

# Adult Education Review

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## Relapse into illiteracy must be Prevented side by side with the Campaign for Adult Literacy.

The Maharaja of Bhavanagar, as Governor of Madras State, evinced sustained interest in the development of Adult Education effort. His public utterances on Adult Education were nearly all of them policy pronouncements. He said, in an address at Coonoor, in May 1951, that steps should be taken to see that relapse into illiteracy was prevented side by side with the campaign for spreading Adult Literacy

It is now generally agreed that production of continuation literature suited to the psychology and requirements of new Adult Literates is the most effective way to preventing relapse into illiteracy. Books meant for children are too elementary to interest the adult learner who is seized with a new avidity. Nor is it desirable to let the adult learner take to reading the kind of journals now extant in the regional languages.

The Second South Indian Adult Education Regional Seminar, which is being planned to be held at Ernakulam in the last week of coming April, will deal with the question of production of continuation literature for New Adult Literates, in all its bearings. Suggestions, in this behalf, are solicited and will be welcomed, by the organisers of the Regional Seminar, namely, the South Indian Adult Education Association, Madras-1. S.A.



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Education Association,  
Madras-1.**

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# Model Adult Literacy Centre for Every District

## Sri K. S. Ramaswamy Sastri's Suggestions

1. The South Indian Adult Education Association proposes to start a Model Adult Literacy Centre in each District. The Centre will have attractive amenities like games, a reading room, a library, a radio set, a magic lantern, etc. The Government may give financial aid for such a project.
2. Ten more mobile vans can be bought. They should be smaller than the existing vans. Each can operate in two districts.
3. Petromax lights may be supplied to all the Adult Night Schools. Most of these are run with hurricane lanterns and have inadequate lighting.
4. More teachers should be trained in Adult Education methods.
5. Non-official agencies like the Tiruchirapalli Adult Education Association which have undertaken Adult Literacy work on a big plan scale may be aided.
6. Ample help should be given to bring into existence abundant follow up literature.
7. The Adult Night School teachers should be given an increase of salary, *i.e.*, Rs. 15 per month as pay and Rs. 5 as allowances, if trained, and Rs. 10 per month as pay and Rs. 5 as allowances, if untrained.

# ADULT EDUCATION REVIEW

MONTHLY JOURNAL OF  
*The South Indian Adult Education Association, Madras.*  
(All Correspondence should be addressed to the Organising Secretary)

Vol. IV

FEBRUARY, 1953

No. 4

## EDITORIAL

### **Social (Adult) Education effort in Travancore-Cochin State**

The report on the Social (Adult) Education effort in Travancore-Cochin State, for the official year 1951-1952, published by the Adult Education Board, Trivandrum, gives an idea of what systematic and sustained work done with circumspect planning and patriotic fervour can achieve even in a sphere of nation-building endeavour where quick and sure results cannot be expected. Adult Education work in the State was intricate and vast enough to require to be tackled by a special body set up for the purpose. Hence the Adult Education Board was constituted in 1950 as a mainly non-official body with a view to co-ordinating and re-organising on sound and progressive lines the Adult Education activities in the State that were being carried out by, or under the auspices of, the Village uplift, Advancement of Backward Communities and Education Departments, with the Director of Public Instruction as the convenor of the Board and as the Adult Education authority for the State. A scheme was recommended to the Government envisaging the development of a net-work of 600 Social (Adult) Education Centres through-

out the State, at the rate of one centre for each Pakuthy or Panchayat area, and recommending the immediate inception of a Research and Training Centre for training workers who would run the aforesaid 600 local Social Adult Education Centres. The Adult Education Research and Training Centre was inaugurated in February 1951 at Trivandrum by Sri G. Harisarvottama Rau, Vice-President, South Indian Adult Education Association, and Honorary Adult Education Organiser, Andhra Desa. The Centre has been, since its inception, under the able stewardship of Sri S. Raghavan, Executive Officer of the Board, who is assisted by a full-time Superintendent and a Demonstrator and four Visiting Lecturers on Agriculture, Public Health, Co-operative Economics, and Adult Psychology and Civics. The Centre provides residential accommodation for the trainees and adequate facilities for practical farming, cottage industries and library work. For the first batch of trainees 48 of the candidates were chosen.

All the Adult Education activities in the State are under the control and guidance of the Board. The strength

of the Board was increased from seven to eleven, to include one more official and three more non-officials, maintaining thereby the predominance of the non-official element. Two permanent Committees have been functioning under the Board, one to look after publication work and the other to organise agriculture and industries in the Training Centre. The Centre has been more fully equipped with the necessary implements and accessories. The first batch of 40 trainees including seven women completed their course in six months ending with August 1951 and were duly declared successful. A second batch of 47 persons including eight women started their course in September 1951 and completed it in March 1952, but only 24 of them were declared successful. A third batch of 36 trainees commenced their course in March 1952. Twenty-four special lectures were arranged for the benefit of the trainees during the period under review. The trainees went on excursions to Pechipara and Perunchanni Dams, Ambadi State, to observe tractor cultivation; to Kazhakuttam to see the cocount nursery; to Akkulam lake to study an agricultural experiment; and to the Y. M. C. A. Rural Reconstruction Centre, Marthandam, to study among other things, various aspects of the Gur industry. They were also given in batches opportunity to study the working of various types of Co-operative Societies. The forenoon of every Thursday was devoted to field work in the adjoining areas of Kuravankonam and Barton hills. Intensive propaganda and service activities were conducted in those areas for the promotion of Adult Literacy, better health and sanitation, kitchen gardening, compost making, latrine construction and cottage industries

like spinning, beekeeping and poultry farming.

Government sanctioned in September 1951 the opening of 30 Social Education Centres, and these were placed in charge of 30 of the first batch of successful trainees, selected in order of merit. The opening of 10 more centres was sanctioned in January 1953, and these centres were put in charge of the ten remaining successful trainees of the first batch. The trained organisers thus appointed were directed to start a literacy class and a Community centre forthwith in their respective areas. All the organisers have been running literacy classes, although the strength and attendance at the same have been poor and unsteady. All the organisers have taken measures to start at least two or three cottage industries in their respective areas with the object of training small batches of people in the successful practice of those industries. Spinning has been introduced as a rule in all the areas, supplemented by sewing where women are in charge of the centres. Gandhi Jayanti, Social Education Day and Republic Day were duly celebrated in all the Centres by holding meetings and otherwise under instructions from the authorities.

Representative committees each comprising five members, called Social Education Councils, were constituted at 28 Centres. The Councils are to advise the organiser on the needs of the community and help him in executing programmes. Besides the Social Education Centres already described Government sanctioned 200 literacy classes and 100 volunteer agencies exclusively for the eradication of adult illiteracy. As the report points out, "progress in work of this nature is bound to be slow even under the most favoura-

ble conditions." There are also 100 libraries and 100 night schools at work. The Adult Education scheme contemplates the publication of periodical bulletins or magazines, charts, Primers and Readers for the literacy stage and graded books for the post-literacy stage. A Publication Committee has been constituted under the Board with Sri C. Narayana Pillai M. P. as its Chairman. A proposal to improve the practical bias in the training course by setting apart at least one month exclusively for field work in a suitable village is under the active consideration of the Government. The report concludes with the following hopeful note :

Publication of Adult and propaganda literature will receive increasing attention in future. Visual Education is also proposed to be expanded by increasing the number of mobile vans and improving the equipments as far as funds will permit. Radio receivers, Film strip projectors and other visual aids will have to be supplied to all Social Education Centres. The 200 literacy classes already sanctioned by Government, will have to be revived, particularly in places not served by Social Education centres. It is felt desirable to give due encouragement to private and voluntary efforts in Adult Education wherever their service is found to be real and genuine. It is also necessary to organise Social Service Leagues in Colleges and High Schools to encourage students to undertake constructive Social Education programmes in leisure time and through Summer Camps as in Mysore."

