

The Delhi Samaj is starting a programme of physical, cultural and agricultural competitions in ten village circles of Pahaladpur and Ghonda Blocks. Competitions in embroidery and Baby Shows will also be held. Besides these, seminars will be held in which farmers will discuss various agricultural problems including co-operation, production and agriculture, animal husbandry, social welfare, land reforms and fixation of prices.

It is hoped that a large number of farmers would take active part in all the events proposed to be held by the Delhi Krishak Samaj.

CHAMPARAN DISTRICT KRISHAK SAMAJ CONVENTION

The Second Annual Convention of the District Krishak Samaj, Champaran (Bihar) was held at Motihari from December 29 to 31, 1957. The Convention was inaugurated by Shri Jagjiwan Ram, Union Minister for Railways while Shri Chandrika Ram, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Bihar presided over the meeting. About 6,000 farmers hailing from all parts of the district attended the Convention. An Agricultural Exhibition was also organised on the occasion.

Addressing the farmers Shri Jagjiwan Ram said that it was necessary that results of agricultural research should reach the farmer to help them in the advancement of production. He asked the farmers to use improved types of seeds and manures and utilise the irrigation facilities.

Shri Chandrika Ram, in his speech expressed his appreciation for the activities of the Samaj which were aimed at the economic emancipation of farmers.

The farmers attending the Convention, discussed matters of mutual interest in a seminar and passed a number of resolutions on fixation of price for jute and the selling rate of sugarcane, reduction in prices of fertilizers and speedy execution of minor irrigation schemes.

The following office bearers were also elected on this occasion: *President*: Shri C.N. Agrawal; *Vice-President*: Shri U.P. Verma and Shri B.P. Rai; *Secretary*: Shri S.P. Chaudhry; *Assistant Secretaries*: Shri S.N. Pandey and Shri Lakshmi Prasad; *Treasurer*: Shri Gajadhar Singh.

Indian Farm News

PEOPLE'S ROLE IN COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Addressing the sixth meeting of the National Development Council in New Delhi on January 12, 1958, Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru said that the potential for India's food production was very much greater than was commonly reckoned. He blamed lack of proper organised effort for the meagre increase.

He also stressed on the development of co-operative movement. He said *that could happen only if responsibility was cast upon the people themselves*. For that care must be taken to see that the tendency to increase the number of petty officials was checked, he said.

INDIAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Inaugurating the 18th Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics at Nagpur on December 27, 1957, Dr. P.S. Deshmukh, Union Minister for Co-operation said that the field of agricultural economics was very extensive and the Society should strive to maintain a balance of emphasis on the problems arising at the three levels of co-ordination of agricultural activity—viz the farms, market and public policy.

Dr. Deshmukh said that the returns to labour in agriculture in India were much lower when compared either with the returns to labour in other sections in this country or with the returns even to agricultural labour in many other countries.

He said that through development programmes the country was trying to

HIMACHAL PRADESH KRISHAK SAMAJ

An ad-hoc Committee of the Himachal Pradesh Krishak Samaj has been constituted under the presidency of Raja Bajrang Bahadur Singh, Lt. Governor of Himachal Pradesh. Shri R.S. Parmar has been appointed the Secretary. The Committee has drafted a constitution and has started the work of establishing the Samaj in the State at various levels.

mobilise all resources to raise these returns. Dr. Deshmukh said the relative shortage of resources per person in the over-all economy of the country in general and in the agricultural sector in particular presents a challenge to the administrator as well as the economists.

Praising the work of the society which was being conducted under the guidance of Shri Manilal B. Nanavati, Dr. Deshmukh pointed out that the principal handicap the Society faced was the illiteracy of the farmers of India and lack of any proper and sustained organisation of their own through which they could bring to bear their points of view on the agricultural development in the country.

Dr. Deshmukh said that three years ago the Bharat Krishak Samaj was established. The essential aim of the Samaj was to forge a link between the Government and farmers and to afford to farmers a forum to voice their own views and opinions on all issues confronting them. He said that a very important activity which the Samaj has just initiated was the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Statistics and Information. He expressed the desire that the Society would be good enough to help it actively so that the farmers point of view was presented in a scientific and studied manner to the people as well as the economists.

Dr. Madan's Address

Dr. B.K. Madan, Principal Adviser to the Reserve Bank of India who presided over the Conference in the course of his speech dealt with various points connected with the place of agriculture in the development programme, aspects of agricultural organisation, finance and price policy etc.

He also said that the amount of direction or supervision required for a large scale excursion into co-operative farming was beyond country's resources of trained and skilled personnel for a considerable time in the future.

He suggested for State partnered co-operation which would enable higher investment and better yield from agriculture.

Dr. Madan said that training must be afforded to right type of personnel, to leaders from within the ranks of farmers.