

NEWS AND NOTES

TENTH CONVOCATION—DECEMBER 3, 1950

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

On this occasion of the Tenth Convocation of the Institute, I have great pleasure in submitting my report on the activities during the year under review. Exactly twelve months have elapsed since my last report was presented and the Institute has progressed in various directions with a slow but steady pace. We are now engaged in consolidating the different sections to increase their efficiency and usefulness.

Anticipating the need for qualified workers in Public Welfare, we organised a new Division of Specialisation in this field in January this year under the guidance of Dr. B. H. Metha of the Faculty. Though the Governments, both at the Centre and in the States, are interested in having departments of Public Welfare Administration, they have not been able to do so owing to financial stringency. We, therefore, took a cautious step in this direction by allowing specialisation in Public Welfare Administration with particular emphasis on Labour Welfare or Child Welfare. With the appointment of Mr. N. F. Kaikobad, B. A., Dip. S. S. A., M. S. W. (Pittsburgh) as a full-time member of the Faculty in January, this Division has the advantage of having the services of a young specialist in Social Group Work and Community Organisation.

A graduate of the Bombay University, Mr. Kaikobad was a student of the Institute in the years 1942-'44 and took the Diploma in Social Service Administration. Between 1944 and 1946 he worked as a Superintendent of Social Work with the Zoroastrian Welfare Association. Mr. Kaikobad went to the United States in 1946 for advanced training in social work techniques. He

studied at the Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Pittsburgh in the U. S. A. till 1948 and specialised in Social Group Work. In 1949, he joined the Institute as a part-time lecturer and was appointed a full time member of the Faculty on January 1, 1950.

Since the subject of Public Welfare is new, arrangements had to be made for adequate field work experience which forms an important part of training. With this object in view, Dr. Mehta has been busy with socio-economic survey of the Worli area as a preliminary step towards organising a Community Centre in this locality to provide field work facilities. Our plan envisages a systematic co-ordination of existing welfare agencies in Worli, and the students have been doing intensive spade work in that area. Realising the importance of this undertaking, we transferred Mrs. Indira Renu, till last year Psychiatric Social Worker in the Child Guidance Clinic, to this Centre as Community Organiser to assist Dr. Metha in his programme of work. As social welfare activities of the St. Georges Hospital were discontinued for lack of finances, Miss D. M. Taraporevala of the Field Work Section, who was supervising this work, is also helping in the Worli Community Welfare project. We feel sure that this experiment will yield fruitful results in the near future and will perhaps serve as an incentive to other similar developments in the sphere of Public Welfare in other parts of the country.

Dr. M. V. Moorthy's report on the Squatters' Survey undertaken on behalf of the Bombay Municipality in May 1949, has now been published by them. I am glad to state

that this year we undertook another social research project, a shopping survey of selected areas in Greater Bombay, on behalf of the Bombay Municipality. Dr. A. M. Lorenzo, under whose supervision the survey was conducted, has submitted his report on his findings to the sponsoring agency. It is hoped that the report will prove helpful in the implementation of the Master Plan of Greater Bombay. The inquiry into the social and economic aspects of drinking in urban Bombay which was undertaken in December 1948, is nearing completion and Dr. Lorenzo is expected to submit his report on this survey in the near future.

Although it was announced in my last report that the training programme in Applied Anthropology and Tribal Welfare would be inaugurated in July 1950, I regret to say, it had to be abandoned owing to the inability of Dr. D. N. Majumdar of the Lucknow University to join the Institute.

However, we are fortunate in securing the services of Dr. P. H. Prabhu, B. A. (Hons.), LL. B., as Reader in Applied Psychology and Social Research. Dr. Prabhu was formerly in the Bombay Educational Service as Lecturer and for some time officiating University Lecturer in Sociology, Bombay University. In 1948, the Bombay Government awarded him Government Overseas Scholarship and sent him for further studies in modern methods of teaching and research in Psychology. Dr. Prabhu toured the U. S. A. and the Continent for two years and made an observation study of latest developments in the methodology of sociological and psychological researches in American and Continental Universities. While in the U. S. A. he was appointed visiting scholar in the Psychology Departments of Columbia and Pennsylvania Universities and an Honorary Fellow of the Minnesota and Ohio State Universities. Dr. Prabhu is the author of

"Hindu Social Institutions—Their Psychological Implications" and has also published ten papers and monographs on allied subjects. The appointment of Dr. Prabhu, we feel confident, will strengthen the Industrial Relations Division as well as the Bureau of Research and Publications. It is our ambition to build up gradually the Bureau of Social Research and undertake more and more research studies pertaining to our social problems.

It was reported last year that we were negotiating, in co-operation with the U. N. and the Government of India, for securing the services of a technical expert from the U. S. to organise a training programme in Criminology and Correctional Administration. We now learn that the well-known Criminologist Dr. Walter C. Reckless of the Ohio State University will arrive in India in October 1951 when we hope to start this new Division.

Speaking about the Faculty, I am proud to mention that though they are small in number, they have been connected in one capacity or another with the work of as many as the following ten Universities: Allahabad, Andhra, Baroda, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Gauhati, Mysore, Patna and Poona, which is an excellent testimony to their academic attainments and professional standards. Members of the staff are also deputed to participate in conferences dealing with different aspects of social work. By the end of this year, the Institute would have taken part in at least six National and Provincial Conferences: (1) The All India Penological Conference, Lucknow, (2) Conference of Experts on Physically Handicapped Children, Jamshedpur, (3) Indian Conference of Social Work, Jamshedpur, (4) Bombay Province Physical Education Conference, Ahmedabad, (5) All India Moral and Social Hygiene Conference, Delhi and

(6) The All India Medical Conference, Sholapur.

