store and preserve rice and, speaking about the North, from where I come, any respectable well-to-do farmer is expected to produce when required rice several years old from his granary, if he cares at all for his prestige as a good farmer. They can and did preserve rice for a pretty long time. But modern times have created problems which are of a different type. We now require larger storage: we now require methods of preservation and protection of the grain against pests, when it is accumulated in big stores. The other day, in the Government of India, when we were dealing with the question of storage I was told that not less than 2 million tons of our food grains are destroyed by pests either in the fields or when stored in the granaries of cultivators and others. If we can by some means or other save what is now being wasted, we would have solved to a considerable extent the problem of our deficit.

Problem of Irrigation

Rice is a produce which is essentially an irrigated product. It requires water in large quantities and therefore the problem of

irrigation is very intimately connected with it. That opens up another line of investigation. As I have said, we are growing rice in parts of the country where we have heavy rainfall. Heavy rainfall occasionally is also a cause of deficit over large areas and scanty rainfall is certainly a cause of deficit, because the crop dies out for want of it. So what is needed is a system of irrigation which will store the water that is wasted to be used in dry seasons and at times when it is required.

In India we have got several big projects now under contemplation or actually in hand. Some of them are multipurpose projects which will not only irrigate hundreds of thousands or tens of millions of acres but will also give us a tremendous quantity of electrical energy. Several of such schemes are now under investigation and I hope some of them, at any rate, will have been completed during the next 5, 6 or 7 years. But, apart from these big or large schemes, we require a series of small irrigation projects which can be brought more or less within the means of individual cultivators.

Evils of Fragmentation

You will be surprised to know that most of our cultivators are small cultivators. Their holdings are just a few acres and they cannot afford to have all those appliances which a large cultivator or large agriculturist or big farmer can have. Nor is it possible for the small cultivator, even if he can get the appliances somehow, to use them in his tiny fields. The evil of fragmentation or division into small holdings has gone on so far that in many parts of the country you do not have a farm which would be anything even like an acre in area. If a farmer leaves three sons and ten acres, his three sons divide the ten

acres among themselves and the grandsons will probably divide the three acres each of their fathers into further pieces. This has gone on for a long time, so much so that at the present time the holdings are very small and each holding is split up into a number of smaller parts with the result that it is very difficult for any large agricultural implement to cultivate them. They have therefore to depend for their irrigation and cultivation on small irrigation arrangements like wells and small ploughs dragged by bullocks and the bullock is the backbone of agriculture in our country.

Livestock

Along with the bullock of course we must have the cow, because our food which comprises largely of rice cannot be complete unless we have some milk products with it. India was at one time described, and you can read those descriptions in our books to day, as having a sea or Ocean of Milk, and the God who is the deity of this place is supposed to be lying in that Ocean of Milk. It is called *Kshirasagara* or the Ocean of Milk, but unfortunately we have passed far far away from the Ocean of Milk and today the little children, the nursing mothers and the babes in arms also cannot get enough milk. Therefore, along with the problem of agriculture, we have also the problem of improving our cattle breed, so that they get not only milk but also the bullocks and that raises the problem of the kind of breed that we should have. It has been felt that in this country we need the breed which will give good milk and which at the same time will give good bullocks. In Western countries they have developed breeds which give plenty of milk, but they do not care for the quality of bullocks, because they do not need bullocks except as meat. Here we need bullocks not for

meat but for drawing purposes, for drawing our carts for pulling our ploughs, for lifting the water from the wells, and in fact has to serve as a means of our conveyance. So the two problems are so intimately connected that we have to take them up both together.

The Nutritive Side

You are concerned with, principally, the rice problem. You have to remember that rice is the principal food in a great part of the country. But there are also other parts where people do not eat rice. If you go to the North-Western portion of India, you will find people using rice only on festival occasions or as a kind of luxury where an honoured guest is invited or as diet for sick people. On the other hand, in a place like Travancore, a man would rather go without a meal than eat any other cereal. So between those two extremes we have the large population which eats both rice and other cereals and it varies in proportion as we go from the East to the West, and the proportion goes on decreasing.

In considering this problem, we have to be careful to attend to the nutritive side also, because rice by itself does not give all the nutrition that we require and it has to be supplemented by other foods. I am just mentioning to you—you know them much better than I do—some of the points which will naturally arise in the course of investigations. You have to suggest to the Rice-growing areas the means by which production can be increased, the means by which what is produced can be safely preserved, the means by which it can be best utilised as food and the means by which it can be most easily and most profitably distributed.

Importance of Planning

We must remember that in the modern world, when time and distance have been

contracted to an extent more than people could have ever imagined some years ago, no one part of the world can be self-sufficient or so self-complacent as to leave the other parts of the world out of consideration. We have arrived really at a stage when we cannot but think in terms of one another and when we think of the world as one world, it becomes our duty also to consider whether one part of the world can be happy unless other parts of the world are also happy; whether they can have really prosperity in one country without having, at any rate, some of that prosperity shared by the other countries of the world too. We have to remember that it will not be possible in future—at any rate, I hope—for one country to have too much when other countries are starving. And these world organizations of which this Study Group is only a branch, are indications of the recognition of this fact. The U. N. O., the F. A. O., the I. E. F. C., all these go to show that the world is realising the importance of planning not for one country but of planning for the world at large.

We who come from a poor country—and all rice eating countries and areas are poor in that way—we who do not have the same kind of industrial development that countries in the West have, we who have to depend very largely on our agriculture not only for our food but for our other requirements also, we naturally want the assistance not only of science but also want other kinds of assistance which other countries can give and I hope it will be the privilege as it should be the duty of the World Organisation to help forward all these countries which are not in line with the other advanced countries. We must treat the whole world as a family with big brothers and small brothers, with old members and youthful members and it

should be the duty of the big brother to help the small brother. It should be the duty of the youthful members to help the old members and if this duty is realised, I feel much of the trouble with which the

world is faced to-day, particularly in regard to food, will be solved.

I am happy that it has been our privilege to hold this Conference and I declare this Study Group open and wish you all success.

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NEED TO COME TOGETHER AND APPLY METHODS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

*Statement by Mr S. Y. KRISHNASWAMY,
O. B. E., I. C. S., Chairman, Rice Study Group,
Trivandrum.*

Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad, brother delegates, ladies and gentlemen :

ALLOW me to thank you for the honour you have done me in electing me as the Chairman of the Rice Study Group. I am sensible of the vast responsibilities that have to be shouldered by the Chairman.

The First of its kind in India

This is the first conference of its kind being held in India. It coincides with the period of the country attaining political independence. It is significant that we are now attempting to give meaning and substance to this freedom by building it up on a foundation of freedom from want. *I am glad that the Study Group meets in Trivandrum which provides through the joint efforts of a nature which is prodigal and of a ruler who is endowed with a fine sense of the beautiful and the artistic surroundings which are ideally suited for thought and reflection.* We have in our midst today two of the top-ranking leaders of our country. Doctor Rajendra Prasad, under whom I have the honour to work, comes from the land of Buddha and is a living example of the Gita ideal of life. He is a corrective to those amongst us who are sometimes inclined to be conceited, impatient or worried. Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, I used to admire from a distance in my younger days. Travancore is indeed fortunate that it has at its helm of affairs one

whose courage and remarkable intellectual attainments are second to those of none in this country.

A Gigantic Task

Some of those assembled here took part in the meeting of the F. A. O. Commission at Washington. The work done by the Commission showed that more than half the population of the world is normally malnourished. It has been calculated that in the less developed countries, to which unfortunate category we belong, in order to reach intermediate nutritional targets with an intake of 2600 calories per head daily, by 1960, the food supply has to be increased by 90 per. cent above prewar. This is a gigantic task, and almost an agricultural revolution is necessary to attain this target. But an agricultural revolution deals with the inexorable laws of nature which cannot be coaxed into expedition except within their own inherent velocities. It will therefore be peaceful and patient, and be revolutionary in its achievements rather than in its methods. Of all the commodities studied by the Commission, none was held to require more urgent action than rice.

An Acute Shortage of Rice

Rice is grown by the subsistence farmer. It is cultivated on impoverished land. It is consumed by peoples living at the margins of minimum nutrition. It is marketed by methods that are primitive.

The carry over of rice from year to year is negligible and the failure of the crop in any one year throws the production and consumption economy of the concerned countries into a state bordering that of famine. The recent famine in India which killed millions in Bengal was a famine of rice. At the present time there is an acute shortage of rice in the world. The supply available for allocation by the International Emergency Food Council in 1946-47 was hardly 40 per cent. of the minimum food requirements of the rice eating countries. Naturally, therefore, representatives of rice producing countries urged on the F. A. O. that better organisation of marketing and the introduction of guaranteed prices for producers holds out the best hope of stimulating rice production. It is also consistent with modern theories of the role of Governments in relation to the needs of the people that the State has to guarantee freedom from want to its people. Hence it was that the Commission laid it down as the function of this Study Group to prepare the way for holding an International Conference of the major rice-producing and consuming countries as speedily as possible in six months, that is, to say by July next.

Rice Study Group

Perhaps because this Study Group has been called by the F. A. O., its membership has been limited to members of the F. A. O. Other countries in South-East Asia which are major producing or consuming countries of rice such as Burma and Ceylon will be invited as members of the Conference to follow. We are glad, however, to welcome at this meeting, if not as members at least as observers, representatives from practically all the principal countries—interested in rice.

This Group has been allotted two functions—

(a) to prepare the agenda for an international Rice Conference to be held urgently in South-East Asia ; and

(b) to bring together facts and figures relating to production, trade, prices, marketing methods, reserve stocks and methods of milling and storage relating to rice.

The Main Asiatic Cereal

80 per cent. of the production and consumption of rice in the world is in South-East Asia, while 05 per cent of such production and consumption relates to Asia. The problem of rice then relates in the main to a compact region. This region has similar economic and social conditions. The production of rice is low in all the countries of South-East Asia, some more so and some less. Yet physically, biologically, and economically, the production can certainly be increased by 50 per cent. or even 100 per cent. The consumption of food is low all over this area, being in the neighbourhood of 2000 calories. This too admits of a 50 per cent increase for an adequate diet. Rice too is the life blood of their economy. The countries of South East Asia are thus partners both in adversity and in their hopes. They need to come together and apply to rice the methods of science and technology which have been used to help wheat. Wheat is an international cereal and work has been done in many countries in the improvement of its production and processing, storage and marketing.

Rice has not attracted the attention of Europe and America to anything like the same extent because it plays a minor part in their economy. It is Asia that is most concerned in improving the production of rice, the nutrition of rice, the marketing of rice, the conservation of rice stocks and the stable control of rice prices. For all these purposes, a Rice Board where the major rice producing and consuming countries of the world are members will be the proper agency for taking vigorous action. In such a task, while the nations of South east Asia which are all major rice producing and consuming countries will have to bear the main brunt, there is room for co-operation for all nations of the world who are interested in rice. If the Asiatic nations which have grown rice according to traditional methods now learn to apply science and engineering so as to double production—a result which is not impossible—then the

economic strength of Asia will be doubled. This increase will bring in its wake greater purchasing power and more employment. The result will be the introduction of an expansionist economy by which the entire world will benefit, because, increased production leads to increased supplies of the means of production, and development of the industries that produce these means; it also means a better life to the cultivator, leading to the development of the industries that supply the needs for a better life. A little levelling up for the poorer countries will result in a greater levelling up of the advanced countries. The cycle of prosperity is very often not adequately appreciated by theorists and traders obsessed with the idea of "losing the market"; on the other hand, the poverty of one's neighbours is like an epidemic. It affects the careful as much as the careless. Hence the need for the bigger nations helping the poorer nations. It is not charity; it is no more than intelligent self help by means of helping others.

