

ANNUAL REPORT

SMT. GULESTAN R. B. BILLIMORIA

(Hon. General Secretary, Indian Conference of Social Work)

While presenting the seventh annual report of the Indian Conference of Social Work; I may be permitted to state briefly how the aims and aspirations of the founders of this organisation have shaped during the course of the last few years. It is true that we have been successful in creating a considerable degree of "welfare consciousness" among the administrators and people of India, yet we cannot honestly say that all our efforts and aspirations have been crowned with success. We have yet a long way to go. There is so much activity and vitality in the field of social work in India today, that one is likely to feel the absence of a central guiding force in the country. In several ways, the Indian Conference of Social Work has been the first to co-ordinate the activities of voluntary organisations within the country. Whilst we refrain from passing resolutions at our annual sessions, we have time and again passed one resolution and that related to the establishment of a separate Ministry of Social Welfare. I am, therefore, very glad that the Government of India is considering that proposal seriously. We do hope that a Ministry will be established at the Central level and prepare the ground for the establishment of welfare Departments at the State level as well.

The year under review may not have seen any spectacular achievements, but it has been a year of consolidation of our activities. We have now been able to establish State and District Branches in 14 States and are attempting to set up standards for all these units.

BRANCHES

Four new State Branches of the India

Conference of Social Work came into existence this year—viz., in Andhra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Travancore-Cochin, thus bringing the total number of State Branches to 14. Preliminary work for the establishment of the Punjab State Branch was undertaken recently at Chandigarh by Shrimati Shirin Dastur Patel, our Asstt. Secretary. This session at Lucknow, we hope, will provide an opportunity to our delegates from the Punjab to meet the office-bearers and the staff of the Central Office and other established State Branches to acquaint themselves with the aims and objects as well as the organizational work of the Conference. We soon hope to see the Punjab State Branch coming into existence.

The activities of the Assam Branch have been considerably curtailed owing to the devastating floods that occurred there during the course of this year. The Bihar Branch has proved successful in focussing public opinion on social problems by holding quarterly public meetings and by actively co-operating with other All-India organizations. The Bombay City Branch conducted a regular series of discussions and courses relating to social welfare. Three outstandingly successful symposia were organized by the Delhi Branch on "Self-Help and Community Action", "Labour Welfare—Whose Responsibility?", and "Socially Dependent Children", as well as a Seminar on "The First Five Year Plan". Our Hyderabad State Branch has been as active as ever with organizing flood relief, peace committees, removal of untouchability and a fund-raising campaign for a Radium Institute. The tempo of activities of the Madhya Bharat Branch was slowed down

considerably on account of the temporary transfer of its Hon. Executive Secretary. The Madras State Branch has added yet another feather to its cap by securing Government recognition for its Madras School of Social Work, by starting a Juvenile Service Bureau in Madras City and by organizing a very successful State Conference at Salem. Our branch in Uttar Pradesh has been busy throughout the year with the organizational details of the Lucknow Session. And finally, the West Bengal State Branch has initiated an in-service training course for child welfare workers in the State and also lately organized its annual State Conference at Calcutta.

INDIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT

A detailed questionnaire was circulated to all its National Committees by the International Conference of Social Work, nine months before its seventh session at Toronto (Canada) in June-July 1954. The questionnaire dealt with various aspects of the main theme of the Conference "Self-Help and Co-operative Action". The National Reports, prepared well in advance, were to form the basis of the discussions at the various Commissions appointed for the actual session. Since the Indian Conference of Social Work acts as the National Committee of the International Conference of Social Work in India, we invited the opinions of several social scientists, social workers and administrators on the subject.

SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

The Seventh International Conference of Social Work was held in Toronto (Canada) from June 26 to July 2, 1954. The theme of the Conference was "Promoting Social Welfare through Self-Help and Co-operative Action". Aside of the Plenary Sessions, addressed by outstanding speakers, there

were four specially selected Panels, which discussed four basic questions related to the main theme. In addition, there were various study groups which provided an opportunity for the delegates to come together and exchange experiences and ideas.