In the All India Medical Conference, a section has been assigned this year for the theme of hospital social service, and Dr. Miss G. R. Banerjee will be deputed to read a paper on this subject. She read an instructive paper on "Social Worker in the Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign" at the Sixth Tuberculosis Workers' Conference, held in Calcutta in December 1948, as a result of which the Governments of India and Bombay have now decided to depute candidates to the Institute for specialising in social work in Tuberculosis setting. We have no doubt that the ensuing Medical Conference will achieve greater results in this direction.. In this connection, I may mention that hospital social service is gradually developing in Bombay and recently new posts of Hospital Social Worker were created in two major hospitals in the city. All the students who underwent training in this special branch last year have now been well employed. We hope we shall be able to help in the organisation of social service departments in leading hospitals in India by sending out a larger number of well qualified hospital social workers in the years to come. Thus we are striving to bring about greater understanding in the medical profession of the importance of social and emotional factors influencing an illness situation and also of the need of a joint socio-medical diagnosis in the treatment of human ailments.

Apart from participating in such conferences, the Faculty also make their expert services available in an advisory capacity to various social service agencies and governmental as well as non-governmental committees. The Division of Industrial Relations and Personnel Management, with Dr. M. V. Moorthy in charge, has been reinforced with the addition of Dr. Prabhu and the

Institute is now in a position to offer consultant service to industrial organisations in matters of research and labour-management relations. I may also mention that Drs. Prabhu and Mrs. Kamala Bhoota of the Faculty are members of the Local Advisory Committee for the Study of Group Tensions, undertaken by the Government of India with Dr. Gardner Murphy of City College, New York, as UNESCO consultant. At the request of Dr. Murphy, Dr. Prabhu prepared a manual of instructions for the benefit of interviewers engaged in this research work.

A new development which I am particularly pleased to report is the organisation of a Family Welfare Agency in Bombay this year. It was some months ago that a few enthusiastic professional social workers of the Indian Conference of Social Work met to discuss a scheme of starting a Family Welfare Agency in Bombay, drawn up by Dr. Banerjee. It was felt that in a big city like ours, where family problems are acute and complicated due to various reasons, social scientists should tackle the problem of family living, considering family life as the cornerstone of a good society. A Committee was set up to take the necessary steps in this direction. With the financial help of the N. M. Wadia Charities, the American Woman's Club and a munificent donation of Rs. 3,000/-, sanctioned by the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, the Agency was brought into being on the 1st May 1950, and Miss Usha Rani Kanal, a graduate of the Institute, was appointed Family Case Worker. Lady Jehangir and Dr. K. S. Mhaskar of the Bombay Mothers' and Children's Welfare Society, kindly agreed to allow the Agency to have its office at their Society's premises at Delisle Road, Bombay. In addition to being an Honorary Hospital Supervisor of three Government Hospitals and one private hospital in the city, Dr. Miss

Banerjee serves as technical adviser to the Family Welfare Agency, the only pioneer organisation counselling the public on family matters. It is common knowledge that a number of problems concerning family life, if tackled at the proper time and in the right way, naturally obviate their offshoots such as juvenile delinquency, alcoholism and prostitution. This Centre, we hope, will become a valuable field work agency for our students specialising in Family and Child Welfare, thus affording facilities for practical training in this field on scientific lines.

A notable event of the year was the visit of the Chief Minister, Shri B. G. Kher to the Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital for Children where we have been conducting a special school for bedridden children since February 1949 under the supervision of Dr. Mrs. Bhoota. The Chief Minister, on his second visit to the Hospital on the 24th March 1950, was satisfied with the progress made under this novel scheme and was impressed by the spirit of joy and cheerfulness which prevailed among the children. Another notable event was Shri Jawaharlal Nehru's visit on Monday, the 6th November 1950, to this Hospital and to the School. It will interest you to know that those children who were better in health put up a short variety entertainment programme before the distinguished gathering present on the occasion. When I invited the Prime Minister to visit the School, he not only readily agreed to do so but also gave me a cheque for Rs. 250/- to buy toys and playthings for the bedridden children. Careful selection of these gifts from the Prime Minister was made, and they were distributed to the children before his visit. I am pleased to mention that Mr. P. B. Godrej, Managing Director of Messrs. Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co. Ltd., kindly donated a steel cupboard to the School, for which we are thankful to him. Let me express our warmest thanks to the Prime

Minister for his kind donation and for his kindly visit to the ailing children who were much enlivened by his visit. We also owe our debt to you, Rajkumariji, for your visit to the Hospital yesterday which was a source of joy and encouragement to the ailing children.

While dealing with our work among children, I should like to refer to the Child Guidance Clinic of the Institute. Some time ago, it was keenly felt that the Clinic, which we maintain as a social service agency for the public and a laboratory for students to study and practise case work techniques, should be reorganised with a view to establishing modern standards and enhancing its usefulness. Accordingly, Dr. Miss Banerjee took over charge of the Clinic in July this year with Dr. Mrs. Bhoota as the Psychologist and Dr. J. C. Marfatia as the Psychiatrist. Since its reorganisation, it is gratifying to report that the Clinic is showing better results with a marked increase in its case load and we are hopeful that the clinic will render much better service to children with behaviour disorders and give valuable guidance to their parents. This Psychiatric Social Work of the Clinic is now being carried on by our students as part of their practical training in case work.

As it was done last year, this year too we arranged a course of lectures, entitled *Medical Information* for our new students, with the co-operation of specialists in the fields of Children's ailments, eye and its diseases, ear, nose and throat, elements of Anatomy and Physiology, Leprosy, V. D., T. B. and Cancer. I wish to convey our deep sense of gratitude to the following doctors who participated in this programme: R. N. Cooper, S. N. Cooper, Arthur DeSa, Mrs. B. M. Dubash, N. Figueredo, Socrates Noronha, Bhasker Patel and J. C. Paymaster.

Dr. M. N. Rao of the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta, also gave a course of lectures on *Industrial Hygiene* to our students specialising in Industrial Relations and Personnel Management. In addition, Mr. B. D. Chirputkar, Industrial Relations Officer, Ford Motor Co. (India) Ltd., Bombay, one of our honorary visiting lecturers, gave a course of lectures on Industrial Relations and Labour Legislation to the same class. Miss M. J. Kutar, one of our alumni, who underwent special training in the U. K. and the U. S. A. in 1949 and who is now on the staff of the School for Training of Children in Need of Special Care, gave two lectures to our students on "*The Mentally Deficient Child*".