The Rice Board

There is another function which the Rice Board may take over, namely, the distribution of the supply available among the nations that require rice. During the war, a centralised Food Organisation was developed. After the war the International Emergency Food Council has been allocating the supply of the member countries. As the name implies, it is an emergency organization. Over a longer period these associations should be concerned of the

major producing and consuming areas. The Rice Board will be located in one of the countries which acquire eligibility to be on the Board on the principle of production or consumption in South-East Asia. The complete co-operation of these countries will be the measure of its success.

Augmenting Rice Production

The importance of taking steps for the improvement of rice production is particularly felt in India for the last two years when not only the supply of rice has been inadequate; but its inadequacy has led to encroachment on the wheat supplies. This year the wheat supply in India has itself become inadequate. India must therefore look to improvement in production of rice as the only permanent remedy for its difficulties. The position is the same with other countries in Asia which have a deficit of rice production such as China and Ceylon. I trust that this Study Group will be able to lay the foundation for concerted and vigorous action through a co-ordinating agency so that the food position in Asia may be improved and strengthened.

The function of this Study Group is thus to prepare material for a rice conference. The conference in turn will have to deal with the onerous task of forming the Rice Board. The Rice Board, which will be a permanent body, will deal with the production, the distribution and the international marketing of rice. Let us hope that this sequence of work and achievement will be done in the manner and within the time programmed.

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NATARAJA — Bronze in the
Trivandrum Museum



The central hall of the Trivandrum Museum, with its balcony and striking woodcarved and painted roof-beams, contains a fine collection of exquisite *South Indian Bronzes* so arranged on the commodious floor-space as to allow the aesthetical quality and technical excellence of each figure to be appreciated without confusion with neighbouring figures.

This figure is an example of the famous conception of Shiva as Lord of the Cosmic Dance (Nataraja) which dominated the imaginations of craftsmen from the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries.





SHASTHA—Bronze in the Trivandrum Museum

All the Bronze figures exhibited here are admirable, but special attention may be drawn to a local figure in bronze, remarkably adorned, of a Shastha of the seventeenth century from North Travancore.



MAHARAJA SVATI-TIRUNAL

—A TRIBUTE—

BY

Vaidyasastranipuna

Dr. L. A. RAVI VARMA

MAHARAJA SVATI-TIRUNAL

MAHARAJA Svati-tirunal: the public knows him best as a great composer. He indeed was a great musician and a great composer: but this formed only one phase of his genius. He was great in many fields: he was great as a King, great as a poet, great as a true patron and student of Arts and Science, and above all, great as a *Bhakta*. He was a GENIUS.

Garbhasriman

His Highness is often referred to as *Garbhasriman* in recognition of the fact that he was a king even while in embryo. It is recorded that about the time he was born, it happened that an albino elephant was captured from the High Ranges. This was considered as a very rare and auspicious augury of the future greatness of the Maharaja. In passing, it may be mentioned that the only other occasion an albino elephant was caught in Travancore is during

the reign of the present Sovereign Sri Cittira-tirunal.

Musical Genius

It is the musical talent of Svati-tirunal that the public at large appear to appreciate and honour. As his compositions are mostly in Sanskrit, the average man may not be in a position to appreciate their literary merits. They are perfect *Kavyas*, fully comparable to the famous *Gita-Govindam* of Jayadeva. From both literary and musical points of view, many of Svati-tirunal's pieces outshine Jayadeva's. The poetic value of songs like "*Sa vama rusu*" is extraordinarily high. The maintenance of *Rasas* in chaste, unsullied forms and the wealth of both *Vriha* and *Sabdalanakara* found in Svati-tirunal's compositions can stand comparison with the highest types met with in Sanskrit literature. Songs in Sanskrit rarely have *sabdalanakaras* as *Muhanas* and

Prasas of various types, as His Highness himself has stated in the introductory para to his monograph on the subject. Such *sabdalankaras* are essentially Dravidian. His Highness has incorporated them in almost every piece of his and that without the least effort. Witness the wealth of *Alankaras*, say, in "*Pahi mam sri vagisvari*", particularly in the *Caranas*. It will be noted that to keep up the *sabdalankaras* he has not sacrificed sense; nor has he brought in *Nirarthapadas* or needless words for the purpose. This is a feat in itself. His mastery of the Sanskrit language was such that he was able to utilise *svaravarnas* to build up his *Sahitya*. The same piece, *Sa vama rusa*, will well exemplify this. This is a wonderful achievement the like of which is rarely met with in the musical literature of any language.

The *Cittasvaras* of most of his *Varnas* are in *Sahitya* form and they often agree with the *Svaravarnas* required at the place. Compare the concord between, say, "*Manidappama*" and "*Manidha ppa ma*", a bit of *Sahitya* and its *Svara* from the same song. Another outstanding feature is that he has selected his words in such a manner that there is no need to elongate a short vowel, shorten a long one or break up a word, to meet the exigencies of singing. Such perfection in composing means consummate mastery over both language and music.

As most of his compositions are in highclass Sanskrit and as they are often heard only in badly mutilated forms in singing by musicians with little pretensions in literature, I am afraid the average public must miss to appreciate much of their literary excellence. To remedy this, a properly annotated edition of his works is the only means. The sole work of his that has an annotation is the

Campu, Syanandura pura varnana prabandham. Even here, as the annotation is in Sanskrit, its usefulness is limited. I wish that all his works are published with good Malayalam annotations: this will at once enrich Malayalam literature and bring to the notice of the average *Keraliya* the specific literary beauties of the compositions.

Master of Many Languages

Though the bulk of his works are in Sanskrit, he has also composed in Telugu, Kannada, Hindi and Malayalam. This means that he not only knew those languages but was a master in them. For, without perfect mastery over the medium it is not possible to produce poetical matter involving various limitations, in such excellent form. Besides the well-known musical compositions and the Monograph on Rhyming in music, there are six other works of importance to his credit. They are, *Bhaktimanjari*—a devotional composition, *Sripadmanabha-satakam*—hymns in praise of his Tutelary Deity, *Syanandura-pura-varnana-prabandham*—a descriptive *Campu-Kavya*, and *Ajamilo-pakhyanam*, *Kucelopakhyanam* and *Utsava-prabandham*, three pieces fit for *Harikatha* exposition, the first two in Sanskrit and the last in *Manipravalam*.

Patron of Art and Literature

Naturally, he was a great patron of music and literature. Vidvan Koil-tampuran and Ravivarman Tampi were two of the eminent poets at his Court. He patronised both South Indian and North Indian music and had at his court North Indian musicians as Sulaiman Sahab and Allawardi. Among the many South Indian musicians at his Court there was at least one direct disciple of Tyagaraja in Kannayya.

He patronised both the Eastern and Western schools of painting; a European artist from Bombay and Ramasvami Naidu of Tanjur were at his Court. The Kili-manur School of painting, afterwards popularised by Raja Ravi Varma, really originates at this time and at the inspiration of Svati-tirunal. Naturally, that School partook of the ideologies of both, the realism of the West and the Symbolism of the East.

To promote the interests of physical culture he patronised wrestlers and *Pail-wans* from even far off lands. He had at his Court savants of the Art from Nepal, Arabia, Malaya, China and even Japan.

Service to Education

To advance the interests of education in general and of English in particular His Highness established the First Free Government English school in Trivandrum. Soon after, several District English Schools were opened in different parts of the country. A printing press, the germ of the present Government Press, was started about this time and many books in Malayalam and Sanskrit were printed and published. Bailey's Anglo-Malayalam dictionary and Peet's Malayalam grammar were produced at this time and His Highness liberally rewarded the authors. A salary was settled on a certain Sastri who was giving free tuition in Sanskrit to children at the Natasala corridor of the Padmanabhasvami temple. This may be considered as the original seed of the present Sanskrit College. To cultivate the habit of reading, whereby alone one's horizon can be widened and culture in its real sense acquired, His Highness settled a grant on the English Library at Puthencantai. The present Public Library arose out of this.

His Highness had abiding interest in Sciences, particularly, Astronomy. An Ob-

servatory was soon opened at Trivandrum. It is said that His Highness himself used to take observations frequently.

These measures, it will be seen, were calculated for the cultural uplift of the country. The benefits of literacy and culture that we today enjoy are the fruits of the good seeds sown by Maharaja Svati-tirunal and protected and nurtured by his illustrious successors.

Many-sided Achievements

Till this time there was no provision for free medical aid, either Ayurvedic or Allopathic. Feeling the need for the measure and recognising the superior efficacy of the Western system, His Highness established the First Charity hospital in the State, at Taikkad. It is on this site that the present Women and Children's hospital stands. This is the beginning of the Medical Department in Travancore.

In the field of agriculture, the main economic factor in the country, His Highness devoted his careful attention. In those days the main cash crops were Cardamoms, Pepper, Ginger and a few straggling Coffee plantations. Of these, Coffee was the only one attempted on a plantation basis. His Highness subsidised the coffee plantations to attract enterprise and helped it in many ways, with the result that it assumed great economic importance and continued to do so till displaced by the more advantageous tea and rubber plantations. Wild animals such as tigers were a source of serious trouble to the planting industry as well as to commercial travellers in Kampam and Aryankavu routes. To overcome this menace, His Highness proclaimed a reward of thirty rupees per tiger killed, a sum equivalent in buying value to rupees three-hundred to-day. To further help commerce and industries, duties and taxes on many articles were reduced or abolished; duties

on no less than 165 articles were abolished on this count. The impetus of these measures on commerce and industries and the indirect gain therefrom to the Government and the country need no mention.

Great attention was paid on food crops as well. Nanjinad in South Travancore is one of the important rice producing areas in this country. This region, however, was subject to frequent draughts, making artificial irrigation imperative. To meet this need a Department of Agricultural Engineering, the first of its kind in Travancore, was established. Soon, a department of Civil Engineering on Western lines was also started. The bridge over the Karamana river was the first work undertaken by this new department.

A Firm though Kind Ruler

In the province of Governance, the primary function of kings, many wholesome improvements were promulgated by His Highness. On accession to the Throne, almost the first important action he took was to shift the Huzur offices and the Treasury from Quilon to Trivandrum to enable His Highness to have a live touch with the day-to-day activities of the Governmental machinery. His Highness was a firm though kind Ruler. He would not brook bribery or corruption in any officer or under any guise. Considerations of the status to the officers or even of personal attachment to His Highness never deflected him from awarding just punishments. He even suspended his Dewan, Mr. Subba Rao who was his tutor once and to whom he was much

attached, and caused an enquiry to be conducted on a charge of alleged bribery. When found guiltless by the committee, he was at once reinstated as the Dewan. This single instance is sufficient to proclaim the high and perfect sense of justice and fair-play His Highness had.