## Bihar Regional Seminar on Social Education

The Regional Seminar on Social Education held under the joint auspices of the Indian Adult Education Association and the Bihar State Government Education Department discussed the following during its session of five days.

### A. Regularity in Attendance

(a) Literacy Centres must form an invariable item of Social Education work.

(b) The Centre should be located as far as possible in a central and public place so that no section of the people may have objection to attending it.

(c) Bhajans, Kirtans and Exhibitions should be made for community celebrations of national religious and local festivals. These organisations and arrangements will help arouse interest among the adults who would be inclined to attend the centres.

### B. Organisation of Literacy Work in Intensive areas

(a) Though literacy should be an indispensable unit of Social Education work, the work should not be confined to literacy alone. It should be planned on a comprehensive basis, consisting of the following items :

- (i) Cleanliness and sanitation
- (ii) Health and Medical Aid.
- (iii) Education and Literacy
- (iv) Culture and Recreation
- (v) Reforms in social behaviours
- (vi) Economic Betterment
- (vii) Publication and Publicity.

(b) Such villages as have already got a Village Panchayat or Co-operative Society may afford better scope for Social Education work ; and efforts should be made to utilise such agencies towards the organisation of Social Education.

### C. Training of Social Workers

(a) It is desirable that a uniform system of training and syllabus for training of workers be evolved which may be adopted by all the States of agencies carrying out the Social-Education programmes with necessary adjustments or modifications.

(b) In planning the courses of training it is necessary to keep in view the aptitudes and attainments of all types of trainers who seek admission to the training courses. It would thus be advisable to have three courses for training :

- (i) a course of a fortnight's duration.

- (ii) a course of six weeks' duration
- (iii) a course of three months' duration.

The fortnightly course will be specially meant for college and school teachers and inspecting officers who have already had some practical experience in the field of Social Education. The fortnightly course will also be designed to suit the requirements of college students who desire to have a short training of elementary nature particularly during the vacations. The six weeks training is meant chiefly for the experienced teachers of Basic and Middle schools as also for other enthusiastic persons from amongst the public who have a genuine inclination towards public service. The three months' training is intended to be comprehensive and so designed as to turn out potential full-time workers in the field of Social Education and public service.

(c) The chief objective of the syllabus of the different type of training is to instil into the trainee a genuine urge for social service and social uplift to enable him to organise practical field work in Social Education, and lastly to equip him with such theoretical and practical knowledge as may facilitate his working out plans and executing them with the co-operation of the community and the various Government and non-Government agencies.

(d) The syllabus framed should be of the following two types :

- (i) Theoretical
- (ii) Practical

The theoretical syllabus may consist of adult psychology; methodology of adult teaching; history and progress of Social Education in India and in foreign countries and elements of theoretical knowledge relevant to a worker in the field of Social Education. The practical part of the syllabus should consist in living a community life and organising it in the villages or localities taken up as the field of work.

#### **Co-operation of other Government Departments and Non-Official Agencies**

(a) Weekly, fortnightly or monthly conference of local authorities and agencies

should be convened at a central place with a view to ensure effective co-ordination and check up. The Social Education worker should try to establish a Gram Panchayat where there is none and he should be in intimate contact with the authorities of the Gram Panchayat Department and Co-operative Societies. It is expected that the Gram Panchayat Department and Co-operative Societies will work in unison with the Social Education section of the Education Department.

(b) Well-organised non-official agencies should be encouraged to take up Social Education work.

#### **Folk Theatre**

(a) Every Social Education centre should make sustained efforts for the collection of folk songs and such songs of poets like Vidyapati, Kabir etc. as may be prevalent in the locality and may have wholesome popular appeal. The Social Education Board may publish a completion of all such collections for use at the Social Education centres.

#### **Symposium on Social Service**

A symposium on Social Service was organised in January at the U. S. Information Library, Lucknow. Speaking on "How can Social Service help to raise the standard of living" Mr. Michael P. Goutos, former Minister for Housing, Hygiene and Public Health, in Greece and Adviser on Social Planning to the Greek Government, spoke on social problems like poverty, illiteracy and low standards of life. He held the view that in under-developed countries there was great room for social service. Raja Maharaj Singh who participated in the symposium underlined the need for voluntary constructive work. Mr. Rastogi, Principal of the Jail Training School said that voluntary social service could not be dissociated from Government programmes of social welfare. He urged for an equitable distribution of wealth.

Mrs. Kerpoed of the Womens' Welfare Department of the U. P. Government Miss Sabharwal, Principal of the Mahila Vidyalaya and Dr. Radhakamal Mukerjee head of the Economic Department of the Lucknow University also took part in the symposium.

# Objectives of Social Education

BY SHRI D. L. ANANDA RAO,

(Adviser on Adult Education to the Government of Hyderabad)

Adult Education has been in the air for about half a century. Only its forms and means have been different in different countries, according to their respective needs and traditions and the genius of the people. Thus the Folk Schools in Denmark, the Workers Educational Classes in England and the Agricultural Extension Courses of America, are all attempts to fulfil the felt needs of the adults of their respective nations in the context of their times.

With growing contacts among the leaders of the movements and with the sponsoring of the movement by the UNESCO, a better understanding of the implications of Social Education, a widening of the concept and a certain amount of uniformity have begun to result. It may perhaps be not incorrect to state that the UNESCO Seminar on Rural Adult Education, held in Mysore in 1949, has more or less laid down in a definite form the fundamentals of this great educational movement.

Yet, in this country the impact of this educational concept has not been strong or widespread enough. In fact certain notions which seriously limit its usefulness are still propounded. It is conceived of only as an Adult Literacy movement. Literacy does no doubt constitute a part of Adult Education, but it is not its be-all and end-all. It is more or less due to certain historical factors that Adult Literacy has come to be the Central Plank of this movement in India. But in other countries, the initial urge and the ultimate ends have been quite different. It is also not unnatural that, in a country predominantly illiterate like India, there should have been a good deal of emphasis on literacy as a means of uplifting the masses. But experience of over a decade in different parts of the Indian Union, and the evolution of the movement in other countries, have revealed that mere literacy cannot at all achieve the results expected of it. It is now accepted among all the workers in this sphere that equal, if not more, emphasis, should be laid on the other aspects of Adult Education, even for literacy itself to prove more fruitful. To eradicate the notions associated till now with Adult Education as Adult Literacy, it would perhaps be desirable to call this by the name of Social Education on all occasions in future.

In most countries, the Adult Education movements have primarily been people's movements deriving their inspiration and impetus from the masses. But in India

this has been rather half-hearted and halting. It derives a good deal of its strength from the support of the Government financial, administrative and otherwise—. But in a Welfare State, with its roots in democracy, whether a movement arises from the people or the Government is perhaps a distinction without much real difference. One need not therefore make an issue of it.