Apart from these honorary visiting lecturers, we are often privileged to hear distinguished scholars visiting the Institute. In September, Dr. Gardner Murphy, whom I have mentioned earlier in this report, was amongst us and addressed the Faculty and the students on the *Problem of Social Integration*. Among other lecture programmes was a course of four lectures on *The Family* by Dr. Mrs. Winifred Bryce of the Indore Christian College. We also had the privilege of hearing Dr. Miss F. P. Kittrell of the Howard University, U. S. A., now Visiting Professor in the Home Economics Department of the Baroda University. She is the first to be selected as Visiting Professor to India under the Fullbright Scheme. Dr. Kittrell is a Negro lady coming from a Negro University which is now rapidly becoming cosmopolitan. We were pleased to have in our midst Mr. W. Harris, who was until recently Head of the Education Department of the U. N. Mr. Svend Pederson and Mr. Sven Grabe, of the I. L. O. addressed our students, specialising in Labour, who were also privileged to hear Mr. F. S. Chothia on the subject of Vocational Guidance. Shri

J. C. Kumarappa, President of the All-India Village Industries Association, delivered a series of four stimulating lectures on Gandhian Economy. All these lectures were much enjoyed by our students.

Among other noted persons who visited the Institute in the course of the year may be mentioned Shri Lal Ranjit Singh Bariha, Minister for Rural and Tribal Welfare, Government of Orissa, Shri Jwaleswar Prasad, Central Labour Commissioner, Government of India, Col. S. L. Bhatia, then Surgeon General with the Madras Government and Mr. Roger F. Evans of the Rockefeller Foundation, U. S. A.

This year we also arranged at the Institute shows of some interesting films relating to social work, with the cooperation of the British Information Services, Bombay, for which our thanks are due to the authorities of the British Information Services.

The Bureau of Research and Publications brought out a Special Number of the *Indian Journal of Social Work* giving the proceedings of the Third Session of the Indian Conference of Social Work held in Delhi in December last. A pamphlet prepared by Dr. Banerjee for Doctors outlining the nature and functions of Hospital Social Service Department, is in the Press and will be out shortly.

It was mentioned in my last year's Report that the 1947-49 class donated the Guinea Pig Trophy to the Institute, to be awarded annually to the best student debater. The first debate for the award of the Trophy was held on the 6th October 1950, and I am happy to announce that Mr. S. G. Tungare of the Preprofessional Class was judged to be the best debater of the year. The Trophy will be presented to him this evening.

With reference to admissions to the Institute, I am glad to report that we continue to draw a large number of students from different parts of India as well as neighbouring countries. This year we considered 133 applicants of whom only 31 were admitted. The state-wise distribution of applications received and admissions made is given below:—

States	Applications Received	Admissions made
Assam	3	Nil
Bengal	3	„
Bihar	6	„
Bombay	24	11
Ceylon	Nil	Nil
Delhi	2	„
Hyderabad	6	2
Kashmir	Nil	Nil
Madhya Bharat	1	1
Madhya Pradesh	4	2
Madras	20	1
Mysore	4	2
Orissa	3	1
Punjab	12	1
Rajasthan	3	1
Saurashtra	6	2
Travancore & Cochin	17	2
Uttar Pradesh	15	4
Vindhya Pradesh	1	1
Other Areas	Nil	3
Total	133	31

At present we have 16 scholars either deputed by different State Governments or financed by private agencies for training at the Institute, shown as under:

Class	Men	Women
Professional	5	1
Basic	3	Nil
Specialisation	6	1
Total:	14	2

Out of the total 84 students on the roll this term, 26 members of the Senior class will be awarded the Diploma in Social Service Administration this evening, of whom 11 have specialised in Industrial Relations and Personnel Management, 2 in Family and Child Welfare and 13 in Public Welfare Administration. As there is a great need for

a trained and qualified band of workers in different spheres of social work, we hope that those who graduate today will not find it difficult to secure suitable placements. It is hardly necessary for me to mention that the Institute continues to do its best to recommend its alumni for responsible positions whenever requests are made, and also to direct students to suitable jobs wherever available. In this connection, I may mention that most of the students who graduated in December last, have been well placed and three of them have gone abroad for advanced study. Miss R. Thangavelu of the last batch participated in the enquiry into the travel conditions of Deck Passengers conducted by the Deck Passengers' Committee appointed by the Government of India.

Some years ago, a suggestion was made that a Fund should be formed known as Alumni Loan Fund. But unfortunately this did not materialise till now for want of initiative and effort. It was only a few weeks ago that our students expressed a desire to organise a variety entertainment programme in aid of the Assam Earthquake Relief Fund and the Student Aid Fund. Accordingly, preparations were made and I am glad to state that this programme was staged on the 6th November 1950 at St. Xavier's College Hall in the presence of a large gathering. Out of the total net collection of Rs. 3,036 a sum of Rs. 1,518 was donated towards the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, earmarked for the Assam Earthquake Relief Fund, the balance being utilised towards the Student Aid Fund. This is the first time that our students went to the public for financial help for two worthy causes and they deserve our warmest congratulations on their achievement. Our thanks are due to all those who contributed generously towards the two Funds and helped to make the function a success.

It is with a deep sense of sorrow that I mention here the death of Miss P. F. Ginwalla, an alumna of the Institute, who passed away after a prolonged illness patiently borne. We convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Referring to our alumni, I am glad to report that Mr. B. Chatterjee represented the Indian Conference of Social Work at the International Conference of Social work, held in Paris in July last. It is gratifying to mention that five of our alumni were awarded the U. N. Social Welfare Fellowships this year, which brings the total number of the alumni, who have gone abroad for advanced study on Scholarships and on U. N. Observation Fellowships in different fields of social work, to thirty-four.

