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# INDIAN JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS



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arrangements and the problem of market development. Part 3 deals with marketing policies of organised groups including farmers' co-operative associations, trade associations and other corporations engaged in the processing and distribution of farm products. Part 4 discusses the marketing policies of Government and several kinds of government programmes affecting agricultural marketing and examines the role of Government in this sphere.

This book is intended for businessmen, farmers, policy makers, students and consumers of farm product marketing. Though it is written mainly from the viewpoint of the American audience, others interested in this subject elsewhere may find it useful. At the end of each chapter, problems for discussion in the classroom are posed and references are provided for further reading.

*Types of Rural Economy—Studies in World Agriculture*, Reni Dumont, Methuen and Co. Ltd., London, 1957. Pp. xii + 556. 45s.

This book presents a series of case studies of a broad variety of types of agriculture throughout most of the areas of the world. Within the compass of 17 chapters, it describes the present status of about 75 villages or farms in 15 different regions or countries and studies in great detail, their organisation, their past evolution and the problems arising out of technical change and economic development. The case studies are based on personal enquiries made by the author. Often extreme cases are examined because their backwardness or progressiveness is more instructive. The areas studied cover tropical or sub-tropical regions from Equatorial Africa to Viet-Nam and India, North Africa and most of Europe. In spite of this broad range and the use of the case study method, the author utilises the various instances given to present clearly his views on the general problems of agricultural organisation and development. It provides a fairly broad but admittedly rather fleeting view of the varied problems of agriculture.

*Communities and their Development—An Introductory Study with special reference to the Tropics*, T. R. Batten, Oxford University Press, London, 1957 (Second Impression, 1960). Pp. vi + 248. 15s.

This book is concerned mainly with how people in tropical and 'under-developed' countries can be stimulated and helped to develop their own local communities. It studies and compares the aims and methods of many government and voluntary organisations throughout the world and discusses the advantages and disadvantages of various approaches to community development, relating each approach to one or more actual situations with which it was designed to deal. It is divided into five sections, containing in all 14 chapters. Chapters II to IV may be grouped under "Agencies and People." In this section, the author discusses the trends in community development in the tropical countries, examines certain characteristics of the small community that affect its reaction to change and deals with the general principles underlying all good community development work. The section on 'Aims and Approaches' to community development deals with the main kinds of development agency, directing change in the community and aiding community projects, discusses the methods of working in disorganized communities and considers what the development agency can do where no community exists to be developed. In the section on "Methods and Techniques,"

are discussed the role of school in educating the community and making people literate as well as the methods and techniques of presenting information to people and the problems involved therein. It also examines the existing methods of selecting and training community workers. In the last chapter, the author discusses, what, in general, distinguishes good communities from bad, and some of the criteria which can be used to measure success in community development work. It contains a list of select references for further readings.

*The Economic Development of Communist China, 1949-1958*, T. J. Hughes and D. E. T. Laurd, Royal Institute of International Affairs, Oxford University Press, London, 1959. Pp. 223. Rs. 15.00.

The book presents a short factual account of the economic development of China since the foundation of the People's Republic. It is divided into 17 chapters. After briefly surveying the previously existing economic pattern, and the economic doctrines and programmes by which the Government were guided, the authors describe the situation which faced the Government when they first came to power, their attempts to meet this during the period of rehabilitation that followed the transformation of the economic institutions of the country, the introduction of large-scale planning and of the First Five-Year Plan and the Great Leap Forward that followed it. The treatment meted out to private enterprise, the new economic geography and the development of communications, organisation of labour and the role of foreign trade in economic development of the country are dealt with in separate chapters. Of particular interest to students of agricultural economics is the section which discusses the development of agriculture in China. It contains a brief but critical survey of the land reforms introduced since 1949 by the Chinese Communist Party, examines the means and measures adopted for the collectivisation of agriculture, reviews the developments in the sphere of agricultural production and the measures introduced to control consumption of agricultural produce as exemplified in 'planned' purchase and supply of grain, rationing, unified procurement programme and system of advance purchase and quotas. In the last chapter an attempt is made to survey the future prospects of the Chinese economy. The authors come to the conclusion that the prospects for the future development of the economy depend largely on the successful limitation of the population growth, on the capacity of the Chinese to acquire and develop modern industrial techniques, and on the success of the Government in holding in check the demands of the consumer while the capital resources of the country are being built up. The material contained in the book is derived almost entirely from Chinese official records.

*Economic Growth and Inflation—A Study of Indian Planning*, Andrew Shonfield, Council for Economic Education, Bombay, 1961. Pp. 49. Rs. 7.50.

The publication contains a series of three lectures delivered by the author in Delhi in February, 1961 under the joint auspices of the Council for Economic Education and the Indian Council of World Affairs. In the first lecture the author advocates market mechanism for bringing about a rational allocation of resources, in preference to administrative decisions, licences, etc., and outlines what he considers to be the proper approach to the problem of using the price mechanism as a guide to growth in an under-developed economy without embarking on a