Far-Reaching Reforms

He turned his attention to the improvement of the Judiciary, both Civil and Criminal. Munsiff Courts were established for the first time to attend to Small-causes and Magisterial Courts to deal with Criminal offences. The jails too were improved and the prisoners were given a better and more humane treatment. To enable the reorganised Judiciary to function well new rules and regulations, on the pattern followed in British India, were framed, codified and promulgated. These form the First Regulation of Travancore.

To ensure equitable assessment in the matter of land taxes, a regular survey was ordered and carried out in 1012 M. E. This was the first complete and regular survey in Travancore. A census, the first in the country, was also carried out in 1011 and it was found that the population of Travancore was a little over 12*75 lakhs or about a fifth of what it is today.

The Army was also reorganised and brought on to a better standard of efficiency. Their equipments and uniforms were remodelled on the British Indian pattern and the Army was renamed The Nair

Brigade. Great improvements were made in the matter of their training also.

These measures were calculated to enhance the material welfare of the country. In fine, in the short period of less than 18 years, His Highness accomplished the work of almost a life-time. Every seed he sowed grew well and is still flourishing giving us the sweet fruits we are enjoying today. None of the seeds has failed : it is in this that we see the wonderful wisdom of His Highness.

The Great Bhakta

It is said that His Highness had some presentiments that his end was approaching and he therefore began preparations in the way of meditations to return to his Master Sri-Padmanabha as whose regent he served the country in the guise of a king.

The Glory of Maharaja Svati-tirunal still shines over the land of Vanci ; May it shine for ever and forever.

(Broadcast Talk from Travancore Radio)

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nopoly, or Arcot Srinivasachary St. Bangalore City

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INDEPENDENCE OF TRAVANCORE— STATE'S MINERAL POLICY

Addressing a Press Conference at Bhaktivilas recently, SACHIVOTTAMA SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR, Dewan, clarified the attitude of the Travancore Government with regard to problems arising within the State as well as those affecting the relations of Travancore with British India, United Kingdom, America and other countries.

PREFACING his observations by referring to the brief visit of Dr. Rajendra Prasad who was here in connection with the Rice Study Group and who stayed with the Dewan as his guest, the Dewan said that he took the opportunity of this visit to have talks and discussions with the President of the Constituent Assembly on subjects of concern to the State and further talks would take place with him when the Dewan proceeds to Delhi to meet H. E. the Viceroy and his Advisers.

From the terms of the original invitation extended to political leaders including himself to attend the Leaders' meetings at Delhi on June 2nd, the Dewan presumed that no cut and dry announcement was likely to be made on that occasion and the Viceroy on his return from Great Britain will in all probability have some further consultations before announcing any final plan. The Dewan during his last visit had had discussions with Lord Ismay about the stand taken by Travancore and had also communicated his views to the Viceroy. He would again convey the views of the Travancore Government to them during his forthcoming visit.

Important developments, proceeded the Dewan, could be expected almost immediately and one

should not be surprised if almost complete responsibility in the matter of day-to-day administration is handed over to some unit or units representing the people of India and the States before the end of June or July. Beginning from 15th May this year correspondence via the Resident has ceased and States now deal with the Central, Provincial, and Local Governments direct.

Independence of Travancore

Dealing with the burning topic of independence of Travancore, the Dewan stated categorically : "There is no getting away from the fact that today it is not possible for any country to be independent in the old and narrow sense. It is not possible even for England, America or Russia, for instance to be absolutely independent. This was illustrated by what is taking place in regard to Palestine". The Dewan referred to the passage in Pandit Nehru's speech at Gwalior that States which did not come into the Constituent Assembly now would be treated as hostile. He was surprised that such a statement should have been made by a top-ranking Congress leader, while organisation like the U. N. O. have not treated as hostile countries which till recently carried on a war against them including Germany, Italy and Japan. He was sure that Pandit Nehru did not desire

to treat non-conforming States worse than the countries that fought against the Allies.

Travancore to Enter into Agreements with Foreign Powers

Recalling the statement of the British Government made on 20th February last, the Sachivottama said that Britain was going, through difficult times because of her war effort and after 1st July 1948 she will be an 'out-side power' and India may choose to be completely independent and will have to rely on the U. N. O. for security. She will have to enter into some form of agreement with countries like Britain, America or Russia for the purpose of implementing and supplementing her strategic and military requirements. In this matter Travancore was not much worse off than any part of India. From the point of trade every country is accelerating its exports and countries like England are out to export more to and buy less from India after she becomes independent, and any future trade relations would be subject to mutual agreement and mutual understanding with as many countries as possible. It was now a common thing, added the Dewan, to dub States which did not follow the Congress programme as dancing to the tune of the British Government. The Dewan made it clear that in formulating or working out any new policy Travancore would not follow this or that Government but would enter into agreements which are of mutual benefit.

Ready To Join United India

The Dewan stressed that his own views on Pakistan were familiar to everyone in the country. His personal opinion was that for the sake of the unity of India as a whole, no sacrifice is too great and if there was to be one unified

India, Travancore would readily undertake every sacrifice and come into it.

As it was now, however, fairly clear that there was to be no such unified India, the question arose what was to be our programme. He had been accused of blocking the progress of India by asking Indian States to take an isolationist line. He did nothing of the kind and his attitude definitely related to Travancore in view of its special position. His loyalty was primarily due to His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore and the State of which he is the Monarch. To suggest that he was asking Indian States to commit themselves to a reactionary policy was grossly unfair. In considering the future development of Travancore politics and policies, the Dewan asked the gathering to remember that Travancore was in many respects unique. He stated in the clearest possible terms:

"IF THERE IS TO BE A UNITED INDIA, WHETHER IT IS ACHIEVED BY NEGOTIATIONS ON 2ND JUNE OR FAILING NEGOTIATIONS, IN OTHER WAYS TRAVANCORE WILL BE GLAD TO FUNCTION AS PART OF THAT UNITED INDIA, SUBJECT ONLY TO SAFEGUARDS OF HER RIGHTS AND SPECIAL TREATY OR OTHER ARRANGEMENTS".

Travancore's Uniqueness

The Dewan stressed that there were only three or four States in India which could claim to be maritime States depending upon trade and commerce for their revenue, such as Cutch, Baroda, the Jamnagar and Bhavnagar Group, Cochin and Travancore. Travancore's budget last year showed a revenue of Rs. 8½ crores and by next year, without the imposition of

any additional taxation, it might reach a new record of nine crores and the year after that possibly ten crores. Of this amount, Customs revenue will in future range between 15 and 20 per cent. and this might go up to 25 per cent. of the total revenue. Excise will be another 20 per cent; income tax including agricultural income-tax will be about 20 per cent. this year and 25 to 30 per cent. hereafter. Forests will be eight to ten per cent; land revenue seven per cent. which will decline to five per cent. and may ultimately be very small. Salt will be four per cent. stamps five to seven per cent; dividends and interests will yield five to seven per cent; currency and coinage will yield good returns for the first time in the history of the State.

Following the decision of Government of India to mint nickel rupees from next year the Government of Travancore proposed to print rupee notes and copper or brass coins to prevent the flight of silver from Travancore. Transport including water transport was proposed to be extended and the State also expected to possess very shortly a sizeable fleet of steamers to carry on her trade with foreign countries and other parts of India. On the expenditure side Land Revenue was a diminishing factor; the new Government that would come into existence in the State would possibly make an experiment with prohibition and excise revenue will become a lessening factor. We would, therefore, have to look for customs, excise, income-tax, forests, transport, dividends and interests, stamps and paper currency for our main sources of revenue.

The Union Powers Committee in its report to the Constituent Assembly had listed the following sources of Central revenues:— Customs including excise duties, corporation tax, taxes on income, agricultural

income-tax, tax on capital value of assets, tax on capital of companies, duties in respect of succession to property etc. The Central Government would collect these taxes and probably refund a share due to the State in proportion to its population. The Dewan computed that we might thus have to surrender about two to three crores every year and get back a fraction of that sum in return, thus crippling our resources. The Constituent Assembly which had accepted this report in such a great hurry did not care to have even informal discussion with the affected States in respect of this vital matter to the States. It came to this therefore, that unless Travancore was prepared to mortgage in perpetuity not less than 25 per cent of its revenues, it cannot come into the Union as now envisaged.

United Kerala Impracticable

The Dewan pointed out that Travancore has an area of 7661.75 sq. miles and a revenue of $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 crores; Cochin 1.400 sq. miles and $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores; and Malabar 5.000 sq. miles and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores. Travancore had never raised any objection to a loose-knit federation by which common policies can be evolved for these three units but there can be no merger of all these units into one.

In the United Kerala as at present conceived by its sponsors, of the combined revenue of 14 to 15 crores Travancore would contribute 9 crores and the rest five or six. Conditions were less favourable in Malabar as regards roads, dispensaries, schools, colleges and so forth. Under any system of legislation and administration Travancore would have a preponderating majority and no measure detrimental to Travancore can ever be adopted but Malabar and Cochin will be in a perpetual minority and the feeling must grow that their minority interests are likely to suffer.

To prevent this feeling Travancore must cripple its resources to help forward the other units. *The Kerala Union is therefore a most impracticable plan unless Travancore is prepared for a long time to postpone her schemes of expansion and amelioration and subsidise other units. It may therefore be definitely taken for granted that Travancore will have nothing to do with the United Kerala outlined at Trichur.*

Expenditure

On the expenditure side, the Dewan pointed out that next year the subsidy of 8 lakhs would disappear. Expenditure on primary education and research would increase almost to 20 per cent of the total revenue and P. W. D. 11 per cent. Medical will rise from 4 to 7 or 8 per cent and Army from 4 to 10 per cent. Government did not propose to raise any loans as they already had 9 to 10 crores invested in various concerns. It was also necessary to start a scheme of old age pensions and comprehensive insurance for the people of the State, and carry out programmes of development of the State into a great maritime and commercial power. All these items involve the maintenance in tact of our present sources of revenue. We cannot gamble with our resources. There was specific provision in the new Constitution that powers of spending these resources of the State were to be entrusted to the Legislature. The Dewan, therefore, made an impassioned plea that from the financial and practical points of view we must continue to possess the resources which a bounteous Nature and the careful foresight and vision of His Highness had placed in our hands if there is to be a United India, it will be worth while to sacrifice a substantial part of our resources but even then we cannot give up so much as to

diminish our inherent status and possibilities. But so far as one can see, a division of India is inescapable.

Case For Not Antagonising Any Side

Developing the theme, the Dewan indicated how 80 per cent of our food imports came from abroad, *i. e.*, Burma, Indonesia and Siam and the balance from Sind and the Punjab. There was thus a strong case for not antagonising either of the two Indias of the future. We produce 4/5 of the rubber produced in India and our customers were Pakistan as well as Hindustan Provinces. Travancore, therefore, cannot afford to merge itself with one part of India exclusively but must keep on friendly terms with both sides. All this did not mean that there will not be close co-operation with the future Central Government or Governments.