As it was reported last year, plans for buildings for the Institute were duly completed and work was to start at Worli, when it was felt that our permanent habitation should be in a semi-urban area where more adequate land could be acquired to meet our growing demands and changing needs. Accordingly, a proposal was put up for building structures on a small colony basis, thus affording healthy, natural and open air life, promoting personal contact and developing community life between our students and staff. This programme was discussed in detail and was finally approved. Difficulties, however, were experienced in selecting a suitable site and it was only after persistent efforts for locating an appropriate area that we succeeded in finding one near Chembur. I am now glad to report that the site has been finally approved by the Governing Board and the Trustees and the work of preparing suitable building plans and other formalities will be gone through to expedite the building programme to make up for the loss of six months or so on account of the change in our policy.

As professional schools of social work are being established, the question of standardisation of courses and uniformity in training programme has been receiving serious consideration. In September, the Ministry of Education, Government of India convened a meeting of the Inter-departmental Committee to discuss this matter and other related issues such as duration of courses, subject contents, recognition of degrees and diplomas for employment. The Social Welfare Advisory Board also met to consider the recommendations of the Committee, and the Director of this Institute was asked to submit a report to the Government of India on this subject. In the light of this development, the Governing Board of the Institute has now decided to reduce the present two and a half year course to a two year course in order to be in line with other schools of social work in the country. But the question of providing a third year course in our Institute for the training of candidates for teaching posts in schools of social work as well as of specialists to fill more responsible positions in different fields of social work, is under consideration.

This year, there have been two changes on the Governing Board of the Institute. Mr. D. R. D. Tata is now the second representative of the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust. The Government of India's nominee on the Board is at present Mr. Ashfaq Husain, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Education, in place of Dr. R. M. Haider, Asstt. Educational Adviser, Minister of Education. While we are happy to welcome these new members, we wish to record our warm sense of appreciation of the keen interest which Dr. Haider took in our work during his term of advisory service to the Institute.

Let me take this opportunity to thank all those individuals, institutions and Governments who have extended their valued

assistance and helped us to carry on our increasing burden with success. And now before I close this Report, I wish to thank the Trustees, the Chairman as well as the Members of the Governing Board for their constant encouragement and counsel; also the Faculty and the Staff for their kind co-

operation in my ever-growing duties as Director. Under the beneficent influence of all the well-wishers of the Institute, I have no doubt we shall ever be of service to the country by sending out batches of well trained social workers to help the needy and the maladjusted to help themselves.

TENTH CONVOCATION

WELCOME SPEECH BY DR. JOHN MATTHAI

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Dr. Kumarappa,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like at the outset to say on behalf of the Trustees of the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust that it is a matter of gratification to us that the Institute of Social Sciences is showing such steady progress from year to year. A report of the kind which the Director has read to us enables us to make only a quantitative measurement of the progress achieved by the Institute; but from such personal knowledge as I have, I believe that the Institute has made good progress also in other directions. I remember visiting the Institute four years ago before I left Bombay for Delhi and recently, since my return to Bombay, I have had an opportunity of seeing the Institute at work again and I noticed a perceptible difference. It is beginning to show a life and spirit of its own and this, in the case of an educational institution, is a factor of great importance.

I believe the Institute is fulfilling a real need in the country. The problems with which it deals had not perhaps assumed their present importance and magnitude when it was founded fifteen years ago. It is a tribute to the pioneering tradition of the House of Tata that they recognised the need for an institution of this kind long before others. The pioneering work done by the House of Tata in the field of basic industries

is now universally acknowledged, but its pioneering service in other fields which are ancillary to the establishment of basic industries, has yet to find the recognition it deserves. The Institute of Science at Bangalore, for instance, was founded nearly forty years ago at a time when conditions were hardly propitious. It has since passed through many vicissitudes, but it has now stabilised itself and has been in many respects an inspiration and focussing point for the growing structure of scientific research in the country. The founding of the Institute of Social Sciences belongs to the same category of pioneer undertakings, and already, following its example, other schools of the same kind are springing up in different parts of the country.

The purpose of the Institute is to provide scientific training for social workers. The need for social service arises from the fact that in economics, politics and public administration, organization on a large scale has been found increasingly necessary during the past hundred years. A well-disciplined organization is a great help in the accomplishment of many objects which are vital to a modern community. Particularly in a country like India which is passing through a period of transition from a rural stage of development, organization on a large scale in various fields of national activity is essen-

tial if the country is to progress in the manner we all desire.

It is, however, not generally realised that in this process of organization, a stage is often reached when a conflict arises between the need for organization and the need for providing freedom of expression for the personality of the individual human being. The fact that a human being has a personality, with will and with thoughts and emotions of his own, makes the problem of handling him very different from handling the component units of a machine. Experience has shown that wherever human activities are organized on a large scale, it is necessary that there should be room for the human touch in the sense of personal relationship among the elements which make up the organization. It is here that social service assumes importance.

A great deal of valuable work in the field of social service has been done in India during the past fifty years, but much of it has assumed the character of unfocussed and ill-informed philanthropy. The object of the Institute of Social Sciences is to provide a scientific basis for social service which will give it better direction and render it more effective. Such scientific basis implies knowledge on the one hand of the environment in which the individual works and, on the other hand, of the psychology of the indivi-

dual himself, that is, of the manner in which he behaves in a given set of circumstances and reacts to a given situation. The study of psychology has made great progress in recent years. It is this which, in the main, has made it possible to invest social service with a real scientific character. Scientific training in social service will prevent a great deal of the waste of energy and good-will which marks much of the work now being done in this field. We are, in India, at the beginning of our problems and the fact that a start has already been made in imparting scientific training to social workers will be of immense assistance in the coming years.

I am glad we have with us today Rajkumari Amrit Kaur who, as Minister of Health in the Union Government, is directly concerned with many of the problems which the Institute is engaged in studying. We shall appreciate her counsel and advice on these problems. She is here not merely as a Minister but as one who has spent many years in active social service in which, for some time, she had the great privilege of working in contact with and under the inspiration of Mahatma Gandhi. We welcome her also as an outstanding leader of the women's movement in this country because this is a field of work in which women must necessarily play a larger and more decisive part. I have much pleasure in asking Rajkumari Amrit Kaur to speak to us.