## Broader Concept of Adult Education

The summary Report of the International Conference of Adult Education held in June 1949, has explained the broader concept of Adult Education in the following words:—

“The aim of Adult Education is not so much to provide instruction, as to ensure a training: it seeks to create an atmosphere of intellectual curiosity, social freedom and tolerance and to stimulate in each person the demand and the capacity to take an active part in the development of the cultural life of his day”.

The same idea is conveyed by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad pithily as “an education of the complete man”.

With this end in view, what should be the programme of Social Education to suit the particular needs of our country?

The first is to rouse the masses, specially in the rural areas, to shake off their lethargy, indifference and the feeling of helplessness. The villager has become a slave to habit and tradition. The result is

that he is either afraid of, or hostile to, any reform intended to change his present mode of life. This fear undermines his initiative and all constructive effort. It is this steel wall of dead habit, fear and frustration that has to be broken down by Social Education so that he may have a faith in himself and in his future.

### Developing Self-help

The second objective is to build up their initiative and enthusiasm to improve their economic condition by utilising all available resources. All schemes of education intended for the mental or moral uplift of the masses are bound to founder unless they are based upon a solid economic foundation. As early as fifty years ago, Swami Vivekananda voiced this truth when he said that it was a crime to teach religion to a hungry man. The villager should, therefore, be educated to build up his economic position by utilizing all the facilities available to him. The present low standard of living in the villages is mainly due to the under-employment and inefficient employment of the rural folk and of the rural resources. Social Education should, therefore, centre round agricultural operations and the related crafts.

### Training in Citizenship.

The third objective is to give them training in citizenship so that they may properly discharge their duties and exercise their rights in a democratic State.

The common man is the corner-stone of the mighty edifice of the modern State. To make democracy effective and at the same time helpful to his own progress, he should be trained to assert his rights, safeguard his interests and perform his duties. In the ultimate analysis, his rights and duties merge into each other. Voting is at once the privilege and the duty of every citizen.

The fourth objective is to enable the adults to live a healthy and happy life rich in content and with wide and varied interests.

Life in the villages is at present poor, dull and depressing. It is not even healthy. The desertion of the country side by the rich, and even by the poor, is due as much to this factor as to other economic forces. To make rural life interesting and attractive, traditional games, festivals and other

recreational activities—old and new—should be popularised and developed on purposive lines.

### Need for Permanent Literacy

The fifth objective is to impart adequate and permanent literacy so as to help them to progress in the economic, social and political spheres.

In the advanced countries of the East and the West, on account of their programmes of universal compulsory primary education lasting over decades, this does not constitute a major problem. There, it is a question of more education or re-education. But, as far as this country is concerned, it cannot but be construed as a basic problem. It has to deal with illiteracy, semi-literacy and inadequate literacy. In the words of Dr. Spencer Hatch, Chairman of the Group for Economic Aspects, Mysore Seminar, literacy is intended "to give legs to knowledge, to enable it to get out to the people who so much need it."

Such, in brief, is the five-fold path of Adult or Social Education. At present the education of children dominates the educational activities of State Governments, but the day is not far off when the education of the adult would assume an equally important place in the programmes of education, for without this the success of the educational programmes for children—compulsory or otherwise—are not bound to succeed in the measure or with the speed desired by the well wishers of the country. In the words of Professor Humayun Kabir, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India, "Unless guardians of children recognise the importance of education and send their wards willingly to school, it is difficult for any State to enforce compulsion. To make the programme of Elementary Education successful, it is necessary to tackle the problem of the education of their guardians."

### Community Centres

There is already a growing realization among all the progressive States of India to initiate and build up systematically programmes of Social Education on the above lines. The Government of India also envisage a broad-based system of Social Education in every State through the organization of Community Centres. In



# Adult Literacy Drive Intensified by Third Week Celebrations

## *Organising Secretary reviews progress of S.I.A.E.A. activities*

The South Indian Adult Education Association has been playing a notable part in spreading literacy among adults. The Third Adult Education Week celebrated throughout Madras State under the auspices of the Association, and with the co-operation of the State Government in all its Departments, has intensified the campaign against adult illiteracy.

Arrangements are being made by the Association to conduct the Second South Indian Adult Education Regional Seminar at Ernakulam from 22nd to 30th April 1953. The purpose of the Seminar is to promote on sound and fruitful lines production of continuation literature suited to the psychology and requirements of new adult literates mainly with a view to preventing relapse into illiteracy.

With a view to stimulating interest among writers of books and supporting the cause of Fundamental Literacy and Social Education, the Association is devising a plan of securing patrons to granting prizes to authors of manuscripts adjudged the best by competent authorities.

The following is the text of the report on the activities of the Association for the period, 28-6-52 to 2-2-53, by Sri T.J.R. Gopal, Organising Secretary, presented to, and read at, the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 3rd February '53 :—

The period for which I am reporting, that is, from 28-6-1952 to 2-2-1953, was as eventful as ever. The first meeting of the General Council was held on 28-6-1952, Sri G. Harisarvóthama Rau, the newly elected Chairman for the Working Committee, presiding. Additional members were elected to the Working Committee. Then the Working Committee as such met, and transacted

business. Consideration of the Association's Budget for 1952-53, presented by the Organising Secretary in the unavoidable absence of both the General Secretary and the Treasurer, was postponed to the next meeting of the Committee. The Chairman and the General Secretary were requested to convene a meeting of representatives of Educational Institutions and Social Service Organisations for consti-

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the words of the Five Year Plan, "Social Education is not essentially a matter of classroom instruction. It has to be diffused through all the varied activities of the community and should find its main focus in the Community Centres and Co-operatives, to the establishment of which in every field of work increased attention should be paid."

The Community Projects are in essence an extension of the Social Education idea through the Community Centre. To engender a desire for better life in the masses, to create in them an urge to achieve the same by individual and co-operative effort,

is the aim of both the Community Centres and the Community Projects. What the Community Project seeks to do in a spectacular manner with an intensified application of resources and organisation, the Community Centre seeks to do in an area limited to a village, with resources limited to a thousand or two of rupees and with a band of humble but trained workers, who apply themselves to this task steadily and studiously. These Community Centres serve as simple, unostentatious lamps which light the rural homes, and then the village and gradually act as radiating centres of better life in the rural region.

tuting a Central Committee to celebrate the Third South Indian Adult Education Week. A Working Committee was formed for conducting the Second South Indian (Regional) Seminar on Adult Education already decided to be held at Ernakulam. And a deputation was formed to wait on the Minister for Education, Madras State, and present to him the Resolutions adopted by the Seventh Annual South Indian Adult Education Conference held at Kozhikode in May 1952.

#### Deputation to Minister

The Association deputation met the Education Minister in his Secretariat room on 28th July 1952. Sri K. M. Unnithan, I. C. S., Education Secretary, was present. A memorandum prepared by our Chairman, Sri G. Harisarvottama Rau, was presented to the Minister, and the Kozhikode Conference resolutions were duly explained to him. The need for creating at the Secretariat level a new Department for Adult Education, and for setting up an Advisory Council with adequate powers and so as to give due place to the unofficial wing of the Adult Education movement, was urged. The procedure relating to the celebration of the ensuing Third South Indian Adult Education Week was explained to him, and the Minister agreed to preside over the meeting of representatives of sponsoring institutions and organisations, and be the President of the Central Committee to be formed. The Minister gave the general assurance that he would have the Memorandum and the Resolutions examined and take all possible steps to co-ordinate the official and unofficial agencies.

