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trating nature in the Party's organisation and leadership which reach down to the village masses, (2) the close co-ordination of the agrarian policy with other long-range, basic socio-economic programmes and (3) the integration of many agricultural programmes with political objectives. The significant aspects in the agrarian development in recent years are : (1) the exceptional increase in the productivity of major crops, (2) the effective co-ordination between agricultural development and the cultural-technical revolution, (3) the skilful utilisation of rural labour power, (4) the effective use of indigenous resources, and (5) the emergence of a new class of Chinese peasants free from traditional superstitious beliefs and inferiority complex.

In the last Chapter, the author has offered a few comments on the politico-economic question : "How far should individual rights go ?" He briefly discusses the Chinese experiment in relation to the problem of economic growth in underdeveloped countries with a view to knowing fully the overall significance and implications of the agrarian development in China. He concludes the chapter by saying that though "the Chinese agrarian experiment cannot and should not be transplanted *in toto*, . . . there are elements such as the organisational skills and social engineering techniques developed by the Chinese Communist Party which could be of reference value to nations faced with similar problems as traditional China did."

The book contains five appendices which deal respectively with model regulations for advanced agricultural producers' co-operatives, revised draft programme on agricultural development in China 1956-1967, resolution on some questions concerning the people's communes adopted by the eighth Central Committee of the C. C. P. in December, 1958, progress in water conservancy and progress of China's national economy in 1959.

Agricultural Marketing in India and Abroad, R. S. Srivastava, Vora & Co., Bombay, 1960. Pp. 243. Rs. 12.50.

This book is a revised edition of the author's thesis accepted by the University of Oxford in 1948 for the B. Litt. degree. The statistical data relating to undivided India on which the thesis was based, have been recast as well as brought up-to-date. An attempt has also been made to incorporate in the book the recent developments in the sphere of marketing.

The book contains eleven chapters. The first three chapters provide background to the study of agricultural marketing and deal with the importance and functions of marketing, the ramifications of the structure for agricultural marketing in India as also the socio-economic and the structural background of Indian agriculture. Some aspects determining the standard and efficiency of the existing marketing system and mechanism for the marketing of agricultural commodities in India such as the numerical adequacy of markets and their general performance, market intelligence, methods of operation, diversity of weights and measures, market charges, are described in Chapter 4. An attempt is also made to compare the standard of agricultural markets in India with that of British, Continental and American markets. The study reveals that Indian markets suffer

from inappropriate location, poor transport and lack of other facilities to the producer. Chapter 5 gives a comparative account of the first three stages of marketing process, namely, sales, direct and indirect, collection or assembly and distribution or dispersion of agricultural produce in India and in the Continent of Europe, U.S.A., Canada and Australia. It reveals that the route taken by most agricultural products in India tend to be extremely circuitous, involving a needlessly large number of handlings. Attributing this undesirable state of affairs to the prevalence of small size of holdings, the author advocates consolidation of holdings and the development of grading and transport as a lasting solution to the problem.

The state of transport and storage facilities in the country are examined respectively in Chapters 6 and 7. The study brings out the utter inadequacy of both these facilities which are so important for efficient marketing of the agricultural produce. A brief account of governmental actions taken in recent years attempting to improve these conditions is also given here. In Chapter 8 the author studies the cost of marketing without going, however, into the various charges that the farmer's produce is subjected to, which is a common feature of almost all books on agricultural marketing. While it is true that price spreads constitute a substantial proportion of the final consumers' price of foodstuffs, the author feels that much of the criticism on this ground is unjustified. His analysis has shown that "the lion's share of marketing expenditure goes to the process of concentration in India and to that of dispersion in the Western countries."

Various measures have been suggested to lift the agricultural marketing system in India from the antiquated and ill-equipped state in which it is found today. The most important among them are standardisation, co-operation and legislation and policy. Each of them is examined in turn in the last three chapters of the book. While the role of standardisation in the efficient working of the marketing mechanism is not disputed, that of co-operation is controversial. The author does not believe in the "exaggerated claims" made by protagonists of co-operation, which, in his opinion, have "been responsible for the indiscriminate application of co-operation to circumstances and to cases in which there was little hope of success." However, the experiences of U. S. A., Denmark and many other European countries show that co-operation has a useful role to play in the sphere of agricultural marketing. After rapidly surveying the developments in co-operative marketing abroad, the author reviews the progress made in this country in this field. The prominent features of co-operative marketing societies have been studied and certain measures for development have been enunciated. In the last chapter, the author draws attention to the inadequacy of legislative measures on marketing which has caused agricultural efficiency to remain at a low ebb. The main provisions of important legislations enacted in some foreign countries, which have gone a long way in raising the level of agricultural efficiency have been described as a pointer. In the light of their experiences, some broad lines of action to be adopted in this country are also indicated.

The appendices contain some important agricultural statistics, glossary of Indian terms, a bibliography and an index. The volume should prove useful to students and administrators.