TENTH CONVOCATION

ADDRESS BY RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR

Dr. Matthai, Dr. Kumarappa, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am indeed grateful for the opportunity afforded to me of visiting after a lapse of some years this pioneer Institution and of joining with you in your annual rejoicing. The Tata family has been one of those

families who have made themselves known all over India, indeed all over the world, for their contribution not only in the field of industry but also in the wider field of humanitarian endeavour. Among the many institutions for human welfare that have been founded by them the Tata Institute of

Social Sciences must take a very high place. It was apparent to all that India needed social service but it was indeed a clear vision that foresaw the need for organising social work in a scientific manner.

In a country where there had been an awakening after an age-long sleep, it was perhaps only natural that social reformers should spring up and inspire others to work for that reform which a cramped and custom-ridden society had to undergo if the country were to progress. Philanthropy came into the picture as it always does and many voluntary societies undertook work with incomparable zeal and devotion. But as so often happens with voluntary endeavour, especially when it is pioneer, work is often organised in a haphazard and unscientific manner and this has happened and continues to happen even today in our country.

India, as I have often said before, is a dry and thirsty land panting for the cooling and refreshing waters of devoted service. For this service we need qualified personnel. As in all progress in every sphere in the past few centuries it has been the West that has pioneered, so also it is they who have stressed the necessity for the introduction of high standards of training for social workers. Indeed, in a scientific age, social service has been recognised as a science. Applied Sociology, Psychiatry, Applied Economics, Applied Psychology, Case Work, Group Work, Public Welfare Administration, Criminology, Correctional Administration are terms familiar to all students of social science. Study and practical research in these subjects have developed in an amazing manner and are daily adding to the knowledge of techniques and specialisation which help to create new fields of human learning. It is a recognised fact that in no field of work can there be progress without due attention being

paid to the human entity. It is obvious, therefore, that in a country which is preeminently in need of social service, every endeavour must be made to create the personnel that will fulfil that need. We must accept the scientific approach which is at all times the practical and creative approach and which will enable us to serve in a special manner our special needs. It is for this reason that all lovers of Indian well-being must rejoice that we have an Institution of high standing in this great city of ours and that both Baroda and Delhi Universities have recently sponsored similar institutions within their jurisdiction.

We have had the good fortune to have produced during the last century social reformers of a high order and there have been and still are in our country many men and women, both known and unknown, who have sacrificed their all in the cause of social service. But ours is an immense task and workers are few. There is therefore at all times a need to coordinate all our resources both financial and administrative as also of leadership, so that none may be wasted. It is immensely important for us to raise the social and economic status of the social workers. This is particularly necessary in the difficult situation in which we today find ourselves. Time was when volunteer effort was forthcoming without much difficulty. Volunteers were drawn from the ranks of the well-to-do educated classes. But now those who were well-to-do are no longer affluent enough to provide for themselves the necessary resources. Again, those who are willing to serve often do not know how or where to find an outlet for the satisfaction of their urge. Time and again too the capacity to serve adequately is absent because of the lack of training. Governments too are, owing to financial stringency, in the unhappy position of being unable to absorb all the material at their disposal,

Nevertheless difficulties are there to be surmounted. If we acknowledge the need for social workers, we acknowledge also the need for training them. The workers trained in this and similar institutions are, it must be remembered, persons of post-graduate qualifications. They have had a specialised training. They are builders of society, men and women who are well equipped to weave a new pattern of society. As such they are not one whit less important than the teacher, the doctor, the nurse, the administrator or those who go into the Police or the Armed Forces. Their field of work, though specialised, is extremely varied. They work in labour areas, they work for family and child welfare, in schools, in hospitals, in camps, in fact they are there to lend a helping hand in times of distress and to show people how to live in normal times. They fulfil a definite need even in the most socially advanced countries in the world and, as such they should be given the economic security and status that is their due. I have seen for myself during the three years that I have had the privilege of serving the country in the cause of health what a very important part the social worker can play in the hospital, in the sanatorium, in colonies and in health propaganda in the villages. Their help is invaluable both on the preventive and curative side. And I know that this will apply equally in the cause of education, of labour welfare, of maintaining discipline and high standards of public and private morality if we have the right type of workers available. I feel, therefore, that there is a need for a change of outlook on the part of the State towards the social workers. Social work must be a recognised profession and the welfare and employment of social workers should become increasingly a national responsibility. Facilities should be forthcoming in independent India for the growth of this vital profession, Those who are trained

should be registered and I believe that an army of good social workers will stand the country in good stead at all times and be the finest weapon of defence against all outside attack as well as internal disorder. The Ministries of Labour, Education and Health are preeminently Ministries of Social Service. There should be ample room within their aegis for the development of social service through persons trained in the social sciences. The governing bodies of social service agencies should also offer the fullest cooperation and freedom for action to trained social workers. Indeed they must employ them in order to place their work on an orderly basis. I often feel that the money at the disposal of voluntary social service agencies would be far better spent on work in however small an area than on Conferences and Committees and office work. Most of us know what should be done. To find personnel to do it is the problem—a problem which must be tackled forthwith.

Fifteen years is but a brief moment in the life of a country and yet in these few years this Institute has sent out nine batches of graduates, many of whom are now holding responsible posts in their specialised fields. The batch that is going out into service this year will add a few more drops to the stream that will, I sincerely hope, continue to flow unceasingly from here. Yours, young friends, will not be an easy task. Indeed, owing to circumstances beyond our control, life for us all has not been easy ever since we gained our political independence. Our plans for the expansion of our nation-building activities which would undoubtedly have absorbed men and women of your equipment have had to be put almost in cold storage, as it were and I can enter heart and soul into the frustration caused in the minds of our youth who are willing to serve and yet are unable to find employment. But you and I and all of us have to