State's Mineral Sands

The Dewan disclosed that Travancore had entered into an arrangement with the Indian Government for the purpose of conjoint research on mineral sands and atomic research. We have also entered into certain arrangements with the British Government for joint research and exploitation of the possibilities of the mineral sands of Travancore, atomic fission and production of atomic energy. The Government have realised that Monazite is a great potential source of wealth and have superseded the existing agreements with mineral sands companies and converted them into agents, retaining complete ownership of the sands in their hands. They were taking steps to promote a company with foreign experts for processing Monazite into Thorium Nitrate and have agreed to permit the export of 3,000 tons per year of Monazite to England for three years. For the production of Titanium Oxide from Illminite a company had already been established. Thus this Government is

always ready to co-operate with other Governments, Hindustan, P a k i s t a n, England or America for the purpose of joint utilisation and exploitation of our resources.

Better Fitted to Remain Independent

The Sachivottama emphasised that Travancore was better fitted to remain an independent unit than any other part of India. She had a practical monopoly of several important products like coconut & copra and coconut products, tea, rubber, cardmom, ginger, pepper and kaolin. The land abounded many varieties of fruit including pine apples and fish including sardines and prawns and fresh water and sea water fish. What we wanted was rice which mainly would come from Burma and tamarind and a few other items and these could be secured by our bargaining power from centres of supply. Thus we had much to give to the rest of India and little to import. Among almost all the States in India, Travancore was unique in being unconquered by any foreign power and she should not be asked to barter away her innate and inherent independence if no United India was to emerge.

The Reform Act

The Dewan quoted the relevant provisions in the Reform Act, specially Sections 42 and 45 which assured to the people complete powers of administration. The Administrative Committees were designed really to administer the State. While emphasising his faith in the institution of Monarchy, the Dewan said that the Monarch of his conception was one that would work on constitutional lines. He will be an impartial, regulating, stabilising and coordinating factor in the administration and the Dewan will be merely his agent to effectuate this purpose. The Dewan's

powers of veto were merely emergency or exceptional provisions.

An Appeal

He regretted that the Nair Service Society and the State Congress had not yet decided to come into the Franchise and Delimitation Committees. The Dewan pointed out that they were unwise in desisting from attending and participating in these bodies. He warned the State Congress in particular to remember that with the attainment of independence the purpose even of the Indian National Congress would have been fulfilled and parties would thereafter come into existence based on economic and other considerations. The Socialists and Communists in particular were well organised and had a record of great suffering and self-sacrifice. The Congress leaders outside had thought fit to start a rival Trade Union Congress to counter the Communist hold on the Trade Union movement and the State Congress in Travancore, if it was earnest about rescuing the Trade Union movement from its present Communist tendencies, would have to modify its attitude to the new Constitution. He appealed to those sections including the State Congress and the N. S. S. who were standing out to come in and he promised to give them all facilities to come and work in those bodies which were shaping the constitution of the State.

The Sachivottama concluded with an appeal to all sections of the population to co-operate with the Government and assured them that if the Ruler and his subjects worked together in harmony for the common purpose of the good of the State, Travancore would rise to her full stature in the forthcoming set-up of India and can easily be an effective and independent entity co-operating in every direction to bring about the triumphal progress of the country as a whole.

27th Annual General Meeting of the Institution of Engineers (India)

—Some Impressions—

By Mr. G. KRISHNASWAMY RAO, B. E., A. M. I. E.,
BANGALORE CITY.

ENGINEERS from all over India had recently the unique opportunity and privilege of visiting Travancore, one of the most beautiful and advanced States in India. The occasion was the Annual General Meeting of the Institution of Engineers (India). Veterans in the field of engineering, both officials and non-officials, from every part of India, attended the meeting. The impressions they carried away of this great little State of Travancore were alike.

Rapid and Many-sided Progress

It was highly appropriate to select Travancore for an engineers' gathering, as no other State has so rapidly progressed industrially, during recent times. She has even surpassed some of her sister States which had better reputation for industrialisation and application of engineering knowledge. To the engineer with an aesthetic sense, Travancore offers some of the most beautiful landscape in India comparable perhaps only to Kashmir. The State abounds in all types of landscapes, from steep clouded hills to deep valleys, from thickly grown palm groves to expanse of calm backwaters of the ocean. The average scenery is so picturesque that it will not fail to attract the attention of even the most prosaic of visitors. The State is also the seat of music and learning and the world famous dance of *Kathakali*.

Achievements of Travancore Engineers

To the more practical minded engineer, Travancore presents some of the most modern and technical achievements. All

kinds of bridges to suit the diversity of rivers, the vast developed roads with satisfactory means of communication, a substantial hydro-electric station at Pallivasal, canals, tunnels and public buildings of a high order of architecture, these are no mean achievements of the Travancore engineers.

Illustrious Ruler

Politically, the State is highly conscious of its position and this is entirely due to the statesmanship of Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar who is leading the State under the guidance of the illustrious Ruler. The Maharaja has been a true guardian of all that the Hindu Kingship stands for—a patron of music, of art and one who commands the devotion of all his people. Socially, the Maharaja has done one of the greatest services to his people by the Temple Entry Proclamation. The North Indian delegates were particularly interested in seeing the mechanised demonstration of the Temple Entry program at the Nandavanam grounds where the annual gathering took place.

H. H. the Elaya Raja's Address

The first day's proceedings began at the Council Chambers, with the Hon'ble the British Resident in Travancore in the chair. Every one regretted that His Highness the Elaya Raja could not himself address the gathering as originally planned as he was otherwise engaged. The absence of the Dewan, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar was also very conspicuous but as the Hon'ble

Resident remarked, he was at that time "too busily engaged in Delhi, in the very important task of 'shaping the future destiny of India and her States.'" However, the speech of His Highness the Elaya Raja was read by the Chief Engineer Mr. Raja Raja Varma. During the address, His Highness after describing the picture of Travancore's physical formation with all its diversity, further stated as follows:

"The harmonising of these conflicting phenomena, so as to harness a rich and luxurious soil for the maximum production of food among other things for a disproportionately dense and mounting population, the provisions of quick and ample road-way for rural and industrial expansion and a scheme for the better conservation of water wealth of the State—these will be among the immediate and urgent tasks of nation-building. I have no doubt that your conjoint deliberations and your itinerary within the State will result in the evolution of plans and ideas concerned mainly with the progress of Travancore and in a wider and co-operative sense with Travancore as a unit in the great motherland."

Beauty Spots

Apart from the technical deliberations, the delegates were entertained by visits to

places of beauty and industry. Places visited included Cape Comorin, "the Land's End of India", old Padmanabhapuram Palace, a place of ancient glory and art, Warkala springs and tunnel, the Rubber Factory, Aquarium, Water Works, Museum and a host of other interesting places.

Overwhelming Hospitality

The delegates were housed at Nandavanam grounds in temporary sheds which provided more luxurious and comfortable accommodation than what any first-rate hotel can offer in these days. Specimens of the Travancorean art over the gate-ways, pillars and within the meeting hall appealed to visitors appreciative of the oriental and truly Indian artistic display. By night the entire grounds were illuminated and presented a charming sight. The hospitality of the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Travancore to the delegates was simply overwhelming.

After a stay of nearly five days, the delegates returned most enduringly and favourably impressed by Travancore and her people, and richer in the knowledge of utilisation of man's intelligence for the benefit of mankind.

MINATORY ATTITUDE OF LEADERS DEPLOYED

SACHIVOTTAMA SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR,

Dewan of Travancore, in a statement issued from

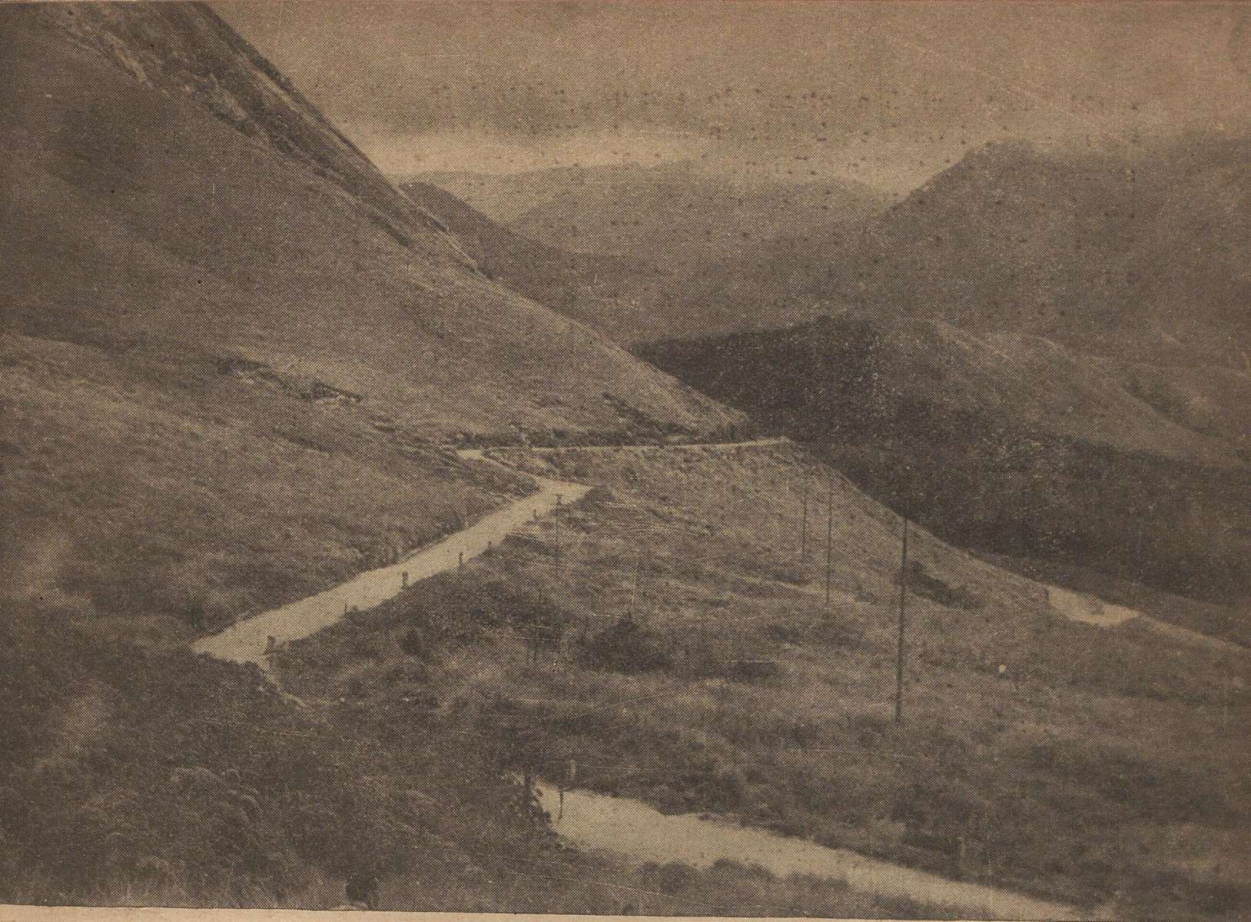
Ootacamund says:—

THE All India States Peoples Conference has ventured to describe the unavoidable detention of less than 100 Communists and their allies as a serious curtailment of civil liberties in Travancore. In the face of literally thousands of internments, detention and prosecutions as well as curfew and prohibitory orders now in operation all over British India including the most Congress-minded of the provinces, it has been forgotten that the Trade Unions that have had to be dealt with took an active part in fomenting the recent disturbances which fortunately and owing to the essentially law abiding character of the people of Travancore came to a complete cessation within a matter of days. It is also ignored that the State Labour Commissioner has taken measures to serve and represent the interests of labour and for that purpose has brought new organisations into existence that have been working very satisfactorily.