I addressed on 7th May 1952 a letter to our Chief Minister, Sri C. Rajagopalachari, appealing to him to give impetus to the Adult Education movement by requesting the Collectors to implement G. O. No. 2180 Education dated 3rd August 1950. A reply was received from the Education Secretary stating that Government were issuing orders separately reiterating the instructions in G. O. No. 2180 Education dated 3-8-1950 regarding the need for the officials of all the Departments frequently visiting Adult Education Schools and giving useful talks there.

#### Central Committee Formed

A meeting of representatives of institutions and organisations and others interested in Adult Education effort, convened by our Association, was held on 23rd August 1952, Dr. M. V. Krishna Rao, Minister for Education, presiding, and a Central Committee was formed for celebrating the Third South Indian Adult Education Week. Sri K. M. Unnithan, I.C.S., Education Secretary, who attended the meeting, explained the Community Project educational campaign for a Mandalam, and invited suggestions as to how the Week could be fitted into the Mandalam campaign. An interesting discussion followed. The Education Minister and our Chairman were requested to issue a joint appeal for the State Adult Education Fund.

#### State Governor's Message

The Association office was busy throughout September and October preparing the way to the celebration of the Third South Indian Adult Education Week. On 7th October, 1952, the Education Minister issued an appeal for collection of money for the State Adult Education Fund by sale of flags and tickets: He said: "With more money, the existing Adult Education Centres could do better work, and new Centres could be opened in places where the atmosphere is congenial and there is scope for real work" A General Appeal for the effective celebration of the Week signed by Sri L. M. Pylee, our President, Sri G. Harisarvottama Rau, our Chairman, Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M.L.A., our General Secretary, myself and our Publicity Secretary was issued on 10th October, 1952. It urged the re-organisation of the existing District, Taluk, Firka and other Committees on a stronger and wider basis, and the setting up of new Committees, to conduct Adult Education effort in a planned manner, Sri Sri Prakasa, our State Governor, issued on 21st October, 1952 a message wherein he observed: "I have very hope that the Association will grow from strength to strength and achieve its object that it so richly deserves to do". Our Association issued a brochure recounting the genesis and evolution and explaining the purpose and objective of the State-wide celebration of an Adult Education Week, and

outlining the programme to be followed for the celebrations. The Education Department of the Government of Madras issued on 20th October, 1952, a Memorandum regarding the Week. The Memorandum said: "The Government desire that the Collectors of all Districts and Heads of all Departments should make the celebration of the Week a success. They are requested to instruct their subordinate officers to render all the help necessary in this matter. Collectors of Districts are requested to form District Committees in Districts where they have not been so far formed, and re-organise them in Districts where they have been organised, but are not working properly".

### Prime Minister's Visit

An Adult Education Stall was opened by the Asoka Society, Madras, which is affiliated to our Association, in the Exhibition held in "Raj Bhavan", Guindy, on 8th October, 1952, to give to our Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, who was on a visit to our State, a panoramic view of the Social Service activities in Madras State. The Stall was visited by Mr. Nehru, our Chief Minister, Sri C. Rajagopalachari, our Finance and Food Minister, Sri C. Subramanyam, our Minister for Religious Endowments, Sri K. Venkataswami Naidu, and Sri V. Bashyam Aiyangar, M.L.C. A class was conducted and adults were being taught to read and write. Mr. Nehru was garlanded by Sri T. Neelakantan, Secretary, Asoka Society, and a member of our Committee, and by me.

### Third Week Celebrations

The Third South Indian Adult Education Week was celebrated throughout the State from 8th to 12th November 1952, generally in accordance with the programme laid down by the Central Committee. In the metropolis, the Week was inaugurated by the Education Minister, in a spacious pandal specially erected for the occasion, in Swatantarnagar, Krishnampet, Madras, where, as is well-known, our Association has been developing a Model Community Centre on Co-operative lines. An Adult Education Exhibition was held in stalls adjoining the pandal. The Women's Welfare Department, be-

sides the other Departments, and the Arundale Adult Education Centre of Adyar contributed to the success of the Exhibition. A conference of women for women was held, Mrs. T.N. Ramamurthy, retired Principal of Queen Mary's College, presiding, and a number of informative talks were given. Another feature of the Week celebrations in the city was the contribution made by the City Students Council organised by Sri P. Veeraghavan and Sri P. (bul Reddy. In a message wishing the Week success, Dr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, the then Vice-Chancellor of the Annamalai University, said: "The Adult Education movement is making rapid progress in our country, and I must congratulate you (the Association) on the useful work you are doing in this field". Messages were received also from Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Mr. Amarnath Jha, and Professor Humayun Kabir. Reports of the Week celebrations all over the State have been duly published in the issues of our *Adult Education Review* for November and December 1952 and January and February 1953. Special mention may be made of the effort initiated by Mr. H. S. Paul, Collector, in Chingleput district. When he was Collector of South Arcot, he did his best in implementing the G. O. 2180, Education dated 3-8-1950. He is proceeding on similar lines in Chingleput district. As many as 364 Adult Education Centres were started in the Chingleput district during the Third Adult Education Week celebrations.

### Conference with Dr. Laubach

A conference convened by the Director of Public Instruction to consider the new Tamil Primer published at the instance of Dr. Frank C. Laubach as also the question of follow up literature was held in the Government Arts College, Madras, from 21st to 27th November, 1952. The Association as such was represented by me and Sri S. Airavatam, our Publicity Secretary. Our Vice-President, Sri K. S. Ramaswamy Sastri, our Chairman, Sri G. Harisarvottama Rau, and our General Secretary, Mr. J. L. P. Roche-Victoria, participated in the conference. The set of four books in Tamil entitled "Arivali Anandam", which are based on Dr. Laubach's book "Anandan, the wise man",

and which were published by me were also discussed by the conference, and met with general appreciation and approval.

Our Association was represented at the International Conference of Social Work held at Madras from 12th to 20th December 1952 by our Vice-President, Sri K. S. Ramaswami Sastri, and our General Secretary, Mr. J. L. P. Roche-Victoria, M.L.A. They took part in many of the discussions and urged that Adult Education should be a top priority in the National Planning because the co-operation of an educated people was most vital in the success of democracy.

### Third National Seminar

The Third National Seminar held at Delhi from 20th to 26th in December 1952, under the auspices of the Indian Adult Education Association was attended by Sri Harisarvottama Rau, deputed by the Government of Madras, and by myself representing our Association. The Seminar was meant to promote production of literature for new literates. Sri G. Harisarvottama Rau took a prominent part in the discussions and presented the point of view of the South with his usual vigour and clarity.

Our Chairman and myself met Professor Humayun Kabir and acquainted him with our plans for conducting the Second South Indian Regional Seminar on Adult Education. He assured us of the Government of India's support to the idea. We have received from the Government of India a contribution of Rs. 4000 towards the Seminar expenses.

I represented our Association at the Ninth Annual All India Adult Education Conference held at Nagpur on 28th and 29th December 1952. Our Chairman, Sri G. Harisarvottama Rau, was President of the conference. In his address, the text of which has been published in the January issue of our *Adult Education Review*. Sri G. Harisarvottama Rau has referred to the work being done by our Association and on its behalf.