keep the urge to serve burning brightly within us and believe that it is a long lane that has no turning. In the meantime we must turn our hand to whatever task lies nearest to us. Political independence means nothing if it does not bring to each one of us the realisation that we have now to shoulder added responsibilities. To make or mar the future lies in our hands and particularly in the hands of youth. The sands in the hour glass are running out for many of us who worked for India's independence. We had the priceless privilege of being led by a man of outstanding genius and dynamic goodness. You are the proud possessors of a rich heritage to which this great son of India added unparalleled lustre. He was the ideal social worker. However immersed in political work he never forgot the cry of the hungry, the sick, the labourer or the oppressed. Indeed the independence he craved for India was in order to bring relief to suffering humanity and not only the suffering humanity of this land of ours but of the world—for the world is very sick today. For him the constructive programme was life blood of the Congress and I would like all of you to make that constructive programme of Gandhiji, written, I so well remember in about six hours on a train journey, your charter. He believed and he was right, that those who rendered devoted service to the rural population in particular were the real builders of India, far more important from the point of view of bringing in the Kingdom of God on earth than those who were in seats of power or authority. When we cast our eye towards the vast needs of our country, the task of the social worker is indeed an unexplored area. What can we do for educating the masses, not only teaching them to read and write but the real art of how to live? What can we do to protect them from exploitation, from disease, from internal feuds, from harmful customs? What

can we do for the delinquent and the defective child or for children as a whole for are not our children our greatest wealth if properly nurtured? What can we do for the beggar, the crippled, the maimed, and the blind? What can we do for the leper or for the sufferer from T. B. who cannot return to full time work? What can we do to rescue the criminal from his crime, the drunkard from the evils of intoxication, and what solace can we give to those in mental distress? What can we do to instil a sense of true citizenship in our people? What can we do to encourage the spirit of cooperative endeavour? What can we do to set and demand high standards of integrity in both private and public life? All this has got to be done and done efficiently. Laws can only take us up to a point. It is the realisation within us of what is good that alone can save.

You, young friends, have attained specialised knowledge. I have said that a scientific approach to problems is a correct and practical approach. Nevertheless no amount of scientific knowledge will be of avail to the social worker who does not have in him an unbounded love for and faith in humanity. Whether you teach people how to live, whether you minister to their needs in any sphere, you will always have to lay yourselves out to understand their difficulties, their limitations. Only by putting yourselves in their position, only by living with them will you be able to give them the right lead and draw them to you. India calls and it is in village India that social workers must find their true calling. On you who have had the advantage of a postgraduate training will rest the responsibility of training others and training them in the practical field. There are few graduates but there are countless young men and women willing to graduate in the school of service if only they can receive help and guidance. It is for Insti-

tutes like this and those of you who have graduated here to draw up courses of training for the less highly educated but nevertheless eager young souls whose energies may not be allowed to run waste but must be harnessed for the good of humanity.

I wish this Institute many years of expanded and increasingly useful activity and

all the new graduates have my special prayers that you may find the richness and beauty of life in your labour of love, that yours may be a vocation and not a profession and that you may be enabled to carry the torch of light and love and hope to the many millions of *our* land who are in darkness and in suffering. God bless you. Jai Hind.

NEW TECHNIQUE TO DETECT STOMACH CANCER.

A new technique that uses a rubber balloon to help detect stomach cancer in its early stages has been developed in the United States. It is said to be more effective than the present detection method in which the stomach contents are removed by suction and examined.

The new technique enables doctors to collect cells from the stomach before they are destroyed by digestive juice or carried off into the intestines, according to a report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. A small deflated rubber balloon covered with short pieces of braided silk is attached to a tube and swallowed by the patient. After the balloon is inflated, digestive movements cause some of the cells lining the stomach to be rubbed off by the gentle brushing action of the braided silk. Continuous suction through the tube removes the accumulation of gastric juices. After the

balloon is deflated and withdrawn, cells are removed by washing the balloon in a saline solution. A laboratory examination then determines their type.

Of 33 patients who were given the balloon test, 17 had malignant lesions. Stomach cells were collected from these 17 patients by the current suction method. In only four specimens were malignant cells present, and these were scarce and poorly preserved.

Cancer of the stomach is a leading type of the cancer disease, says Dr. George N. Papanicolaou, one of the three New York City doctors who developed the new detection technique. Noting that the tests were conducted on a relatively few patients who already were suspected of having cancer, he warns that the balloon test should be tried on many more persons before it can be accepted as a completely sure method of detecting stomach cancer in its early stages.

STUDY OF UTILISATION OF OLDER MANPOWER IN U.S.

The United States faces a future in which an increasing proportion of the population will be in the older age groups. A fundamental question which the nation must answer, therefore, is: how are the increasing numbers of older people to be provided with financial support? One answer which is currently attracting a great deal of attention

is to provide these older people with pension, both private and public.

But many of the men and women who reach 65 today are not "old" in the traditional sense of the word; many have skills and experience which would allow them to make valuable contributions to production were they allowed to do so.

Utilizing these older persons in productive employment would seem to be a more fruitful answer to the problem of support than pensions and arbitrary retirement. Work that older people can do will have to be found, work in which they can be both productive and self supporting.

A logical first step in answering the many complex problems involved in utilizing large numbers of older persons would seem to be an investigation of the extent to which older persons *are* being utilized at the present time and the ways in which they are employed. The study summarized here is such a first step. It describes findings in a single city—Minneapolis.

Its Objectives.—To what extent do employees who are still able to handle their usual jobs at 65 continue in their employment with Minneapolis firms beyond that age? To what extent do employees who can no longer handle their usual jobs at 65 continue in their employment with Minneapolis firms beyond that age? What methods have been devised by Minneapolis firms to utilize the services of older employees who can no longer handle their usual jobs?

Method.—During March and April, 1950, 168 Minneapolis firms were contacted, 98 by interviews with Industrial Relations Center staff members, 70 by mailed questionnaires. Only firms with 50 or more employees were chosen for study. The list from which the firms were chosen included 85-90% of all Minneapolis firms with 100 or more employees, but only 50% of firms employing less than 100. Because of these sampling limitations, caution should be used in applying the findings of the study to all of Minneapolis industry.

The Sample.—The 168 firms covered by the survey employ 56,749 people. About twice as many hourly employees as salaried

employees are employed in the sample firms. In terms of employees, the sample is composed largely of hourly rated employees in manufacturing firms with more than 500 employees. In terms of firms, the sample is composed largely of manufacturing firms with less than 500 employees.