The South East Asia Regional Office, International Conference of Social Work, devised a low-cost group travel scheme for Indian delegates to the Toronto Conference. For about Rs. 7,000/- per head, delegates were enabled to have an excellent pre-conference study tour of Canada, to participate in the actual session at Toronto, to take a post-conference study tour of the U.S.A., and finally a tour of Europe. This was all covered within the period of eight weeks. 73 delegates from India participated in the Conference, most of whom took advantage of this scheme. The leader of the Indian delegation was Dr. Anugrah Narayan Sinha, Finance Minister, Government of Bihar and President, Bihar State Branch, ICSW. He was one of the speakers at the Plenary Sessions and delivered a speech on "Leadership Training in Self-Help Programmes", which was much appreciated. The Indian delegation represented a fairly good cross-section of Indian social welfare, including as it did trained social workers and scientists, government officials, State Ministers, representatives of leading industrial firms and voluntary welfare workers. Shri S. K. Dey, I.C.S., Development Commissioner, West Bengal, was the Chairman of a Panel discussion on "How to Meet the Threats to Self-Help" while Shrimati Saudamini Mehta, Miss Hersey and myself acted as Chairmen of three study groups.

With the kind and prompt help of the Government of India, the State Governments and various voluntary agencies, it became possible for us to project a first-class Social

Welfare Exhibition as well as some excellent Indian films at the Toronto Conference.

THE FORD FOUNDATION AND THE ICSW

Another noteworthy event this year has been the unqualified support and co-operation given to us by the Ford Foundation. We felt that there were very able men and women in the field of social welfare in India who could make a distinct contribution to the Seventh International Conference of Social Work at Toronto, but could not attend it at their own expense. We, therefore, approached the Ford Foundation who readily acceded to our request. Thus it was that five Indian delegates were specially selected by the ICSW and the Foundation to represent India at the Conference and thereafter to undertake an eight week's lecture-cum-study tour of various countries before returning home. The delegates so chosen were:—

1. Shri S. K. Dey, I.C.S., Development Commissioner, Government of West Bengal, Calcutta.
2. Shri S. C. Dutta, Assoc. Secretary, Indian Adult Education Association and Hon. Gen. Secretary, Delhi Branch ICSW.
3. Smt. Jaishree Raiji, M.P., Bombay.
4. Smt. Vimlabai Deshmukh, All India Food Council, New Delhi.
5. Kumari P. Vakharia, Dean, Faculty of Social Work, M. S. University, Baroda.

Shri S. K. Dey's contribution to the Conference was particularly outstanding. His tour included the U.S.A., Puerto Rico, Mexico, Hawaii and Japan. This itinerary was drawn up for him as he wished to discuss and study the following:—

- (a) Basic conditions determining the progress of industrially backward and heavily populated regions.

- (b) Administrative techniques demanded in planning and executing projects of development embracing entire local areas and communities—e.g., the Tennessee Valley Authority in the U.S.A. and the Planning Board in the Puerto Rican Commonwealth.
- (c) Organization, accomplishments and current problems of extension work among rural communities.
- (d) Financing and execution of schemes for slum clearance and improved housing for families with low incomes.
- (e) Development patterns devised for socially vulnerable and economically backward groups like the Negroes and the Red Indian tribes in U.S.A. and Mexico.
- (f) Factors responsible for the size and pace of industrial growth in backward areas and the conditions of success of small and medium-scale enterprise.

Shri S. C. Dutta concentrated on adult education techniques in the U.S.A., U.K., Sweden and Denmark. Smt. Jaishree Raiji, in her visit to the U.S.A. and Japan, confined herself to child welfare, community organization in neighbourhood houses, the Red Indian settlements and small-scale industries. Smt. Vimlabai Deshmukh concerned herself primarily with Home Economic Departments in urban and rural areas in U.S.A. and elsewhere. Finally, Kumari P. Vakharia devoted her entire study tour to schools providing social work education in Canada, U.S.A. and Japan.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HYDERABAD SESSION

One thousand copies of the recommendations passed at our last annual session at Hyderabad, in December 1953 were printed and circulated to the Central and State Governments, as well as semi-official bodies and All-India social welfare organizations

particularly concerned with the above-mentioned recommendations. The response from the various governments and agencies in the matter has been quite encouraging.