What daily takes place in Madras and Bombay with regard to Labour Unions is regarded as firm action by patriotic ministers. Much milder action in Travancore is termed as ruthless oppression. The deaths by police firing and mutual slaughter literally in hundreds in various provinces and the application of tear gas by the police are barely mentioned, whereas the shooting of less than 200 persons in what is admitted by the Tra-

vancore State Congress to be a Communist uprising is held up for blame. The Travancore State Congress, it may be added, was not able to challenge the substantial accuracy of the official figures of the dead and the injured.

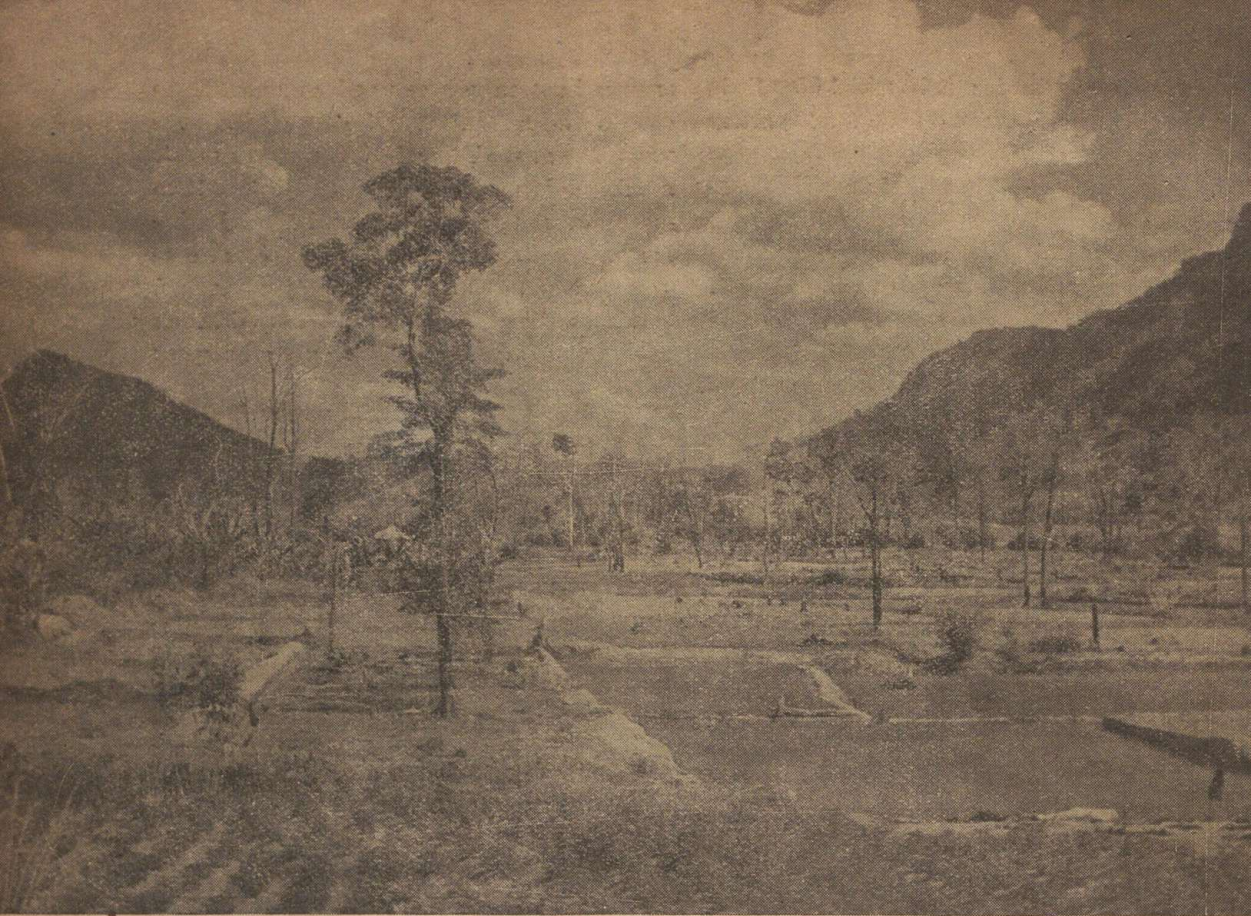
Mr. Sankar Rao Deo, the Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee, has enjoined of the people of the States to revolt against their administrations if the Congress plan of responsible government is not accepted and implemented. A campaign of hostility has been promised by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru as a likely reprisal for non-compliance with the demand that the States should immediately join the Constituent Assembly. Although each day that passes confirms the need for a smaller and less unwieldy agency for bringing about that unity and harmony which will not be helped but may be hindered by the pursuit of a programme manifestly based more on considerations of prestige rather than on a balanced appraisal of the situation, it is a thousand pities that at this juncture presumably leaders adopt a minatory attitude. Notwithstanding the disparity in resources and strength between an Indian State and those of an all India party in power, the administration of Travancore cannot surrender its considered judgment in a matter that deeply involves the future of the State.



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IN THE HEART OF THE HIGH RANGE

Paddy fields situated in the valleys nestling amidst mountain ranges, ready for raising of the next crop.

Independence of Travancore – What it means and implies? – Treaty Rights and Paramountcy

(By ONE WHO KNOWS)

THE announcement made by the British Premier, Mr. Attlee on February 20th that it was not intended to hand over Paramountcy to the successor government of British India, and that before July 1948 it was open to the Princes to enter into negotiations for the purpose of settling outstanding questions with the Paramount Power has brought the question of the position of the Indian States into considerable prominence. Following the British Premier's statement the Dewan of Travancore announced that by July 1948 Travancore would become an independent Sovereign State just as it was before 1805, and that the position of Travancore both in the international sphere and in the new set up that is contemplated in British India, would have to be viewed in the light of such independence.

It, therefore, becomes necessary to consider what exactly is the position of Travancore under the Paramountcy of the British Government and what will be its position after July 1948 as an independent State with particular reference to its relations with British India and the other States of India.

When Travancore entered into a treaty of friendship with the East India Company in 1805, Travancore was both in theory and in practice an Independent State. That treaty is styled as "a treaty of perpetual

friendship and alliance between the Honourable East India Company Bahadur and the Maharajh Ramaraja Bahadur, Raja of Travancore". In that document there was little which infringed on the sovereignty of the State. It mainly related to the defence of the State from external aggression. The East India Company pledged to defend and protect the territory of the Raja of Travancore against all its enemies, whomsoever. The only other subjects dealt with in this treaty related to the regulation and admission of Europeans in the Service of Travancore, and the advice which might be tendered by the company from time to time.

For the purpose of this article it is sufficient to note that for over a century Paramountcy has existed and asserted its influence much to the disadvantage of the State, infringing on its sovereignty. This Paramountcy has grown and asserted itself on the superior physical and material strength of the British Power *vis-a-vis* the Indian States. Even the Nizam of Hyderabad was told as late as 1926 that Paramountcy did exist, and could not be questioned by the State.

Was it a Subsidy?

Though Travancore paid Rs. 8 lakhs as stipulated in the treaty of 1805 for the defence of this State it was soon realised that there was no need for a separate defence

of Travancore because its protection was involved in the larger protection of the British Power in India. Thus the payment of Rs. 8 lakhs became something like a subsidy, not for the purpose of keeping inside the State for its protection any armed forces, but for the purpose of being protected by the Crown, which had long ceased to spend a single pie for the purpose.

The Paramountcy worked on the whole to the detriment of the State and its well being. This is exemplified by the Inter-Portal Convention which removed fiscal restrictions on trade between British India and the States of Travancore and Cochin. A maritime State like Travancore whose customs revenue formed a major source of its income was compelled by the Paramount Power to enter into this unjust agreement, the State thereby losing a substantial portion of her revenue.

Inter-Portal Convention.

In 1865, when the Inter-Portal Convention was signed, the estimated duty on imported foreign goods was approximately Rs. 51,000. It was then fixed by the British Government that they would guarantee a payment of Rs. 40,000 as a compensation for the loss of revenue entailed by the Convention. The compensation was agreed to be paid to the Travancore Government in recognition of the principle that the State was legitimately entitled to derive the benefit of the customs revenue on foreign goods, imported into the State, from British India. It was then understood that the amount of compensation would be liable to revision. It is calculated that, if Travancore were free today to levy duty on imports unhampered by the Convention, it would have brought annually, on a modest estimate, an average revenue

of Rs. 50 lakhs, instead of which she is getting Rs. 40,000 by way of compensation.

Periyar and Cochin Harbour Agreements.

Another instance of the exercise of Paramountcy to the detriment of the States is the Periyar Agreement. About 8,000 acres of land and water in the richest part of Travancore, with many rights accruing and appurtenant thereto had to be granted to the Government of Madras for a paltry sum of Rs. 40,000 per year. The benefit accruing to British India from this concession has been stated in the course of the argument in the dispute before the arbitrator to be about ten lakhs.

The Cochin Harbour agreement is also an instance of agreement entered into by Travancore because of pressure exerted by the Paramount Power. The benefits that Travancore derives from the Cochin Harbour are not in any way commensurate with either the contribution she has made or the advantages the Harbour derives from the hinterland of rich and fertile Travancore lands which surround it, and whose produce flows into the Cochin Harbour to feed and sustain its revenues and importance.

Other instances of the exercise of Paramountcy on the Internal affairs of the State are found in many administrative matters. Suffice it for the present to say that Paramountcy has not worked to the best interests of the State.

After the lapse of Paramountcy.

The position of Travancore after the lapse of Paramountcy and the readjustments that have to be made particularly with reference to her place as an integral part of the geographical unit of India is one of importance, and necessitates careful study

and examination. To proclaim from the platform in a gusto of patriotic but little thought of sentiment that Travancore should without any thought join the proposed Indian Union or become a part of a linguistic Kerala Province shows a complete lack of constructive imagination. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is reported to have stated that "all those States which do not join the Constituent Assembly now, would be regarded as hostile States and they will have to bear the consequences of being so regarded". Apart from the threat implied in that declaration there seems to be an under-current of disappointment, that the States are refraining from doing what will please the Pandit and men of his way of thinking. In this article I shall analyse and show how far the interests of Travancore will be advanced by joining the Constituent Assembly and the Indian Union.

One Member for every million of the population.

