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To promote the investigation, study and improvement of the economic and social conditions of agriculture and rural life through:—

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- (b) the publication of papers, separately or collectively; or in a periodical which may be issued under the auspices of the Society;
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PROCEEDINGS

of the

NINETEENTH CONFERENCE

held at Baroda, December 1959

SUBJECTS

1. TAXATION AND OPTIMUM LAND UTILISATION
2. ROLE OF PROCESSING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE
IN THE INDIAN RURAL ECONOMY
3. TECHNIQUE OF EVALUATING RURAL DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMMES
4. THE ROLE OF AGRICULTURE IN THE THIRD FIVE-
YEAR PLAN

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PREFACE

This issue of the Journal contains the Proceedings of the 19th Annual Conference of the Society held during December, 1959 at Baroda. About 100 members and delegates from Central and State Governments, Universities and Research Institutions attended the Conference. The subjects discussed at the Conference were :

1. Taxation and Optimum Land Utilisation.
2. Role of Processing of Agricultural Produce in the Indian Rural Economy.
3. Techniques of Evaluating Rural Development Programmes.
4. The Role of Agriculture in the Third Five-Year Plan.

A very large number of papers on all the subjects were received and discussed in group meetings. However, it has not been possible to accommodate all the papers submitted for the Conference in this issue. There was a lively participation in group discussions on each subject as usual. The Rapporteurs' Reports and the Summary of Group Discussions are printed in this issue.

A special feature of the Baroda Conference was the address by Dr. C. C. Shah, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Bombay State, on the "Impact of Modern Research on Agriculture", delivered on the evening of 26th December, 1959. The practice of inviting an eminent scientist to address the delegates on the advance made by physical sciences and its impact on agricultural development was introduced last year as an experimental measure. In addition to the artistic and entertaining cultural programmes presented by the College of Indian Music, Dance and Dramatics of the M. S. University of Baroda, an excursion to Amul Dairy of the Kaira District Milk Producers' Co-operative Union and to Vallabh Vidya Nagar, Anand was arranged on the 27th December, 1959. About 65 delegates joined the trip. This visit enabled the members to get an idea of the excellent work done by the dairy co-operatives in Gujarat. Shri H. M. Patel, the President of the Charutar Vidya Mandal made arrangements to take the members round the campus of the Rural University and the village Kavitha. On their way back from the village, the members were shown the working of a dairy co-operative society. We are thankful to the management of the Kaira District Milk Producers' Co-operative Union, to Shri H. M. Patel and to Charutar Vidya Mandal for their hospitality.

We take this opportunity of thanking the M. S. University of Baroda under whose auspices the Conference met. We are very grateful to Dr. Jyotindra M. Mehta, Vice-Chancellor of the University and to Prof. B. G. Shah and Dr. I. S. Gulati, Local Secretaries, who had made excellent arrangements for the Conference and to the members of the Reception Committee for their generous hospitality.

A special function was also arranged at the annual General Meeting of the Society in honour of Shri Manilal B. Nanavati, who retired as President of the Society. A special issue of the Journal brought out in his honour was presented to him. A silver plaque with a suitable inscription thereon was also presented to him on behalf of the members of the Society as a token of their gratitude and appreciation.

D. G. KARVE
President

April, 1960