SOCIAL WELFARE DAY

This year, the Social Welfare Day was observed on February 20th with great eclat all over India. State and District Branches of the ICSW vied with each other to focus public attention upon the social policies of the day as well as on the recommendations of the last annual session at Hyderabad. The main theme selected for the Social Welfare Day deliberations this year was "Social Welfare through Self-Help and Co-operative Action". Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta, President, ICSW, once again broadcast the message of the Social Welfare Day to the people of India. We are indeed very grateful to the members of the ICSW as well as of the public for having taken such an intelligent interest in the proceedings of the Day.

ALL INDIA COUNCIL OF LABOUR AND WELFARE OFFICERS

It may be recollected that in our annual report for the year 1953, a mention had been made regarding the formation of an All India Council of Labour and Welfare Officers at the end of the First Conference organized for the purpose by the Indian Conference of Social Work in Bombay. Since then, its second annual conference was held in Madras last February. It was decided there that the Council should have its own individual entity. The ICSW acceded to this request, for its aim has always been to initiate new projects and then hand them over to responsible people. We wish the All India Council of Labour and Welfare Officers every success and hope that it may grow from strength to strength.

In the organization of the First Labour Conference in April 1953, the ICSW had a

surplus amounting to Rs. 3,805-0-8. This has now been split up between the Council and the ICSW, each having received Rs. 1902-8-4.

REPRESENTATION AT VARIOUS CONFERENCES

Shri B. Chatterjee, Executive Secretary, ICSW, in his capacity as the Assistant Secretary-General (South East Asia), International Conference of Social Work, attended the First All Burma Conference of Social Work held at Rangoon in January last. He also represented the ICSW at the Second Annual Conference of the All India Council of Labour and Welfare Officers held at Madras in the beginning of February.

At the invitation of the ICSW, Prof. P. R. Sen, President, West Bengal State Branch, ICSW, Shri S. R. Venkataraman, Hon. Associate Secretary, Madras State Branch, ICSW; and Kumari Parin Vakharia, Hon. Gen. Secretary, Baroda District Branch ICSW, attended a Conference of the Bharat Sevak Samaj Convenors at Pawapuri (Bihar) held in February this year. The problems of re-organization within the Bharat Sevak Samaj, however, were so pressing that the relationship between it and the ICSW was not discussed as fully or as satisfactorily as anticipated.

Smt. G. R. B. Billimoria, Hon. Gen. Secretary, and Shri B. Chatterjee, Executive Secretary, ICSW, in their capacities as the Asstt. Treasurer-General and Asstt. Secretary-General, International Conference of Social Work respectively, attended the Seventh International Conference of Social Work at Toronto (Canada) in June-July, 1954.

Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta, President, ICSW, presided over a Conference specially called to inaugurate the Travancore-Cochin State Branch, ICSW, held at Ernakulam last October.

Smt. Shirin Dastur Patel, Asstt. Secretary, ICSW, attended the All Gujarat Conference of Social Work at Rajkot (Saurashtra) in July this year. On behalf of the ICSW, she also attended the Fourth All India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene held at Chandigarh (Punjab) in November last.

PLANNING COMMISSION'S REQUEST

The Planning Commission, a few months ago approached the ICSW as to whether it would be interested in undertaking a project for evaluating training programmes for different types of social work, including tribal welfare, and drawing up training curricula in keeping with the kind of workers required to implement social welfare programmes within the general patten of national development. We readily acceded to this request by drawing up a detailed memorandum on the subject and by specifying the cost involved (about Rs. 25,000/-) and the time required (about six months) to complete this project. We are still awaiting a definite reply from the Planning Commission in this matter.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

This year we have published the entire proceedings of our Sixth Annual Conference held in Hyderabad last year in the March (1954) issue of the Indian Journal of Social Work. We have also brought out two issues (June and December 1954) of the ICSW Bulletin. We do hope that most of our members and delegates will become regular subscribers to this six-monthly Bulletin. If we are able to secure a fairly large number of subscriptions shortly, we would like to make the Bulletin a Quarterly.