Representation to the Constituent Assembly is made exclusively on the basis of population. In that Assembly of about 400 representatives — one member for every million of the population—Travancore gets a representation of six members. If we consider the economic, cultural, financial and the maritime position of Travancore State, can it be said that 6 representatives that is the same number as the Districts of Madura and Ramnad gets, will provide adequate representation for the purpose of discussing such vital matters as defence, the proportion of Travancore's contribution to the defence of the Indian Union, the strength of Travancore personnel in the defence services, customs which are a vital source of revenue to the State, and which we find in the latest paper have been

included in the Union subjects, income tax, another source of revenue of importance to this State, and many other similar subjects.

Is it likely that the Constituent Assembly constituted as it is would listen with patience to any pleading on the special position of Travancore or to the special interests of Travancore in these matters. Is it not more likely that Travancore's special claims will be ignored on the basis that it has only a population of sixty lakhs of people, and what is good for 60 lakhs of people elsewhere in India should be good for 60 lakhs of people in Travancore. Not one of those politicians in Travancore who cry themselves hoarse over the perversity of the Dewan in announcing the intention of the Travancore State to keep aloof from the Constituent Assembly, seems to have ever considered these matters in their proper perspective. They are of such vital importance not only to posterity, but also to the very existence of the State as an integral Unit. If it is not to be conceded that Travancore may allow itself to be pulled down to the level of the most backward State in India, then the question of the special position and interest of Travancore come into prominence and must be considered dispassionately.

Is it, or is it not, better that after a Government is set up in British India, Travancore should sit at a Round Table Conference with the representatives of the Indian Government, and discuss with them item by item such important and vital questions as defence of the State, Revenues, and the particular cultural level of the State all of which entail special treatment and consideration? Can we allow ourselves to be stampeded by threats or by untenable

claims that Paramountcy has descended on the Government of India from the Paramount Power? There can be only one answer to such threats and claims.

Appeal to Patriotism.

When Travancore becomes independent in July 1948 by virtue of the elimination of Paramountcy she has to look to her protection, commerce, and external affairs definitely in a bigger context. The idea of an independent Travancore cannot be wholly preposterous when we consider that even many small States in other parts of the world with a fraction of the resources and man-power of Travancore are enjoying the benefits of independence. This independence exhibits itself in a greater sentiment of national self-respect and initiative. It also conduces to keep up certain distinct national traits, assets and advantages, which not only do not hinder the peace and prosperity of the world, but form a distinct contribution to them. The question has to be considered not as a chimerical idea, impracticable and futile, but as a practical advantage to be taken up for serious study and the full picture has to be fitted into the larger context of an independent India, and a mutually well integrated helpfulness to the different component parts of the country.

The Government of Travancore or its Dewan has never stated that Travancore would decline to consider any of the matters, which are so essential to its pros-

perity and welfare. On the other hand, it has been repeatedly affirmed that everything possible would be done to strengthen the Union Centre and to cede to that Centre many subjects of vital concern as an all India policy even though it will curtail the sovereignty of the State and entail additional financial burden to the State. Thinking Travancoreans have a duty to concentrate their attention on the problem of Travancore's independence in the many-sided and diverse fields some of which have been discussed above. Considered in that context there is no reason to fear that either Travancore will hamper the independence progress or unit of India or lose any of the advantages that her position, culture and progress entitle her to get, by the mere fact of not joining the Constituent Assembly.

The main points for consideration would be (1) the terms on which a Union with India could be made with particular reference to defence, commerce, customs, communications, higher research, public health, food supplies etc. (2) how best to keep Travancore from interference from outside forces in its internal affairs (3) and how to preserve the distinct cultural and other advantages that Travancore has gained through years of progress.

All these aspects require special study. None of these could be left safely to the popular vote of a Constituent Assembly called on a population basis.

What Others Say

THE TRAVANCORE CONSTITUTION

BY Mr. N. K. VENKATESWARAN

THE Constitutional Reforms just promulgated by His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore are a notable and in no small degree original contribution to the theory of Government, in which the popular will is installed with the maximum of power combined with the minimum of instability or danger to orderly progress. His Highness prefaces the Proclamation thus:

"It is Our intention fully to associate duly elected representatives of Our people with Our legislation and administration and to vest in them the requisite rights, privileges and obligations." The enactment that follows is a courageous venture in the combination of monarchical traditions with the democratic urgencies and realities of the time.

Functional Representation

There are two chambers at the same level, which between them seek to implement the "full association" indicated in the preamble. The Assembly is based on universal suffrage, but universal suffrage provides no sure guarantee for full representation, for the overriding reason that a hundred or any number of people taken in the lump can seldom represent as many persons each in his or her particular life-setting. The Assembly is a general body representing general qualities and circumstances, but the Council, the other

house, represent functions and faculties, occupations, trades, skills, professions, the members being elected, each group, by those belonging to the same vocation. Together, the two houses thus cover the population of the State, not only in the shape of citizens, doubtless a very essential prerequisite, but in that of existing and working interests.

General legislative chambers in India are loaded with an unfortunate emotional weightage in favour of communal cliques, cells and parties. The Council in the Constitutional Reforms constitutes a dynamic break with this almost automatic complex in the public life of the country. It in fact cries a halt to the communities and calls for a cross-caste, cross-creed, communalisation of common endeavours. The two chambers invested with nearly even parity thus make a landmark in methods of helping democracy in this country to function democratically, and a noteworthy experiment in the pattern and procedure of popular government.

The Dewan's Veto

First among Indian States to associate popular elements with the councils of the State, the Government of Travancore have rarely resorted to veto powers in their relations with the legislature. Just as it has been the convention for the Maharaja to assent to the official advice of the

Dewan in matters affecting the State, so it has been the convention for the Dewan to let the legislature assert its voice in matters falling within its cognizance. To those whose acquaintance with the politics of the State is not merely superficial it is clear that the present veto powers vested in the Dewan far from being exercised too frequently are likely to become defunct in the quick upgrowth of conventions, for which the intelligence and educational standards of the State offer exceptional opportunities.

It is a democratic government which does its business and shapes its policy in accordance with the wishes of the legislature representing the people. Democracy takes different forms in different countries, by no means necessarily suffering material loss of substance. The British constitution is a marvel of parliamentarism, which not rarely proves cumbersome and lacking in initiative often even in the discharge of the more common obligations of government. Nevertheless, even in England parliamentarism promptly if not apparently gives place to some form of totalitarian regime whenever any serious national emergency occurs, the opposition becoming extinct for the time being.

Firm Authority

A flagrant and serious defect in parliamentary democracy with its associated checks and balances is that no political structure dependent on the good will of the legislature and coming to an end in the absence of that good will can function effectively in these times when creative organisation and control of the economic life of society and large scale social legislation are no longer vague doctrines but urgent demands. An executive removable by an adverse vote in the legislature is

often inadequate even in countries blessed with an enlightened public opinion and experienced in the arts of parliamentary administration.

Today in India in the throes of communal delirium and economic neurosis it is obvious that what is required in each part of the country is assurance, cohesion, continuity and authority firmly lodged in the government. It is doubtful whether the British parliamentary pattern will ever work smoothly and efficiently in India along creative lines—certainly not till after the people cutting across caste and communal barriers become qualified for individual thinking and collective opinion centred on common good.

Administrative Committees

The quasi-irremoval Administrative Committees in the State's new set-up have doubtless been conceived in this context. Though this might at first sight seem something of a derogation of current fashions, students of democracy are stopped from grumbling as it concedes some nine tenths of the area of government to judgment and wisdom of the legislature. For the Administrative Committees, which will number from six to ten, are put in charge of the various departments, co-ordination being provided for through joint consultations by the chairmen of these bodies. The term of the committees will be four years, the same as that of the houses. The committees however are not entirely irremovable, individual members being subject to two-third-majority votes of no confidence in the house to which they belong and which elected them. In this sense the Administrative Committees strike a compromise between an executive at the mercy of the fluxes of opinion in the legislature and one exempt from its votes.

The Proclamation runs : "Subject to the provisions of this Act the policies formulated by the Legislature shall be carried out and implemented by the administrative authorities and departments of our government." Further: The control of the Legislature over the policies of Our Government Departments shall be exercised through Administrative Committees elected by both chambers of the Legislature. Thus it will be seen that the heads of each of the permanent services will be under one or another of the Administrative Committees, and that the whole administration will consequently be diffused by the popular will.

The absence of ministers in the constitution, though it may cause disappointment in aspiring quarters, is spanned by the committees wherein matters within the purview of each get a chance of being thrashed out by consultation and discussion. A minister on the other hand can hardly be as thorough as a committee, of which the chairman in this case practically has a ministerial position with the added advantage of exchange of experience and intellectual collaboration with a few colleagues.

Revision

The Dewan remains not as the executive head of the administration, but as the representative of the Maharaja to exercise when necessary co-ordination and guidance.

A most striking point in the Act is the freedom given to the legislature to discuss the Act itself and pass resolutions thereon after the expiry of its first term—a clear provision for adjustment and modification in the light of experience, in the face of conditions and circumstances calling for adaption.

Second only to the Temple Entry Proclamation, the Act bears testimony to the great ruler symbolising prosperity and progress and to its own excellence as an instrument of responsible government wherewith the talented people of the State can now themselves try and mould its public affairs.

(THE MYSINDIA)

THE NEW TRAVANCORE CONSTITUTION

ON Tuesday, April 15, the new Travancore Constitution came into operation. The main features of it, differentiating it from the constitutional pattern followed in British India and hitherto in Travancore itself, are the introduction of functional representation for the Chitra State Council, as the second Chamber is styled, and the appointment of Administrative Committees consisting of members of both Houses, to deal with all matters of administrative policy and measures pertaining to the subjects allotted to them. Representation by faculties and functions is borrowed from the Fascist Italian Constitution by the Hyderabad Reforms Committee as a means avowedly of doing without communal representation. But communal representation crept in by the backdoor and since then territorial electorates have also been super-added. The new Travancore Constitution avoids communal representation.

The Constitution Act recognises that there will be overlapping of the territorial constituencies for the Sri Mulam Assembly and the functional electorates of the Sri Chitra State Council and provides that, in case of a person being elected to both, he should make his choice of one at the earliest

opportunity. The administrative Committees are borrowed from the French Constitution. The executive and administrative officers in France enjoy more power and initiative than under the British or the American system, and these Committees are obviously intended to control their exercise. In the absence of this special feature of French administration the Administrative Committees are likely to hamper rather than to help the day-to-day administration. The Act provides, in order to prevent this contingency, that matters connected with normal routine administration of the departments and with appointments and promotions shall be governed by rules made by Government for the purpose. Even so there is room for dispute as to whether a particular matter comes under normal routine or policy. The working of this feature of the Travancore Constitution will have to be watched with particular interest. The Act does not provide for the constitution of the Cabinet. In view of the mandatory provision that the policies formulated by the Legislature shall be carried out by the administration, this omission may have less significance than otherwise. Control of the administration by the Legislature is provided through the Administrative Committees which must meet at least once a fortnight. The Sri Mulam Assembly will be elected on adult suffrage and both Houses will elect their own President and Speaker.

The Constitution is conceived in a liberal spirit. Travancore has one of the highest proportions of literacy in India and there should be no difficulty in enlisting the services of competent men and women to work this rather complicated system in a spirit of patriotic service.