### Second Regional Seminar

I visited Ernakulam in January of this year and met our President Sri L. M. Pylee, M.L.A., and others in connection with arrangements to be made for the Second South Indian Regional Seminar to

be held there in the last week of April 1953. St. Albert's College, Ernakulam, will be made available for the purpose. It is good enough, Sri Pylee is very hopeful about the success of the Seminar. The Travancore-Cochin Government has assured us of "all possible help and co-operation". They further state: "The members and officers of the Adult Education Board have been requested to participate in the Seminar. The State Director of Public Instruction has instructions to direct the officers and members of educational institutions in and around about Ernakulam and the organisers of the Social Education Centres in the State to attend the Seminar." They have granted Rs 500 towards the expenses of the Seminar.

The main work of the ensuing Seminar would be to consider ways and means of producing literature for new literates, with a view to preventing relapse into illiteracy. The Seminar will divide into groups on language basis and consider the question. In this connection I have a suggestion to offer. Under the auspices of our Association we may initiate a movement for stimulating production of books suited to new-literates. A system of prizes may be evolved whereby patrons of the Adult Education cause would each give Rs. 100 for the manuscript adjudged the best. The State Governor, the Chief Minister, the Chief Justice, and other notables may announce a prize after their name or institution. Thus we may be able to secure about fifty excellent manuscripts in each of our regional languages, and get them published through our auxiliary organisation, the South Indian Adult Education Co-operative Publishing Society, Limited. The movement will help mobilise the support of many patrons, and encourage writers and benefit the adult learner himself not a little. A sub-committee may be formed now to draw up a detailed scheme of prize competition. The idea is not new. The Government of Madras initiated such a competition some time ago. Sri G. Harisarvottama Rau was one of the judges of the Telugu Manuscripts and I was one of the judges of the Tamil manuscripts. The manuscripts adjudged the best were given to our Co-operative Society and published by the same.

An Adult Education Stall is being run in the All India Khadi, Swadeshi and Industrial Exhibition, in Congress grounds,

Teynampet, Madras. The State Government have made a grant of Rs. 400 for the purpose. Sri P. S. Krishnaswamy, Director, Arundale Adult Education Centre, Adyar, and one of our Committee members, is in charge of the stall and propagating the message of the Association.

I have already referred to our Swatantra Nagar experiment in the Community Centre method. The Co-operative Site Society has proved a success, and we hope to be able to acquire the site in about a couple of months. We have reason to believe that by and by every feature of a Modal Community Centre will develop.

Members of the Committee are aware of the fact that Rev. G. P. Naumann and myself have been conducting a Weekly journal in Tamil "Anandam" by name which is best suited to new adult literates. The journal is making headway and meeting with encouragement. It is helpful, we are told, in preventing relapse into illiteracy. The Association has already encouraged the venture with a gift of Rs. 250. In the nature of things, "Anandam" cannot be a paying proposition. It has to be kept going mainly with the help of contributions from patrons. It would be quite in the fitness of things for our Association to encourage the journal with a recurring annual grant since the journal is actually carrying out one of the objects of the Association.

#### New City Commissioner

I have come to the end of my report. I may conclude it with a happy note that we have in the in-coming Commissioner of the Madras Corporation, Sri V. N. Subbaroya Mudular who is to take charge in the last week of this month, a great Adult Education enthusiast. He attended the first annual South Indian Adult Education Conference held in the University Examination Hall, Madras, February 1939, as a representative of the Tuticorin Municipality. Thus he is one of the founders of

Adult Education movement in South India. I hope he will be a tower of strength to our movement, as Commissioner of the Corporation. Thanks.

Sri G. Harisarvottama Rao, Chairman, presided. The following members were present: Sri K. S. Rangaswamy Sastri, Vice-President, Mr J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M. L. A., General Secretary, Sri T. J. R. Gopal, Organising Secretary, Sri S. Airavatam, Publicity Secretary, Mr. F. X. Pareira (Jr.), Treasurer, Sri P. Nagabhushanam, Regional Secretary for Andhra Desa, Sri P. S. Subbian, Regional Secretary for Tamil Nadu, Sri T. Neelakantan (Secretary, Asoka Society), Mr. L. C. Richard (Municipal Commissioner, Masulipatam), Sri A. Tiruganasambandam (Secretary, Madras City Adult Education Association), Sri S. S. Avadhaniyar, Honorary S.I.A.E.A. Organiser for Tanjore District, Rev. G. P. Naumann (Joint Editor of "Anandam")

The General Secretary presented a statement of accounts of the Association, of the the collections made during the Second South Indian Adult Education Week celebrations, and of the collections made during the Third South Indian Adult Education Week celebrations, so far received.

The question of bearing the actual travelling expenses incurred by the Honorary District Organisers was discussed, but decision was deferred until the financial position became sound enough.

The scheme of encouraging authors to write books and securing patrons to award prizes for best manuscripts, and getting the same published was discussed at length, and the Committee authorised steps being taken for the purpose. The following persons agreed to give prizes of Rs. 100 each: Sri G. Harisarvottama Rao, Sri K. S. Ramaswamy Sastri, Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M. L. A. Rev. G. P. Naumann and Sri T. J. R. Gopal.

# Await Early Release:

## "WOES OF AN ILLITERATE"

[படியாதவர் படுமபாடு]

## Social Education in Villages

### Training Centres for Organisers.

A detailed programme for training of Social Education organisers who will work in the Community Project areas was considered and finalised at a two-day conference of the Training Centres of Social Education organisers, which concluded its session in New Delhi on February 13. Mr. S. K. Dey, Community Projects Administrator, presided over the meeting.

An important decision taken at the conference was to encourage creative thinkers to make their contribution towards the Social Education programme to be carried out in the Community Project areas. It was decided that the Community Projects administration should make an appeal to the public to bring to the forefront suitable literature which might already exist or which was being currently produced in the upsurge of freedom but had not yet come into popular use. Knowledge thus derived from the vast store-house of Indian culture and tradition would not only impart truly Indian touch to the Social Education work in the Community Project areas but would also provide an opportunity to creative thinkers to make their contribution to the building of new India, it was stated. Such material would be screened by a special committee to be set up for the purpose and selected literature will be used in the project areas for the work.

Five training centres for Social Education organisers will be established at Nilokheri, Hyderabad, Gandhigram, Shantiniketan and Allahabad. The centre at Nilokheri will serve the Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Bharat, Pepsu, Rajasthan, Ajmer, Bilaspur, Delhi and Himachal Pradesh. That at Hyderabad, which will be under the auspices of the Tata School of Social Sciences, will cover Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Hyderabad, Saurashtra, Bhopal and Kutch. The Gandhigram Centre will train Social Education organisers from Madras, Mysore, Travancore, Cochin and Coorg. Under the auspices of the Shanthi-

ketan University the fourth centre will serve Assam, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Tripura, Manipur and the N. E. Frontier Agency. At Allahabad, chief Social Education organisers from all Community Project areas will be trained, the centre being under the auspices of the Allahabad Agricultural Institute.

The syllabus of training at these centres includes both theoretical studies and field work. It covers social science, rural economics, civics, co-operation, village extension services, Social Education and allied subjects, religion, history and culture. The chief organisers will, in addition, be given specialised training on co-ordination and supervision of the work. The overall purposes of such training is to impart to organisers "sufficient knowledge in the theory and practice of social reconstruction in order to enable them to create a democratic, prosperous, co-operative and happier village community, thus achieving the aims and objectives of the community development."