Findings: Pension plans.—40% of the firms have pension plans. Pension plans tend to be more prevalent in larger firms. A greater proportion of salaried than hourly employees is covered. 56% of the pension firms have a compulsory retirement policy. Only 3 non-pension firms have a compulsory retirement policy.

Experience with employees reaching 65.—17% of the firms have never had any employee reach 65.

An additional 32% of the firms have never had a *salaried* employee reach 65 although hourly employees have reached 65 in the firm. Salaried people are less likely to reach 65 in employment than hourly rated.

Utilization of employees who reach 65 and are still able to handle their usual job.—Hourly employees are more likely to be kept on past 65 than salaried employees. $\frac{3}{4}$ of the firms keep on most or all hourly employees. $\frac{1}{2}$ of the firms keep on most or all salaried employees. Both hourly and salaried employees are least likely to be kept on after 65 in pension firms and in larger firms. 93% of the *non-pension* firms keep on all or most hourly employees; 87% keep on all or most salaried. 33% of the *pension firms* keep on all or most hourly employees; 26% keep on all or most salaried. 46% of the firms 500 *and over* keep on all or most of the salaried. 73% of the firms *under* 500 keep on all or most hourly: 55% keep on all or most salaried.

The major reason for not keeping on all employees past 65 who can handle their

usual job is a compulsory retirement policy. One other reason given for not keeping on all past 65 is employee desire to retire.

Utilization of employees who reach 65 and can no longer handle their usual job.—27% of the firms reported that they had never had a case of an hourly or salaried employee reaching 65 who could no longer handle his usual job. Hourly employees are more likely to be kept on past 65 than salaried. 1/3 of the firms keep on all or most hourly employees. 1/6 of the firms keep on all or most salaried.

Both hourly and salaried employees are less likely to be kept on in pension firms.

A compulsory retirement policy is the main reason given for not keeping on all.

Other major reasons for not keeping on all: "not enough lower level jobs to which employees can be transferred: utilizing these employees would be "too costly".

Methods of utilizing employees who can no longer handle their usual jobs.—60% of the firms transferred employees to other jobs which they could handle. 40% relieved the employee of some of the normal duties of his job. 20% used both methods.

WHAT GOVERNMENT DOES FOR BEGGARS

Beggary is too complex a problem to be dealt with by individual worker or even institution. Naturally it leads us to the conclusion that such major social problems can only be solved on the State level. Therefore it would be interesting to know the way in which the Government tries to do away with this social evil of begging.

But no treatment can be accorded, before the multifarious causes which drive a man to begging are traced. As a well-known Sanskrit Subhāshit 'Diagnose the malady first and then prescribe the treatment.'

Conclusions.—Employees reaching 65 in a firm and *still able to handle their usual job* have a good chance of continued employment with the firm. $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Minneapolis firms keep on all or most of their hourly employees. $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Minneapolis firms keep on all or most of their salaried employees.

Employees *who can no longer handle their usual jobs* do not fare as well. 1/3 of the firms keep on all or most hourly employees; 1/6 of the firms keep on all or most of the salaried employees.

As the above conclusions indicate, *hourly* employees are kept on after 65 to a greater extent than salaried.

The continued rise of pension plans will endanger the utilization even now existing. Pension plans, especially those with a compulsory retirement clause, are the largest single factor in the non-utilization of persons over 65. There is almost a complete absence of formal planning to utilize older workers. Yet more and more older employees will be needed for either war or peace-time economy. A greater proportion of our population will fall into the older age groups in the future.

The following types of beggars swarm the streets of cities and religious places: — (a) Able bodied men and women. (b) Physically disabled. (fully or partially disabled). (c) Mentally deficient (fully or partially defective), (d) Infirm beggars (Sick), (e) Child beggars.

Religious mendicants although forming a different category do fall in the types given above.

The treatment for these different types of beggars naturally varies. Those who have resorted to begging on account of poverty,

unemployment etc, should be found some work and taught to earn their livelihood by sweat of labour. Mentally deficient and sick persons who on account of their defects are unable to work and earn for themselves must necessarily go to Hospitals where they can be treated. Borderline cases physically inform or need to be treated for their defects and also to be made to work according to their capacity.

Taking these factors into consideration attempts are being made to provide for the establishment of different institutions to cater to the needs of the various types of persons. The Beggars Homes at Visapur and Chembur are meant for able-bodied male and female beggars respectively though for want of special accommodation, beggars other than able-bodied are also kept therein. In the case of able-bodied beggars, probably laziness, unwillingness to work, economic distress, (unemployment) unfavourable family circumstances are the root causes of begging. The remedy lies in making them work and training them in some industry so as to make them fit to earn their own living. Accordingly, various industries such as weaving, carpentry, gardening agriculture, tailoring, chappal making, knitting, etc., have been introduced and a good number of persons are being trained in them. A Beggars Home at Worli in D. D. Chawls has been recently opened for able-bodied male beggars. In the case of Women forsaken by their guardians and who have no protection often take to begging. As soon as they are brought to the Beggars home, careful enquiries are made, and guardians, if any, are contacted; if their position is

satisfactory, the women are released to their care on an undertaking that they do not beg again.

Physically disabled and infirm persons including deaf, mute and dumb, blind and others having contagious diseases such as leprosy are sent to institutions which are equipped with facilities for treating the illness as well as with suitable training programme. Specially established hospital at Pui and the Acworth Leprosy Home in Bombay receive leprosy beggars under the Beggars Act. The Lady Dhunbai Jahangir Home maintains the disabled and infirm persons and provides for light industries such as knitting. The J. J. Dharmashala receives blind beggars where they are taught cane work, knitting and bidi making. Recently the Poona School and Home for the Blind which is equipped with good training facilities for the blind and the David Sasoon Infirm Asylum, Poona are also recognised by Government for receiving and training beggars. Beggars who are certified to be mentally deficient are sent to Mental Hospitals for treatment.