(THE INDIAN SOCIAL REFORMER)

PEOPLE'S CONTROL OVER ADMINISTRATION

WHEN the first Press Communiques and subsequent statements were published there was a talk that the new Reform proposals were the indices of an autocratic Government. The question had been engaging the earnest attention of the public for about two months and opportunities had been granted for a free and open discussion on the proposed changes and their repercussions among the people. No doubt election on adult suffrage is a commendable arrangement but in a State like Travancore where communal interests and the interest of the minorities require safeguards certain communities rightly felt that they would have to survive unrepresented in the legislature. The major communities like the Ezhavas, Nairs and the intellectually advanced community like the Brahmin stoutly opposed reservation. On principle it was reasonable but when certain communities feel they have no chance of getting representation owing to peculiar circumstances created by the scattering of votes all over the State the head of the administration has a right to interfere. The Dewan rightly interfered and laudably agreed to the reservation of seats for Muslims and Latin Catholics. In the absence of an irremovable executive the fate of the minorities would really be in danger. Now the Legislature could postpone and prorogue the legislature in consultation with the Dewan.

Provision has been made with regard to public revenue and religious matters on the resolution passed by a 2/3 majority. This is a bold step indeed. Revenue is of vital importance to the general interest of the State as a whole and religion is a delicate question. These two matters have been

placed in the hands of the people's representatives. The Budget is the pivot of the very existence of the State. Everybody is concerned with money and about the arrangements made with regard to religion. The Budget is formulated by the joint efforts of the administrative committees and the executive. It should be approved by the legislature after free discussion. Under such circumstances there is no ground to say that the New Act is not up to the mark.

Our salvation does not rest in the Westminster model of removing the Executive at any time. Travancore is very backward economically. Frequent change of Government is sure to ruin the country as a whole. Communal differences would find a way to make the situation worse. The labour without realising the effects of revolting against law and order is sure to undergo serious consequences failing to understand the efforts of interested persons. Under such a predicament where could we look to for help? A guiding executive's interference would be quite imperative. It is therefore the prime duty of public workers to work up the Act in the light of the good intention of His Highness the Maha Raja and his trusted and eminent Minister. Further, they have appointed a committee to attend to the details and to verify the defects if any.

When we are going to enjoy the benefits of responsible Government under liberal protection there is no necessity for a Kerala Province behind the back of His Highness without the support of the people as a whole. The lead for such a move has come from Cochin and Malabar alone. Cochin is filled with more than 70 or 80 Princes. The Sovereign may be prepared to surrender his power in the interest of the family. Why should Travancore follow Cochin which is not in any way superior to Travancore?

(THE TRAVANCORE TIMES)

INDEPENDENT TRAVANCORE

THE trend of events indicates that important developments could be expected almost immediately, and one should not be surprised if, instead of one United India emerging as a result of consensus of opinion among the various political groups in India, India gets split up into more than one sovereign state, before the British Power quits India. It also seems almost certain that by the end of June or July, in the matter of day-to-day administration, responsibility will be handed over to some unit or units representing the people of India and the States. Under such circumstances the question arises: "What shall Travancore do in the future?" The question would hardly have arisen if a United India were a certainty. But, now in the altered context, the question is of vital importance. The talented Dewan of Travancore has declared that Travancore, after the disappearance of British Paramountcy, would prefer to remain an independent State with all the implications that that status connotes while there is a persistent call from other quarters that Travancore should merge a part of its individuality in a bigger unit. Viewed with the eye of a Travancorean, which would be more advantageous is the question.

Travancore is a maritime country and the main sources of its revenue are customs, excise, income tax, forests, transport dividends, interests and stamps. If Travancore merges into the Indian Union as envisaged by the Constituent Assembly, as at present constituted, these sources would be controlled by the Central Government, which probably would refund a share due to the State in proportion to its population. On a modest computation this arrangement would deplete the Travancore exchequer by three to four crores of rupees every year and

considerably hamper the development of the country on modern lines.

Besides, about 80 per cent. of our food, has to be imported from outside, *i.e.*, Burma, Indonesia and Siam, while the balance has to come from Sind and the Punjab—Provinces that would constitute Pakistan. Travancore, therefore, could ill afford to merge itself with one part of India to the exclusion of the other. An independent Travancore is the only alternative.

The next question is: "Have we the strength to stand independent?" In this connection it is necessary to note that Independence does not mean isolationism. In modern sense, Independence *means* the capacity that a country possesses to enter into mutually beneficial relations with other countries on terms of perfect equality. This capacity Travancore possesses in abundant measure. For, thanks to its rich mineral resources, whose strategic value is undoubted, Travancore's prestige in the comity of nations has risen immensely, while the practical monopoly the State has of several important products such as coconut, tea, rubber, cardamom, ginger, pepper, etc., confers on it a tremendous bargaining power in world markets. This is the position of Travancore now.

We are, therefore, very grateful to Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar for clarifying the issue in his address at the Press Conference on May 17th; where he has made out a strong case for an Independent Travancore. Such a State would enter into friendly relationships, by agreement, with Britain, America, Russia or other countries for the purpose of implementing and supplementing her strategic military or economic requirements. Given the co-operation of all sections of the people of Travancore, Sir C. P. assures that Travancore would rise to her full stature in the

forthcoming set up of India and can easily be an effective and independent entity co-operating in every direction to bring about the triumphal progress of the country as a whole. In that behalf he makes a fervent appeal to the country, and we doubt not that it would be responded to with enthusiasm.

(THE INDIAN THINKER)

THE HON'BLE

DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD'S VISIT TO THE FACT., LTD.

ALWAYE, MAY, 17.

DR. Rajendra Prasad visited the Fertilizers and Chemicals (Travancore) Ltd., today at 2-30 P. M. At the entrance Mr. Seshasayee received and garlanded him and led him to the Visitor's Room. He introduced him to the top ranking staff of the Company.

A chart was then shown to him presenting the statistics of the present production of rice in India and the increase by 60,700 tons by the help of fertilizers. He enquired about many particulars, such as their chief requirements. Mr. Seshasayee replied that firewood, electricity, gypsum, sulphur and phosphate minerals were the most abundantly required things for the concern. The first two of these were being supplied by the Government of Travancore, who took great care in the enterprise. Gypsum was obtained from Trichinopoly. 5,000 tons of phosphate rocks from Africa and Sulphur from America.

A model of the factory and the various processes of production were shown to Dr. Prasad and explained to him by Mr. Macartey. He was afterwards taken round the several departments. It was delightful to see the Honourable Food Minister of India, responsible for feeding 40 crores of

people, taking such lively interest in the production of fertilizers which would help raising more food.

Public Meeting

The Public meeting at which the Food Member formally inaugurated the production activity of the Firm began at 3-30 P.M. Mr. Seshasayee after welcoming him in a felicitous speech invited him to inaugurate the commencement of production. Mr. Seshasayee referred to the kind patronage of the Government of Travancore, Madras and Cochin and stressed the necessity for removing the import duty of 15 per cent. now paid by the Company on certain raw products.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad congratulated the Management of the Fertilizers Company who had succeeded in starting the production overcoming all handicaps. He rejoiced to be there to see the production though he had wished the results of their efforts could be reaped by next year. He lamented the dependency of India on other countries in the matter of food and appealed to one and all to have a food production drive. He remarked that it was the policy of the present Government to discourage imports from outside and wished to revise the industrial policy of India to the advantage of Indian Industry. He appreciated the use of firewood in

place of coal and wished to find proper use for other natural resources which are now being wasted. He expected the firewood used being replaced by fresh plantations using the fertilizers. He thanked them for the kind regards shown to him and wished them all success in their endeavours.

(THE INDIAN THINKER)

RAYON PLANT FOR INDIA

THE first British rayon plant for India is now being shipped from England for the Travancore Rayon Co. This is a company with a paidup capital of nearly £ 1,250,000, and it is expected to be in operation by the end of the year.

The news was given here to-day by Mr. Douglas, Managing Director of Dobson and Barlow (Securities), one of the firms whose shares are owned by Textile Machinery Makers Ltd., of Oldham. Mr. Douglas has been meeting industrialists in India to impress on them that the rayon industry has great possibilities in this country.

He said the Travancore plant was being equipped with the latest British rayon production development, the 'Nelson'

process, which spins, washes, dries, and winds in one continuous sequence, a method simpler and less costly than others.

(THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, LONDON)

PROCESSED RICE

A SCIENTIFIC method of processing rice to increase its vitamin content, keeping properties, resistance to weevil infection and flavour is under investigation by the Department of Research of Travancore State. As in other parts of India, rice is the staple food of 90 per cent. of Travancore's population, and the necessity for getting the utmost value out of available supplies is fully realised at the present time of world food shortage.

This method of processing has been evolved by an English chemist working in the United States. The air in the grain is removed by vacuum pressure, and hot water is then forced into the rice under high pressure. The excess water is drained off, and by a steaming and drying process the vitamins are heat sealed into the grain in such a manner that there is practically no loss in nutritive value on milling and cooking. The rice, with the husk still intact, is then dried and milled in the usual way.

The method resembles, though in a much advanced form, the custom of

parboiling paddy which has been common in Travancore from ancient times. In certain districts, paddy is even parboiled twice before being milled, though the advantage of this double treatment is doubtful. The original parboiling, however, has long been recognised as improving the flavour and nutritive value, and it is hoped that the new scientific method can be introduced into Travancore in the near future.

(GREAT BRITAIN AND THE EAST, LONDON.)

OVERWORKED?



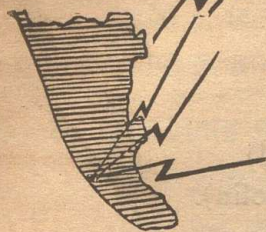
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Our new tonic with improved formula will help you to banish bodily and mental fatigue and to repair tissue-damage. Contains Glycerophosphates, Iron, Strychnine, Vitamin B and Lecithin. At all good chemists.

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TRAVANCORE RADIO PROGRAMME

Programme for June 1947

(455'9 Metres 658 Kilocycles)

TUESDAY, 3RD JUNE 1947:

7-30 P. M.— *Music* by P. L. Lekshmi and party.

Song	Raga	Tala	Composer
Manasaetulo	Malayamarutam	Rupakam	Sri Tyagaraja
Kalayami	Begada	Tripata	Sri Swati Tirunal
Smara hari	Syama	Adi	Sri Swati Tirunal
Sundari Ni	Kalyani	Adi	Sri Tyagaraja
Smarasada	Bilahari	Adi	Sri Swati Tirunal
Kantan	Sahana	Rupakam	Sri Nilakanta Sivan

8-15 P. M.— Talk in English on "Sources of Lime" by K. R. Krishna Aiyer—the fourth talk in the series "Mineral resources of Travancore".

8-30 P. M.— *Music* by N. S. Kailasa Aiyer and party.

Song	Raga	Tala	Composer
Sangeetagnanamu	Dhanyasi	Adi	Sri Tyagaraja
Kripayapalaya	Charukesi	Chapu	Sri Swati Tirunal
Ramachandram	Vasanta	Rupakam	Sri Dikshitar
Natopasana	Begada	Adi	Sri Tyagaraja
Mamavakarunaya	Shanmukhapriya	Chapu	Sri Swati Tirunal
Yaro Ivar	Bhairavi	Adi	Sri Arunachalakavi

9-00 P. M.— Vancheesamangalam.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Learn to Sing—Maharaja Swati Tirunal's Compositions.