STAFF AND ESTABLISHMENT

During the year, we made several attempts to secure better accommodation at a reasonable rent for the Central Office in the heart

of Bombay, but these attempts have not proved to be successful so far.

In January last, we secured the services of Smt. Shirin Dastur Patel as the Assistant Secretary of the Indian Conference of Social Work. She is concurrently working as the Assistant Secretary to the South East Asia' Regional Office, International Conference of Social Work.

Shri P. G. Thomas, our Accounts Clerk, left us at the beginning of the year and in his place we have appointed Shri R. G. Bapat.

CENTRAL ICSW LIBRARY

This library, located at our central office in Bombay, has been slowly but steadily expanding during the past few years. It now contains about 800 books and over 2,000 pamphlets — valuable material on social welfare and related topics in India and abroad. This year, the whole library has been properly classified and indexed by a trained librarian, and we hope to throw open this library to the public early next year.

SOCIAL RESEARCH DIVISION OF THE ICSW

The scheme recently evolved by the ICSW for a Social Research Division is as follows:—

One of the main objects of the Indian Conference of Social Work is to undertake scientific studies of social problems and to create a pool of data and knowledge so as to evolve scientific procedures for the effective solution of these problems. The two world wars, the struggle for Independence and the partition of the country have created colossal problems of poverty, unemployment, ill-health, squalor, want and disease. The phenomenal growth of population, and the rapid industrialisation and urbanisation have adversely influenced the family, social life and matrix of culture to a considerable degree. No planning for social welfare can succeed unless it first assesses the quality and

measures the extent of these influences on the life of the communities. The importance of social research as a basic pre-requisite for preparing blue-prints of workable plans and keeping them constantly revised in the light of changing data, has now been recognised as a sound practice in social planning all over the world.

The Indian Conference of Social Work, therefore, desires to set up a Research Division under the auspices of its Central Office to plan, survey, pool, promote, execute and direct several research projects in the field of social welfare in India. The Division will take up for study subjects which have a direct bearing on the planning, administration and evaluation of public and private social services in both urban and rural areas.

In this connection, we have already approached the Rockefeller Foundation, the Ford Foundation and the Planning Commission. The two Foundations have been unable to assist us at present, as their funds are directed to other channels. We are still awaiting a reply from the Planning Commission.

THE LUCKNOW SESSION OF THE ICSW, DECEMBER 1954

Three topics of current interest have been selected for the Sectional Meetings, which will form one part of our annual session at Lucknow this year. We feel that the time is now ripe for an assessment of the "Financing of Voluntary Welfare Work". Under this heading, we shall be having discussions on the Organization and Administration of Charity Trusts as well as the novel method of fund raising—viz., the Community Chest. Since Uttar Pradesh is our host this year, we felt it was in the fitness of things to choose "Correctional Administration", for every one of us realizes that U.P. along with Bombay, Mysore and other States has

considerable achievement to its credit in this field. Besides these two subjects, we have not forgotten the topical interest that the Second Five-Year Plan has evoked in the minds of most thinking people. This is a vast topic, so we have limited ourselves to "Problems of Social Welfare Administration and the Second Five-Year Plan."

Aside of these, we have introduced a new feature this year—a Panel discussion on "Social Work in the Medical Setting." There will be no paper reading here. A group of experts has been appointed to initiate the discussion. We are certain that our delegates and observers will have equal opportunity to teach and learn from this Panel Discussion.

Then too, three special sub-committees have already got under way. They will provide authentic memoranda on (i) "Place of Social Sciences in Social Work Education", (ii) "Minimum Standards for Child Care Institutions in India", and (iii) "Family Planning and Social Welfare".

It is our hope that the programme chalked out for the Seventh Annual Conference will prove to be both worthwhile and enjoyable for all the participants.