Production of literature for use by the organisers was an important item considered at the conference. Apart from inviting contributions from creative thinkers, it was decided that literature so far produced under the auspices of the Government as well as by voluntary organisations should be examined with a view to determining their suitability for use. Additional literature in the form of folders, pamphlets, bulletins, etc., would be prepared on the basis of the felt needs of the people.

## Some Experiments in Adult Social Education

By SRI K. UPENDRA SARMA, M.A.,

*Lecturer, Hindu College, Guntur.*

We have declared ourselves a sovereign Republic and have given every adult the vote. We have declared everybody has equal rights in the matter of selecting his representative in the Assemblies and Councils. In this way, we have presumed that every man understands what he has to say or do.

Unless every adult is taught what his duty to the society and State is, this Republic of ours will not fulfil the purpose. For this we can make use of the Social Service Leagues. These have the above great aim and good work to do.

The Social Education programme should deal with the day to day problems of life. The first requisite for workers is faith, faith in the capacities of the masses, faith in the ideal of service to them and faith in Adult Education as an effective means.

Interesting experiments have been undertaken by groups of young men in several stations.

In Mexico the majority of the people are illiterate. This situation has been attacked as one which has retarded progress and the Government has expended large sums of money. Twenty years of study have reduced the number of basic sounds in their language to twelve. These are taught through songs, the use of pictures and colours. The adult learns to read and write in a fraction of the time needed under old methods.

In Delhi, India's Education Ministry, the Directorate of Education, Delhi State, and the Unesco jointly undertook to work a project for adults in rural areas. Probably the first venture of its kind in the world on such a scale, the drive was launched by the Delhi State in December 1950 to make literate the 1,25,000 adult illiterates of Delhi's 300 villages and to help them develop into better citizens in 2½ years. To draw out the "leave-me-alone" villager was a gigantic task. A novel approach, namely, taking a Caravan with films, etc., was called for. Enough of lectures and speeches were given. To be convinced, the villager must see things for himself. An appeal to the eye might achieve what arguments had hitherto failed to accomplish.

Thus was born the Caravan. It would tell the dwellers of mud houses how to improve their agricultural output, sanitation and standards of living—all through the media of audio-visual aids, dramas, exhibits etc., To make the villager digest what he had seen on the screen, he must know how to read and write. So the literacy class was set up.

Now was felt the need to keep alive the villager's interest in what he had read. Thus came into being a college to train local leaders who would keep things going.

The intensified scheme of Social Education is divided into three stages. In rural terminology these can be classified as (1) seed throwing, (2) nurturing the sapling and (3) after care. Active participants in Delhi's drive also included New Delhi's Municipality, the Indian Adult Education Association, etc. If techniques applied in Delhi villages prove successful, they are bound to have a chain reaction all over the country. In their own way, the States of U.P., Bombay, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, to quote a few, have undertaken considerable Adult Literacy programmes with growing success.

In Madras the importance of Social Service is emphasised. Appeals to the rich to come forward and help the noble cause were made. The Minister for Education and Harijan Uplift, Doctor M. V. Krishna Rao, assuring the earnest consideration of the Government of Madras, appealed to treat Social Adult Education as a joint endeavour of all the parties and help the State go forward with its task of educating the masses. Seven and half lakhs of Rupees were allotted to this item about one and half lakhs of rupees over last year's budget.

Let us hope for better results.

## Third South Indian Adult Education Week Celebrations

Reports of the Third South Indian Adult Education Week celebrations in various centres, towns and villages, all over Madras State have been published in the issues of the *Adult Education Review* for December 1952 and January 1953. The following is the third and last instalment of reports of celebrations :—

**Ramanathapuram :** The Tahsildar, Ramanathapuram, writes: The Week was celebrated from the 8th to 12th November 1952 "on a grand scale". The programme thrown up by the Central Committee was followed. A local committee was formed with Sri S. Ponnusamy Nadar (R.D.O., Ramnad) as President, Sri G. Balaji Rao and Sri V. Marimuthu Pillai as Vice-Presidents, Sri C. Srinivasan, and Sri C. M. Rajah Iyer as Secretaries, Rajakumar Sri R. Mangalanath Dorai as Treasurer and Mrs. Kathiresan, Mrs. Seethammal, Rajakumar Sri R. Krishnatha Dorai, Sri Thyagaraja Iyer, Janab Muhammad Sahibu, Sri M. S. Ratnam, Sri R. Verkatachari, Mr. J. Isac, Mr. P. J. Thomas, Sri V. Appadurai, Sri V. Valumbigaimoorthi, Miss S. Ayya Pillai, Janab Shahul Hamid and Sri H. Ganesan. Children of all schools led by their respective Headmasters assembled in the compound of the Rajah's High School, and were taken out in a procession. The procession reached the Schwartz High School where sweets were distributed. Sri Ragunathan, Divisional Inspector of Schools, inaugurated the Week at a public meeting held at 6 p.m. A film show was given.

**Udumalpet :** (Coimbatore District): The Tahsildar writes: Arrangements were made in the Taluk to celebrate the Week in a striking and fitting manner. Dr. T. G. Rajagopal, L.M.P., Municipal Health Officer, hoisted the national flag. Processions were taken out. Meetings were held in three Adult Education Centres and the purpose of the Week was explained. An Adult Education Reading Room was opened. Village Committees were formed in Thumbalapatti and Andiagoundanur. Meetings were held under the auspices of these Committees. All the elderly people who had the desire to learn the art of reading assembled and took part in the

meeting. Social workers at the gruel centres entertained the audience with music and kummi. Books were collected for starting a library. An Adult Education Club was opened by the Panchayat Board President. The Week was celebrated in a very fitting manner in Gudimangalam firka. Under the presidentship of Sri K. Venkataswami Naidu, a political sufferer, a meeting was held at Ponneri. The success of the Week was greatly due to the enthusiasm evinced by the staff of Municipal Schools and members of Committees.

**Pollachi** (Coimbatore District):—The Tahsildar reports that the Week was celebrated with great eclat in Pollachi town and Taluk. A procession was taken round the town and a public meeting held in the Municipal High School building when the Revenue Divisional Officer appealed to the educated to devote themselves to the cause of removing adult illiteracy. Sri S. M. Palaniswami of Singarampalayam presided over the meeting and Sri V.N. Arumugham, B.A. (Hons.), L.T., of Vettaikaranpudur, spoke at length on the importance of Adult Education and the significance of the Each One Teach One way. The Tahsildar distributed Adult Literacy Certificates to 80 persons. A public meeting was arranged by the Revenue Inspector at Koilpalayam, Sri Palanisamy Gounder, District Board President, presiding, and addressed by Sri Achutan Nair, Headmaster. The Week was celebrated in Gomangalampudur when kummi was performed by school girls and a short play "Marmayogi" staged. A public meeting organised by the Revenue Inspector, Kinathukadavu, was held in Periakalanai and addressed by Sri Vannimuthu Gounder, a leading Mirasdar of the village. The Week was celebrated at Zamin Uthukuli, Sri N. Balu Menon, Manager, Zamin Uthukuli, presiding. Sri V. K. Nataraja Pillai explained the value of Adult Education to rural areas and how it could be made a success within a short period. Sri Tirumurti, Teacher-manager, of the Adult School thanked the public for having evinced keen interest for the celebration of the Week.

