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FARMERS' WEEK IN KERALA

A Farmers' Week and Convention was celebrated in Kerala State under the auspices of the State Farmers' Forum from January 5 to 12. It was inaugurated on January 5 by the Adviser to the State Government and was presided over by Shri G. Parimeswaram Pillai, President of the Central Cooperative Bank. Shri K. P. Amrithanatha Aiyar, Working President of the Kerala Farmers' Forum, explained the objects of the Forum and how it could be used to coordinate the activities of the various Departments of Rural Welfare with those of the farmers' organization in villages. The meeting was addressed by several leading farmers who after the meeting were taken around the Vellayani Agricultural College and the exhibition of improved implements, fertilizers and seeds etc.

The meetings in connection with the farmers week were held at Vellayani Kottarkhera, Kottayam, Trichur, Pattambi, Taliparamba and Allepy on various dates till January 12, 1957.

The Plenary Meeting decided that Farmers' Forums should be organized in all villages as they will form the best and most effective liaison between the farmers and the departments concerned for promoting agricultural development.

ALL INDIA CANE GROWERS' FEDERATION

The Annual Conference of the All India Cane Growers' Federation was held on January 20 at Siarnli in Muzaffarnagar District of Uttar Pradesh. A large number of farmers and cane growers of the district and neighbouring areas attended the Conference which was inaugurated by Dr. Sampurnanand, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

In his Presidential address Sardar Lal Singh, M. P., reiterated the demands of cane-growers and said that the price of sugarcane should be fixed on the basis of "productions' expenditure and gains".

He appealed to the cane growers to unite together for voicing their demands.

FARMERS' TRAINING

It was decided in the last meeting of Development Commissioners at New Delhi that in the National Extension Service and Community Development areas, Agricultural Extension Officers should make arrangements in every village level worker zone for imparting training to farmers for a week. At least three representative farmers of every village should be trained in every centre.

REORGANIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

A thorough overhaul of agricultural education is under consideration in Uttar Pradesh. A small body under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. B. Singh, Agricultural Adviser to the State Government, has been appointed to conduct a probe in the entire system of agricultural education from the primary to the post-graduate stages in the State.

The terms of reference include co-ordination between extension education and research and organizing training and education for farmers.

NINTH MEETING OF I F A P

The Ninth Ordinary General Meeting of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers will be held at Purdue University in Indiana, U. S. A. from May 20 to 30, 1957.

WORLD GROWS RECORD RICE CROP

The world is growing more rice in 1956-57 season than ever before in history. Production for this season is expected to reach more than 430,000 million lbs., which is two per cent above last year's.

The main increases in production are in Asia where about 93 per cent of the world rice crop is harvested. There has been an increase of rice cultivation in South America also.

BRAZIL SECOND BIGGEST SUGAR PRODUCER

Brazil has become the World's Second largest Cane Sugar producer. In 1955 Brazilian Cane Sugar production reached a total of 2,209,000 tons.

Young Farmers

Bombay

The State of Bombay has decided to form the Young Farmers' Association in the State under the Presidentship of Shri Mustafa Faki, Minister of Agriculture. It has been decided that the Constitution of the Association would be framed on the basis of the Young Farmers' Association, India.

Rajasthan

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Agriculture Minister of Rajasthan has declared the formation of the State Committee of the Rajasthan Young Farmers' Association. It consists of Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha as President, the Development Commissioner and Director for Agriculture as Vice-Presidents. There will be two non-official Vice-presidents including Shri V. N. Kak. Shri Gunna Ram (I F Y E 1956) has been selected as the Secretary.

Delhi

The State Committee of Delhi Young Farmers' Association has been formed and an action programme has also been drawn up. Dr. J. C. Ramchandani, Development Commissioner of Delhi, has expressed the hope that during the current year 40 Young Farmers' Clubs will be organized throughout the state.

Punjab

Shri N. Basu, Secretary of the Young Farmers' Association, India recently visited Chandigarh where Punjab Young Farmers' Association has formed a State Committee. The Minister of Agriculture of Punjab is its President. The Vice-Presidents are the Deputy Minister of Community Development, Shri Randhawa, Additional Development Commissioner and Shri Arjan Singh, Director of Agriculture. Shri Raghbir Singh, Farm Youth Organizer is the Secretary. A Youth Rally is being arranged in the second week of February at Nabha in which nearly 2,000 Young Farmers and Rural Youths are expected to participate.

West Bengal

The West Bengal Young Farmers' Association is holding its State Convention, on February 19 at Kalyani, in West Bengal. A leadership training camp for rural youth leaders will be organized at Vishwa Bharati. Alongwith the the Convention a youth rally will be held.