FINANCES

As always, the financial position is not as encouraging as one would wish, because the work of the Indian Conference of Social Work is not of a nature as to possess a direct emotional appeal to the public. We have, however, our small band of staunch supporters, both governmental and voluntary (listed below) to whom we are deeply indebted:—

	Rs.
1. Government of India	7,500/-
2. Sir Dorabji Tata Trust	2,000/-
3. Government of Uttar Pradesh	1,000/-

4. Government of Madhya Pradesh	1,000/-
5. Government of Bihar	1,000/-
6. Government of Hyderabad	500/-
7. Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Bombay	500/-
8. N. M. Wadia Charities, Bombay	500/-
9. American Women's Club, Bombay	500/-
10. Government of Andhra	250/-
11. Government of Saurashtra	250/-

THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE & WORKING COMMITTEES

In consonance with Section 6(a), sub-clause (v) of the Constitution, the President nominated the following five representatives of Government Department on the Central Executive Committee:—

1. Col. C. K. Lakshmanan, Director-General of Health Services, Ministry of Health, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. Shri K. G. Saiyidain, Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi.
3. Shri N. S. Mankiker, Chief Adviser (Factories), Ministry of Labour, Government of India, New Delhi.
4. Shri K. A. Gafoor, Director, Department of Social Services, Hyderabad.
5. Shri B. N. Jha, Director of Education, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow.

A meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the ICSW was held on April 17, 1954, in Bombay, which among other things, finalized the programme of the Lucknow Session. Since the President was stationed in Bombay, the Central Office of the Conference functioned throughout the year in consultation with him from time to time.

Two C.E.C. meetings will be held at the time of the Lucknow Session—the first of

these will be on December 26, 1954, and the second on December 30, 1954.

A Working Committee was appointed by the President to function as an advisory committee to the Central Office, ICSW, in Bombay throughout the year. It comprises of the following members:—

1. Dr. Jivraj Mehta (President)
2. Smt. A. J. Matthai
3. Prof. R. Choksi
4. Shri L. S. Kudchedkar
5. Smt. Zarina E. G. Currimbhoy (Hon. Treasurer)
6. Prof. A. R. Wadia (Hon. Treasurer)
7. Shri F. R. Surti (Hon. Treasurer)
8. Smt. Gulestan. R. B. Billimoria (Hon. Gen. Secretary)
9. Shri B. Chatterjee, Executive Secretary (ex-officio)
10. Smt. S. Dastur Patel, Assistant Secretary (ex-officio)

DIRECT SERVICES BY THE BRANCHES

In consonance with a resolution passed by the C.E.C at Hyderabad on 26th December 1953, a circular was addressed to all State and District Branches authorizing them to undertake direct welfare activities. Some of the Branches have already launched on direct activity in the field, whereas others are planning out ways and means of putting this resolution into effect at an early date.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are very grateful to Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta, our outgoing President, for the manner in which he has helped and guided us at every turn. His sustained enthusiasm and support have strengthened us greatly during his tenure of office for the past three years. Our thanks are also due to the members of the Central Executive and Working Committees, who travel long distances to attend various meetings and take a keen interest in the progress of our

organization. We would be failing in our duty if we did not record our sense of deep appreciation for the timely financial help rendered to us by the various governments and donors. Our thanks are also due to Shri M. J. Gazdar, our Hon. Constitutional Referee, to our Hon. Auditors—Messrs. P. C. Hansotia & Co., to our office-bearers, our colleagues in the Central Office and to every one of you members of the Indian Conference of Social Work for your continued interest and support during the year.

Finally, our hearty thanks are due to the Uttar Pradesh State Branch, its energetic Chairman, Shri C. B. Gupta, its hard-worked Hon. Gen. Secretary, Shri Sushil Chandra, as well as the members of its Executive Committee. To Dr. R. K. Mukerjee, Chairman, and the members and volunteers of the Reception Committee, we are deeply indebted for the excellent work they have put in towards the organization of the traditional Lucknow hospitality to this our Seventh Annual Session.