7-45 P. M.—*Nagaswaram* by Chudalayandi Kamar and party.

9-00 P. M. *Vancheesamangalam*.

THURSDAY, 5TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—*Kathakalakshepam* on "Seynopakhyanam" by Kaladasar.

9-00 P. M.—*Vancheesamangalam*.

FRIDAY, 6TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—*Music Concert* :—

Kalakad Ramanarayana Aiyer (Vocal).

Chalakudy N. S. Narayanaswamy (Violin).

Martandapuram Mani Aiyer (Mridangam).

9-00 P. M.—*Vancheesamangalam*.

TUESDAY, 10TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—*Music* by V. Sankaran and party.

Song	Raga	Tala	Composer.
<i>Pahimamsri</i>	<i>Janaranjini</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Ramaswami Sivan</i>
<i>Yochana</i>	<i>Durbar</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Tyagaraja</i>
<i>Sarasijanabha</i>	<i>Todi</i>	<i>Chapu</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>
<i>Undeti-ramudu</i>	<i>Harikamboji</i>	<i>Rupakam</i>	<i>Sri Tyagaraja</i>
<i>Vandesada</i>	<i>Paras</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>
<i>Seesaganga</i>	<i>Hindi tune</i>		<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>

8-15 P. M.—Talk in Malayalam on "Village uplift work in Travancore" by S. Vaidyanatha Aiyer.

8-30 P. M.—*Veena* by M. Padmanabha Aiyer

9-00 P. M.—*Vancheesamangalam*.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Learn to Sing—Maharaja Swati Tirunal's Compositions.

7-45 P. M.—*Music Concert* :—

T. R. Navaneetham (Flute).

Chalakudy N. S. Narayanaswamy (Violin).

Marthandapuram Mani Aiyer (Mridangam).

9-00 P. M. *Vancheesamangalam*.

THURDAY , 12TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Talk in Malayalam on "Insecticides and Germicides"
by Rajyasevanirata Dr. C. O. Karunakaran.

7-45 P. M.—Play in Malayalam.

8-00 P. M.—*Music* by Rukmini Sundararajan and party.

9-00 P. M.—Vancheesamangalam.

FRIDAY, 13TH JUNE 1947

7-30 P. M.—*Music Concert* :—

Mannargudi Rajagopala Pillai (Vocal).

Chalakudy N. S. Narayanaswamy (Violin).

Martandapuram Mani Aiyer (Mridangam).

9-00 P. M.—Vancheesamangalam.

TUESDAY, 17TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Talk in English on "Rating personality" by
Dr. D. Jivanayakam.

7-45 P. M.—*Thiruvattirakali songs*.

8-00 P. M.—*Music* by Nagercoil Ganesa Aiyar and party.

Song	Raga	Tala	Composer
Nadatanumanisam	Chitharanjini	Adi	Sri Tyagaraja
Vandesada	Navarasakannada	Adi	Sri Swati Tirunal
Mamavasada	Kanada	Rupakam	Sri Swati Tirunal
Pahimam	Mukhari	Adi	Sri Dikshitar
Bhajaregopalam	Hindolam	Adi	Sri Sadasiva

Brahmendra

9-00 P. M.—Vancheesamangalam.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Learn to Sing — Maharaja Swati Tirunal's Compositions.

7-45 P. M.—*Music* by Nagercoil Hariharan and party.

9-00 P. M.—Vancheesamangalam.

THURSDAY, 19TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—*Layāvinyasam*—Ganakaladhara Madura Mani Aiyer—
Ragam Tanam and Pallavi.

8-15 P. M.—*Music* by S. Krishnamoorti and party.

Song	Raga	Tala	Composer
<i>Deva Deva</i>	<i>Poorvikalyani</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>
<i>Tatvamameruka</i>	<i>Garudadhvani</i>	<i>Rupakam</i>	<i>Sri Tyagaraja</i>
<i>Mariveregati</i>	<i>Anandabhairavi</i>	<i>Misram</i>	<i>Sri Syama Sastri</i>
<i>Mamava meenakshi</i>	<i>Varali</i>	<i>Misram</i>	<i>Sri Dikshitar</i>
<i>Vandesada</i>	<i>Paras</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>
<i>Padmanabha Pahi</i>	<i>Hindolam</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>

9-00 P. M.—*Vancheesamangalam*.

FRIDAY, 20TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—*Music Concert* :—

Ganakaladhara Madura Mani Aiyer and party.

9-00 P. M.—*Vancheesamangalam*.

TUESDAY, 24TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Talk in English on "University Reform in Travancore"
by H. C. Papworth.

7-45 P. M.—*Recorded Music* :—N. C. Vasantakokilam.

8-00 P. M.—*Music* by P. Vaidyanathan and party.

9-00 P. M.—*Vancheesamangalam*.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Learn to Sing—Maharaja Swati Tirunal's Compositions.

7-45 P. M.—*Veena* by Devakottah Narayana Aiyengar.

Song	Raga	Tala	Composer
<i>Srinivasa</i>	<i>Atana</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>
<i>Sadaramava</i>	<i>Saraswati</i>	<i>Rupakam</i>	<i>Sri Tyagaraja</i>
<i>Ramaneeve</i>	<i>Narayani</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Dikshitar</i>
<i>Sri Balasubramanyaya</i>	<i>Bilhari</i>	<i>Chapu</i>	<i>Sri Dikshitar</i>
<i>Pahijagajjanani</i>	<i>Hamsanandi</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>
<i>Ragam</i>	<i>Pallavi</i>	<i>Karaharapriya</i>	

9-00 P. M.—*Vancheesamangalam*.

THURSDAY, 26TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Music by K. R. Venkatachalam and party.

Song	Raga	Tala	Composer
<i>Srinuladhara</i>	<i>Sri</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Tyagaraja</i>
<i>Janani ninnu</i>	<i>Ritigowla</i>	<i>Chapu</i>	<i>Sri Subbaraya Sastri</i>
<i>Bhajare!</i>	<i>Kalyani</i>	<i>Chapu</i>	<i>Sri Dikshitar</i>
<i>Paramapurusha</i>	<i>Vasanta</i>	<i>Adi</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>
<i>Mamavasada</i>	<i>Natakuranji</i>	<i>Rupakam</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>
<i>Sararijanabha</i>	<i>Todi</i>	<i>Chapu</i>	<i>Sri Swati Tirunal</i>

8-30 P. M.—Talk in Tamil on “Carnatic Music” series

2nd talk “Tradition in Music” ஸம்பிரதாய ஸங்கீதம்

8-45 P. M.—Recorded Music :—D. K. Pattammal.

9-00 P. M.—Vancheesamangalam.

FRIDAY, 27TH JUNE 1947 :

7-30 P. M.—Music Concert :—

Annapurni Vaidyanathan and party.

9-00 P. M.—Vancheesamangalam.

Suggestions from listeners are welcome.

**Office of the Travancore Broadcasting Station,
Trivandrum.**

LEARN TO SING

The following Composition of Sri Swati Tirunal will be taken up in July 1947 :--

ராகம் தோடி—தாळம் ரூபகம்.

பல்லவி

பக்ஷாஃ ! தவ சேவா

வஹுதா கர்வாணி

(பக்ஷ)

அனுபல்லவி

சக்ரவல்காசனமுக

சன்னுதாரகீர்த்தி

(பக்ஷ)

சரணம்

ஸ்ரீதர ! தவ பாதுகா

சிரஸா வஹாநி-

சாதுதாலவந்நேன ச

சங்கீரயாநி

(பக்ஷ)

ராகம் தோடி — தாळம் ரூபகம்

பல்லவி

சரணம்

பக்ஷாஃ ! தவ சேவா

வஹுதா கர்வாணி

(பக்ஷ)

ஸ்ரீதர ! தவ பாதுகா

சிரஸா வஹாநி-

அனுபல்லவி

சாதுதாலவந்நேன ச

சக்ரவல்காசனமுக

சன்னுதாரகீர்த்தி

(பக்ஷ)

சங்கீரயாநி

ராகம் தோடி—தாळம் ரூபகம்.

பல்லவி

பக்ஷாஃ ! தவ சேவா

வஹுதா கர்வாணி

(பக்ஷ)

அனுபல்லவி

சக்ரவல்காசனமுக

சன்னுதாரகீர்த்தி

(பக்ஷ)

சரணம்

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சிரஸா வஹாநி-

சாதுதாலவந்நேன ச

சங்கீரயாநி

(பக்ஷ)

பல்ஸங்

- ஸ ஸி

(பங்கஜா சூழி)

அனுபல்லவி

- TRAVANCORE INFORMATION and LISTENER, June 1947

3. த ம ப தா நி ஸ்ா ரீ ஸ் நி தா நி | த ப மா தா நி ஸ் ஸ் நி ரீ ஸ்ா
- - ஸங் - க ர - - வ - - - ல - - ஸா - ஸ ன - மு க

ஸ் நி க் ரீ ஸ்ா ரீ ஸ் நி த ரீ | த நி ஸ்ா ரீ ஸ் நி ரீ ஸ் நி த ம க
ஸ ன் - - னு தோ - - - ரு கீ - - - - - ர் த்தே - - -

ஸ நி

(பங்கஜ சூத்)

சரணம்

1. ; ப தா நி தா பா த ம | பா தா ரீ ஸ்ா ;
ஸ் - த ர த வ - பா - து காம்

; த நி ஸ்ா ; ; ஸ் நி | த நி ஸ்ா ; த நி ஸ் நி த ப
ஸ் ர ஸா - - - ஹா - - - னி - - -

2. த ம பா த நி ஸ்ா ரீ ஸ் நி தா நி | த ப மா பா தா ரீ ஸ்ா ;
- - ஸ் - த ம - - த - - வ - - பா - து காம்

; த நி ஸ்ா , க் ரீ ரீ ஸ் ஸ் நி | நி தா ரீ , ரீ ஸ் நி த தா
ஸ் ர ஸா - - - வ - ஹா - - - னி - - -

1. ; தா தா கா , ரீ ஸ்ா | ரீ ஸ் நி த ரீ ; ஸ்ா ஸ்ா
ஸா து தா - ல வ்ருந் - - தே ந ச

2. ; தா தா நி ஸ் ரீ கா , ரீ ஸ்ா , | ரீ ஸ் நி த ரீ ; ஸ்ா ஸ்ா
ஸா து தா - - - ல - வ்ருந் - - - தே ந ச

3. த நி ஸ் ரீ ஸ் ரீ க் ம் க் ரீ ஸ்ா | ரீ ஸ் நி த ரீ ; ஸ்ா ஸ்ா
ஸா - - து - தா - - - ல வ்ருந் - - தே ந ச

ஸ் நி க் ரீ ரீ ஸ் ஸ் நி த ப ப ம | க ம த நி ஸ்ா ரீ ஸ் நி த மா ப ம க ரீ
ஸம் - - - ஸ் - - - ஜ - - - யா - - - - - னி - - - -

ஸ நி

(பங்கஜ)