The treatment of child beggars needs special consideration. The disease of adults may possibly end with one generation but as children are makers of the next generation and breed the evil quickly and spread it over a vast area, they require special treatment. The disease has to be nipped in the bud. By suitable treatment, they can be an asset to the Nation. Therefore child beggars should be dealt with under the Bombay Children Act providing for protection, treatment and rehabilitation of children and youthful offenders.

DISCOVERY OF VACCINE AGAINST JAUNDICE.

Faster research to prevent viral hepatitis, also known as infectious jaundice, may now be possible, doctors in the United States report. They have found that a hepatitis virus that infects human beings can be grown in the tissues of fertilized chicken eggs. This discovery, which proved for the first time that these minute organisms could be developed in other than human tissue, opens a new method of experimentation.

Dr. Joseph Stocks, Jr. at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, who directed the research, explains that at least two strains of hepatitis are prevalent in many parts of the world. The first one is present almost entirely in plasma, the liquid portion of the blood, and is transmittable through blood

transfusions. This has presented a problem in Red Cross "blood bank" programs, since no way has been found to detect the disease in seemingly normal persons who donate blood. The second strain is communicated through contaminated drinking water. It is this strain that has been developed in the chicken-egg tissue.

It is hoped that the discovery of this new medium for the virus may make possible the development of an effective vaccine by which persons can be immunized against hepatitis. Vaccines are made by reducing the strength of a virus through successive cultivations in some medium such as animal or plant tissue. Researchers are also working on a skin test to determine whether a person is susceptible to hepatitis or has had the disease.

PROBATION OFFICER'S "IF"

If you can listen, yet be heard,
 Restrain or drive with just a word,
 Find values in what's pathetic,
 Be severe, yet sympathetic,
 Order, counsel, guide, befriend,
 Solve human problems without end,
 You'll then do well indeed, my friend.

If you can meet each daily need,
 With judgment sound and humane creed,
 Be tolerant, with faith in all,
 Yet never for deception fall,
 Deal kindly with each human vice,
 Walk firmly on the thinnest ice,
 Then, friend, your worth exceeds its price.

If daily you the people reach,
 And through each function try to teach
 Public welfare is primary,
 Other problems secondary,
 And that human dereliction
 Often is beyond prediction,
 You deserve benediction.

If facing failure, you stir hope,
 Yet keep success within its scope,
 If heart and mind rule all your acts,
 If you never fail to face the facts,
 Grow roses where before grew weeds,
 Help strength emerge from nurtured seeds,
 Then, friend, you meet probation's needs.

J. M. Master
 U. S. District Court, New York City.

INDIAN CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION—JAMSHEDPUR DECEMBER 1950

The five-day 4th Annual Session of the Indian Conference of Social Work was held in Jamshedpur, Bihar, from Friday, 22nd to Tuesday, 26th December, 1950 under the presidentship of Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta, Minister for Public Works and Housing, Government of Bombay.

After the Conference was inaugurated by Shri Anugrah Narayan Sinha, Minister for Finance, Government of Bihar on Friday, December 22nd, Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta delivered the Presidential Address in which he pointed out, *inter alia*, that the emphasis in social work was shifting from mere avoidance of starvation and prevention of disease to adequate standard of life and living, which, he said, was the most significant development taking place in the field of social work.

Discussing the scope and nature of social work, he said:

We must admit that the important function of social work is to make individuals independent—help the person to help himself. He further pointed out that the main function of social work is to bring to the handicapped person the resources of the community with a view to rehabilitating him.

On the following day, the Conference was addressed by its four Sectional Chairmen,

Dr. R. R. Kaithan, Gandhigram (Rural Reconstruction and Rural Welfare)

Dr. P. V. Cherian (Health Services and Social Welfare)

Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao (The University and National Social Services) and

Dr. K. C. K. E. Raja (Public Welfare)

who discussed their respective themes giving

a concrete and a clear lead to the deliberations of their sections.

Thereupon, the Conference divided itself into four sections which held two meetings each on the subsequent days when seven different memoranda, submitted by eminent workers in their respective fields, were presented to the delegates and observers participating in the work. The memoranda related to the fields of Rural Welfare, Health Education, University Students and Social Work Training, and Public Welfare at National, State and Municipal Levels. Dr. B. H. Mehta of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in his illuminating paper on "Public Welfare" reiterated the plea for the establishment of a Ministry for Public Welfare both at the Centre and in the States and defined the nature and scope of such a Ministry.

After full and fair deliberations for two days, the sections formulated their concrete recommendations for the Plenary Session. Among other things, the Conference recommended training of efficient rural workers and promotion of rural welfare in different directions. The Session also stressed the need for the enforcement of the Employees' State Insurance Act as early as possible and recommended the appointment of National Board of Physical Fitness and Education by the Union Government and corresponding Boards by State Governments. It also stressed the need for Health Education on as wide a scale as possible. The Conference adopted the recommendations of the Section on *University and National Social Services* and noted with satisfaction the growth of schools of social work in India. It emphasised the desirability of adequate opportunities for social work by university students and recommended that universities should take

appropriate steps to give a social work bias in their curriculum. While pleading for the establishment of a Ministry of Social Welfare at National and State Levels, the Conference also suggested machinery for co-ordinating all social welfare activities by the formation of a cabinet sub-committee constituted of the representatives of the existing ministries dealing with different aspects of social welfare. It also recommended strongly that governments, both Central and States, should establish at least one community centre in each case and encourage the establishment of community chests and councils of social welfare agencies on a regional basis to co-ordinate development of social work.

A special feature of the Session was the organisation of a "Posters and Photographs

Exhibition" with a view to harnessing artistic talent in the country for the promotion of social welfare.

About 250 delegates and observers from different parts of the country participated in the work of the Conference and gained interesting experience of the various welfare activities carried on in Jamshedpur by the authorities of Tata Iron & Steel Co., Ltd. Institutional visits were arranged for the guests to different places of interest in the steel town.

At the outset, a condolence resolution expressing a profound sense of sorrow at the sad demise of the Hon'ble Sardar Vallabh-bhai Patel, Deputy Prime Minister of India, was adopted.