INDIAN CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st March, 1954

EXPENDITURE	Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.	INCOME	Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.
To Expenses in respect of properties:—							By Rent (accrued/realised)						
Rates, taxes, cesses							By Interest (realised)						
Repairs and maintenance							On Securities Less In-						
Salaries	—			Nil			come-tax	330	14	0			
Depreciation (by way of provision or adjustments)							On Loans	Nil					
Other expenses							On Bank account	31	5	0			
To Establishment Expenses				14,514	10	6	By Dividend	—			362	3	0
To Remuneration to Trustees							By Miss Evelyn Hersey Scholarship Fund:	—			Nil		
To Remuneration (in the case of a math) to the head of the math, including his household expenditure, if any							By Donations in cash or kind	—			1,441	4	0
To Legal Expenses							By Grants	—			5,975	10	0
To Audit Fees				100	0	0	By Income from other sources (in detail as far as possible)				10,000	0	0
To Contribution and Fees				25	0	0	Membership fees	4,799	9	2			
To Amounts written off:—							Sale of Literature	171	15	0			
(a) Bad debts							Bulletin Subscription	99	8	0			
(b) Loan Scholarships							Excess from All India Conference of Labour and Welfare Officers	2,019	4	5			
(c) Irrecoverable rents				Nil				—			7,090	4	7
(d) Other items							By Transfer from Reserves	—			Nil		
To Miscellaneous Expenses				393	10	6	By Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet	—			Nil		
To Depreciation													
To Amounts transferred to Reserve or specific funds													
To Miss Evelyn Hersey Scholarship Fund: (As per contra)													
To Expenditure on objects of the trust													
(a) Religious													
(b) Educational	6,343		11			9							
(c) Medical relief													
(d) Relief of poverty													
(e) Other charitable objects													
To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet													
Total Rs.				24,869	5	7	Total Rs.				24,869	5	7

As per our report of even date.

Sd/- P. C. Hansotia & Co.

Chartered Accountants, Auditors

Dated at Bombay: 30th September, 1954

Sd/- Gulestan R. Billimoria,

Hon. Gen. Secretary,

Indian Conference of Social Work, Bombay.

INDIAN CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK BOMBAY

Statement of Receipts and Payments Account from 1st April 1954 to 30th November 1954

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	Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.		Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.
To Balance							By Equipment				69	0	0
Central Bank of India	10,631	12	11				By Library				45	11	9
Cash in hand	176	5	6				By Delegate Fee to All India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene				10	0	0
				10,808	2	5							
To Membership Fees							By Expenses						
Affiliation Fees	306	1	0				Bank Charges	18	11	6			
Delegate Fees	785	0	0				Conveyance & Travelling	1,309	11	0			
Institutional	190	0	0				Cooly and Cartage	7	8	0			
Ordinary	45	0	0				Electric Bills	36	2	0			
Observer	250	0	0				Hire Charges	5	0	0			
				1,576	1	0	Honorarium	512	0	0			
Miscellaneous Receipts				15	0	0	Printing & Stationery	2,385	13	9			
To Grants							Registration Fees	154	2	0			
Govt. of Mysore	500	0	0				Salaries & Allowances	9,352	5	0			
Govt. of India	7,500	0	0				Salaries Hyderabad Branch	2,040	0	0			
Govt. of Andhra	250	0	0				Sundry Charges	210	8	9			
Govt. of Saurashtra	250	0	0				Stamps & Telegrams	760	9	3			
Director Social Welfare Nagpur	1,000	0	0				Telephone	296	8	0			
				9,500	0	0					17,088	15	3
To Donations				1,500	0	0	By Closing Balance						
To Sale of Literature				130	0	0	Central Bank	6,619	1	11			
To Subscription of Bulletin				24	0	0	Cash in hand	249	3	6			
To Interest A/C											6,868	5	5
Intt. on 3% Loan for Rs. 15,000/-	165	7	0										
Intt. on 3½% Treasury Savings	350	0	0										
Intt. on Current Account	13	6	0										
				528	13	0							
				24,082	0	5					24,082	0	5
Safe Custody Receipt for 3% Loan for Rs. 15,000/-													
Safe Custody Receipt for 3½% Treasury Savings Certificates for Rs. 5,000/-													

ANNUAL REPORT

Bombay, 6th December 1954

Shri F. R. Surti
Honorary Treasurer