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area to total cultivated area increased from 22.8 in 1943-44 to 36.6 in 1957-58. Canal irrigation has been mainly responsible for this increase. The study of the changes in cropping pattern in the village revealed that the proportion of area under *Kharif* crops declined by 7.7 per cent while there was a corresponding increase in the area under *Rabi* crops in the quinquennium ending 1955-56 against the quinquennium ending 1943-44. The decrease in area under *Kharif* crops was due to the decline in area under maize, Bajra and pulses while the increase in area under *Rabi* crops was due to the increased cultivation of wheat-gram. There was an increase in the area under commercial crops like sugarcane and cotton and discontinuation of cultivation of oilseeds during the period.

The average area per owner decreased from 5.4 acres in 1942-43 to 4.8 acres in 1950-51. The average size of cultivated holdings, on the other hand, increased from 9 acres to 10 acres during 1943-57. *Batai* rents shared on the basis of half the produce are generally preferred by the landowners and tenants. Terms of tenancy did not generally extend beyond an year.

The number of families in debt increased from 11 per cent of the total number of families in 1943 to 85 per cent in 1957. The average amount of loan per indebted family increased from Rs. 263 in 1943 to Rs. 359 in 1957. In 1943, about 73.6 per cent of the outstanding debt was owed to moneylenders and the rest to the co-operative societies. By 1957, the respective figures stood at 17.4 per cent and 82.6 per cent. It is thus obvious that co-operatives have come to occupy a predominant position in the system of agricultural finance by meeting the credit needs of the cultivators in an increasing measure. A disquieting feature is the high volume of debt incurred for unproductive purposes, though there has been some notable improvement in this direction. Loans for productive purposes such as capital investment in agriculture and purchase of cattle increased from 17.4 per cent in 1943 to 44 per cent in 1957.

*F. A. O. Commodity Review 1961*, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, 1961. Pp. x+136. \$ 1.50.

Being first in a series of annual commodity reviews prepared in the Commodities Division of F.A.O.'s Economic Department, this publication is essentially a continuation of a working document usually prepared for the session of the F. A. O. Committee on Commodity Problems as a basis for its review of the world agricultural commodity situation. Divided into two parts, Part I on General Situation and Outlook, contains a summary of developments in international commodity markets during 1960 and upto 15 March, 1961 and of the outlook for the remainder of the current year. Some special features of recent commodity developments relate to tropical tree crops, demand for rice and wheat in Asia, East-West trade and world commodity markets. Part II dealing with individual commodities, gives a more detailed analysis of the current situation and outlook for all major agricultural commodities, including fishery and forestry products. Most commodity notes contain a more detailed discussion of a special problem facing the commodity concerned or of a particular aspect of its current situation with long-term implications. Each note includes a brief description of the relevant inter-governmental commodity consultations and arrangements. The statistical appendix presents a systematic set of data on production, consumption, trade, stocks and prices of individual commodities.

Among the features singled out for special comment, the emergence of cocoa as a surplus crop drew attention to the general problem of fluctuations in supplies of tropical tree crops, arising from the time lag between planting decisions and the bearing phase of the plantings, as well as the improvements in cultivation methods which have been taking place. Discussing some of the implications of this change, it is pointed out that if the expansion in demand is not commensurate with supply, the resulting price decline might have a number of unwelcome consequences to the small producers and governments of exporting countries. The small producers who in most cases have failed to replant adequately, would have to accept lower incomes in the future or might have to look for alternative sources of income and employment. In addition to this hardship for individual producers, exporting countries might find their resources and foreign exchange earnings reduced. Finally, it is possible that the price decline might arrest further growth of some tree crops and that, after a period of oversupply in the 1960's, relative scarcities of these crops might be faced in the world in the 1970's. Measures suggested to minimize the danger of such an imbalance include (i) improvement of the basic statistics and other information on tree crops and (ii) effective international co-ordination of planting programmes.

Other interesting features of recent commodity developments have been the emergence of Asia as the major importing region in the world for wheat and the spreading tendency towards self-sufficiency among importers of rice in Asia, e.g., Japan and Philippines; and the substantial reduction during this year in exports of oil and oilseeds from Mainland China and the part played by the U.S.S.R. and Mainland China in the international sugar markets in 1960 and 1961. Surveying the commodity situation in Sino-Soviet area, the Review concludes that the area's growing participation in international commodity markets has probably, on balance, added some elements of uncertainty to individual commodity prospects.

*Marketing Policies for Agriculture*, James R. Bowring, Herman M. Southworth, Frederick V. Waugh, Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York, 1960. Pp. xi + 276. \$ 5.95.

The main aim of this book is to give some useful ideas about agricultural marketing that will increase one's ability to make a good living. More specifically, it discusses the main types of agricultural marketing problems and brings out the main economic principles useful in analysing and understanding them and in helping the individuals or groups concerned to reach wise decisions regarding them. The book is divided into four parts, comprising of 27 chapters. The first part is concerned with decisions in the market. It outlines in a general way the nature and functions of agricultural marketing as also its importance in a complex, specialised society, studies the marketing policies of farmers and firms-like wholesale shippers and receivers, elevator operators, canners, flour millers, meat packers, grocery-stores, etc., and deals with the marketing systems and the role of price in competitive markets. Part 2 entitled 'Costs and Allocations' contains some examples of costs and of cost-saving methods available to modern plants and firms handling agricultural products, and principles of market allocation. Special attention is given to profitable distribution of farm products through time, space and form including consideration of two price and multiple-price