**Erode** (Coimbatore District):—The Taluk Adult Education Committee met on 6-11-52



and formed a Working Committee with Sri R. K. Venkatasami Naicker as President, Sri S. P. Subbaraya Gounder and Sri M. A. Eswaran as Vice Presidents, Sri S. Meenakshisundara Mudaliar as Treasurer, Sri N. Rangaswami Chettiar, Senior Deputy Inspector of Schools, as Secretary, and Mr. George T. Isaac, Supervisor of Schools, as Joint Secretary. It was resolved to celebrate the Week from 27th to 29th November 1952. Three important centres were selected in Erode town, to suit the convenience of the adults of those localities. Three Adult Literacy Schools are being conducted in these localities by the Municipal Council. Drama was staged and Bhajana conducted on Adult Education. The London Mission Community Training School pupils and teachers did door-to-door propaganda. Sri Chinnappan, Adult Education trained teacher, exhibited his teaching apparatus and charts to the adults and created real interest in them. A new Adult Literacy School was opened for hotel workers. As a result of the celebration of the Adult Education Week, 59 adults were newly admitted into the Rajajipuram Adult Literacy School, and the scheme is showing good progress.

*Mangalore* (South Kanara District):—The Week was celebrated in all parts of the Taluk from the 8th to the 12th November 1952. Public meetings were held and the purpose of the Week was explained. An Adult Literacy Club was started at Farangipet. A drama in Tulu language was enacted at the Higher Elementary School, Kotekar, by the members of Adult Literacy School which is already functioning there. At Harekala an Adult Education class was opened from 12—11—1952 with a programme to teach English also. At Mulki, an Adult Education Centre was opened at the B. E. M. Higher Elementary School. Books were collected at the Assigoli centre with a view to starting a library for adults. An Adult Education School is being conducted at Panambur by the local Janata Samaj; Hindi also is being taught at the school.

*Hosdrug* (South Kanara District): The Week was celebrated in this Sub Taluk by the Committee formed for the purpose, with the hearty co-operation of the public. A procession of school children was taken out along the main roads, songs being sung and placards displayed. A public meeting was held within the compound of the

Deputy Tahsildar's Office, Sri C. A. Kunhiraman Nambiar, B. A., L. T., Headmaster, Durga High School, Hosdrug, presiding, and the Week was inaugurated by Sri P. Kunhi Anandam Nair, B. A., Deputy Tahsildar. An Adult Education Exhibition was opened by Sri T. D. Nair, B. A., B. L., Advocate, and President of the Town Congress Committee. The cartoons and pictures displayed in the exhibition attracted many visitors and won their appreciation. Many prominent persons have promised to start and run Adult Education Schools. The Panchayat Board, Kanhangad, is also likely to open one school.

*Coondapoor* (South Kanara District):—A Committee was formed at the Taluk headquarters to devise ways and means for the celebration of the Week, with Sri M. M. Hegde, Advocate, as President, and Sri Leema, Teacher, Adult Education School, Coondapoor, as Secretary. Similar Committees were formed for rural centres. The Week was celebrated at all the centres according to the programme fixed by the Collector. Sri Hegde presiding, the Week was inaugurated at a public meeting held in St. Mary's Higher Elementary School, Coondapoor. Addressing the meeting, the Senior Deputy Inspector of Schools, Coondapoor, referred to the progress made in foreign countries and stressed the value of Adult Education to India's democratic set-up. An Exhibition was held in the office of the Panchayat Board, Coondapoor. The Flag Day was observed by means of a procession of school children. Books and other materials were collected for the use of Adult Education Schools at Coondapoor and Vaderhobli. All the Adult Education centres were visited by the President and members of the Taluk Adult Education Committee.

*Bettangadv* (South Kanara District):—A Committee was formed for the Sub-Taluk to celebrate the Week. The Week was celebrated duly at various Schools in the Sub-Taluk. The National flag was hoisted; entertainments were held; public meetings were conducted; processions were taken out; and house to house propaganda was done.

*Bellary*:—The Week celebrations began on 8—12—1952 with a magnificent procession of school children, officials and non-officials, nearly half a mile long, through the main streets, the like of which had not been witnessed in Bellary town in connection with

Adult Education. Placards and slogans were exhibited and songs sung. The procession started at the Collectorate and ended at the Municipal High School. In the "unavoidable absence" of Captain D. R. Sundaram, I.A.S., "as duty called him elsewhere", Sri H. Linga Reddy, B.A., B.L., Public Prosecutor, received the procession at the end, and declared the Adult Education Hall open. A public meeting was held, Sri Linga Reddy presiding, and addressed by Sri T. Krishnamurthy, B.A., B.Ed., Headmaster, in a humorous vein in Telugu, saying that the literates should go to and not wait for the illiterates. Addressing the meeting in Kannada, Sri N. Sanjeeva Rao, B.A., L.T., B.L., said that Adult Education was indispensable to democratic development. Kumari Padmavati, B.A., L.T., Headmistress, Government Basic Training School for Women, Bellary, speaking next, said that teachers engaged in Elementary Education and Secondary Education were all overworked and it was not fair to expect the ill paid and famished Kuchelas of Education Department to shoulder the responsibility for Adult Education as well. It behoved, she said, every adult educated to work and spread literacy among adults. In his concluding speech, Sri Linga Reddy said that the aim should be for each one to teach ten and not merely each one to teach one. Sri C. V. Prabhakara Rao, M. Com., Lecturer, Veerasiva College proposed the vote of thanks. On the second day of the Week a conference of Adult Education workers was held in the Municipal High School, with Sri P. Ramananda Rao, M.A., L.T., Principal, in the chair. He said that Adult Literacy was more important than Adult Education: in fact, in the absence of Adult Literacy, Adult Education could not mean much. He also expressed the opinion that the Elementary School teacher was not best fitted to handle Adult Education. The conference was then addressed on various aspects of Adult Education by Sri J. A. S. Prakasa Rao, Headmaster, Government Adult Training School, Sri K. Sankariah, B.A., L.T., Assistant, Municipal High School, Bellary, and Dr. N. Lakshmidevi. A number of resolutions were adopted

(published already in the November issue of the *Adult Education Review*). Mr. L. C. Richard, Municipal Commissioner, explained every resolution in Tamil, and won applause. Variety entertainments were given. Adult Literacy schools were visited. Books were collected for forming a library. Free film shows were given in all the theatres of the town. The Collector Captain Dr. R. Sundaram presiding, His Highness Yeswantha Rao Hindu Rao Ghorapade Memlakalinadar Senapati, the Ruler of Sandur, delivered the Valedictory Address. The Sandur Ruler who gave a donation of Rs. 500 said Adult Education aimed at efficient citizenship: "Knowledge for all through fellowship" could well be the slogan of the movement, he said. Sri G. Harisarvothama Rao, Honorary Adult Education Organiser, Andhra Desa, delivered a valuable lecture in Telugu.

*West Godavary District*: The Week was celebrated from 8 to 12—11—52 with enthusiasm in many important centres throughout the District, officials of all the Departments of Government, teachers and pupils of all Elementary and Secondary and Training Schools and College students playing their part. Non-official co-operation was equally abundant. The District Collector Mr. J. P. L. Gwynn presiding, Sri C. H. Rao inaugurated the Week at Eluru. A procession of students led by teachers was taken out. An Adult Education Exhibition was opened in the Government Basic Training School, Eluru, by Sri D. Subrahmanyam M.A., L.T., Principal of the C. R. R. College, Eluru. On the second day of the Week a public meeting was held. Dr. D. Rajasekhara Rao, Vice-Chairman of the Eluru Municipal Council, presiding, and addressed by Sri P. Satyanarayana, Adult Education Officer, Andhra Desa, Dr. Chandra from Himachal Pradesh, Sri K. Venkateswaralu, Deputy Inspector of Schools and Sri Chowdari from Dendulur. Public meetings were held at the Municipal Higher Elementary School, Gandhinagar, the Vengayagudem Higher Elementary School and the Venkataraoopeta Higher Elementary School.

## News and Notes

### Students permitted to open Adult Literacy Schools.

The Government of Madras have permitted students in Secondary Schools to open Adult Education Schools, provided the Headmasters of the Secondary Schools have no objection to their students doing so. The following is the text of the G. O. Ms. No. 230 Education dated 5th February 1953 which explains the scheme.

The Government have carefully considered the request of the Director of Public Instruction that students in Secondary Schools might be permitted to open Adult Education Schools, subject to the condition that the Headmasters, of such Secondary Schools have no objection to the students opening the Schools. They have also considered his recommendation that Adult Education Schools run by such students might be recognised by the Department and partially aided to the extent of the payment of contingent allowance of Rs. 4 p.m. The Government have decided that students of Secondary Schools in Forms IV to VI may be permitted to undertake the work of teaching in Adult Education Schools, provided the Headmasters of such Secondary Schools have no objection to the student undertaking the work and the student works in the Adult Education School under the guidance and leadership of either his Teachers in the Secondary School or others qualified and interested in the work.

2. Students of Secondary Schools in forms IV to VI may however be permitted, in very rare cases, to work in Adult Education Schools independently, *i.e.* without the guidance and leadership of either their teachers or others qualified and interested in the work; and they may then be paid the sum of Rs. 4 per mensem for meeting the contingent expenditure. However the Headmaster should be instructed to consult the parents of the student if he thinks it necessary.

3. The Government also permit the Director of Public Instruction to accord recognition to the Adult Education Schools of the types mentioned in paras 1 and 2 above and pay the sum of Rs. 4 a month the amount equal to the contingent allowance.

### Adult Education activity in Madras City.

A Garden Party was given by the Madras City Adult Education Association on 13th February 1953 in "Woodlands Hotel," Edward Elliotts Road, Mylapore, Madras, in honour of Sri C. Vivekanandamurthy, Collector retiring and Sri T.N.S. Raghavan I.C.S., Collector-designate. Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M.L.A., General Secretary of the South Indian Adult Education Association, presided on the occasion, and paid a tribute to Sri C. Vivekanandamurthy for the enthusiasm he had evinced in connection with the celebration of the Third South Indian Adult Education Week in the City of Madras. Mr Roche Victoria added that the new Collector might be expected to give his best co-operation in furthering Adult Education effort in the city, with his great experience as an administrator. Sri Vivekanandamurthy, in his reply, said that he was able to do what little he had been credited with, because of the co-operation he had received from co-workers in the cause. Sri Ragavan said that after taking charge as Collector he would try to do his mite for Adult Education with the co-operation of those who had been in the field for a good time. Janab S. M. Fossil, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy and Mrs. Nallamuthu Ramamurti also spoke. Dr. V. K. John, Chevalier G. A. Pais, Sri S. R. Venkataraman and Sri K. S. Ramaswami Sastriar Sri T. Neelakantan, Secretary, Asoka Society, Madras, Mrs. R. Radha, Lecturer, Queen Mary's College, and Sri S. Airavatam, Publicity Secretary, South Indian Adult Education Association and Editor of *Ramarajya*, English Weekly, Madras, were among those present. Sri A Thirugnana Sambandam, Secretary of the Madras City Adult Education Association, read a report on the Adult Education activity in the city since the inception of the Association in 1950. The first Madras City Adult Education Conference, organised by the Association, was held in Rajaji Hall, Madras, on the 6th and 7th of October 1951. The conference was inaugurated by Sri R. Ramanathan Chettiar, the then Mayor of Madras, and presided over by Sri S. Sachidanandam Pillay, former Deputy Director of Public

**Instruction.** A plan of action for liquidating adult illiteracy from the city within a certain time-limit was placed before the Conference and approved, and a sub-committee was appointed by the conference for examining the plan and to suggest means to carrying it out.

A Special Committee was formed for celebrating the Third South Indian Adult Education Week in Madras City with the Collector Sri C. Vivekanandamurthy, as the President, and Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M.L.A., as the Chairman.

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### Course for preparing Teacher Trainers

In the course of a letter addressed to Sri T. J. R. Gopal, Dr. Frank C. Laubach, the World Literacy Leader, says:

The All-India Literacy Drive is getting into full swing. Thousands of well trained literacy teachers and writers are required. Many persons will be needed who are qualified to train all of those teachers of illiterates and to write simple literature.

To meet this need a course for preparing Teacher Trainers will be opened under the Extension Department of the Allahabad Agricultural Institute. The first session will last one month from February 16 to March 14. It will be a very intensive course including field work, research and the actual production of literature.

Sri T. J. R. Gopal, Organising Secretary, South Indian Adult Education Association, is attending the course.

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### Coimbatore District Adult Education Committee

The Coimbatore District Adult Education Committee met on 2-2-1953 in Red Cross Hall, Coimbatore. Sri Sankaran, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Coimbatore, gave an account of the Third South Indian Adult Education Week celebrations in Coimbatore town. The Secretaries of other Taluk Associations and Deputy Inspectors of Schools were requested to send similar reports. Conveners were requested to send accounts for audit purpose. Sri Rajanayagam

was requested to submit old accounts, records, the minutes book, etc. A Literature Sub-Committee, a Propaganda Sub-Committee, a Visiting Sub-Committee, and a Finance Sub-Committee were formed. Sri Venkataraman, Headmaster, Sarvojana High School, Peelamedu, was elected as the General Secretary to conduct the work of the Committee.

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### Pollachi Taluk Adult Education Committee Meeting

The Pollachi Taluk Adult Education Committee met at 3-30 p.m. on 27-1-53 in the office of the Revenue Divisional Officer, Pollachi, with Sri M. Chandrasekharan, the K. L. O., in the chair. The report on the work done by the Committee for the past three years submitted by the Secretary, Sri P. S. Subbian, was duly approved. Sri I. Paul Jesudasan, B.A. (Hons) L.T., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Pollachi, gave an account of the working of the Adult Literacy Schools in the Range and the difficulties experienced by them. The Committee was then reconstituted for the next year.

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### Nagpur University's Plan for Social Service

A band of University students, teachers, and social workers has been working at Godani, a village 8 miles from Nagpur, to enthuse the villagers about reconstruction work in rural areas. This is a part of the Nagpur University's plan for social service for University boys, to make the student community conscious of the problems of rural India. This project was started by the University after the Diwali holidays this year.

The students who were visiting this village on Sunday mornings found the approach road to the village in very bad condition. Armed therefore with spades, shovels and ghamias the students from seven Nagpur colleges reached the outskirts of Godani and began constructing the road. After about four hours of digging and leveling the road was ready for vehicular traffic.