

[R. B. Sarat Chandra Ray]

**Mr. NANDA KUMAR GHOSH:** What are the steps open to the villagers to treat their cattle?

**Mr. B. K. GOKHALE:** I must invite a reference to the annual report of the Veterinary Department. Probably, a personal reference to the nearest veterinary institution would be more useful.

**Mr. NANDA KUMAR GHOSH:** Is it not a fact that there is only one veterinary surgeon in the Ranchi district employed by the district board?

**Mr. B. K. GOKHALE:** I believe there are several, but I cannot off-hand say how many.

#### PADDY-PESTS IN THE RANCHI DISTRICT.

**74. Rai Bahadur SARAT CHANDRA RAY:** Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many new kinds of paddy-pests have been known to have appeared in the Ranchi district within last twenty years, and what are their local names;

(b) what steps have they taken or are taking to stop or check the growth and spread of these pests?

**Mr. B. K. GOKHALE:** (a) As no entomological survey has been carried out for want of necessary expert staff it is not possible to state which insect pests of the paddy crop are new and which are old. The more common insect pests are (1) Sanhra (or Raiya), (2) Banki, (3) Gandhi and (4) Kajra.

(b) The Agricultural Department generally recommends remedial measures, when complaints are received.

**Rai Bahadur SARAT CHANDRA RAY:** Arising out of clause (b), has the Agricultural Department or any other department of Government taken any remedial measures?

**Mr. B. K. GOKHALE:** The Agricultural Department generally recommends remedial measures, and, so far as the agricultural farms are concerned, the Agricultural Department itself takes these measures.

**Rai Bahadur SARAT CHANDRA RAY:** Have any measures been taken by the Agricultural Department or any other department in the villages—in the fields of private tenants?

**Mr. B. K. GOKHALE:** The Agricultural Department has no staff to send out in the districts to use these remedial

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measures. I understand that the only measures which are really possible are the spraying of wide areas with insecticides by means of aeroplanes and the release of predators which are parasitic on the pests concerned. We have no staff nor money to adopt either of these measures. The only thing that is usually recommended is the spraying of plants affected by some kind of insecticide and that is for the actual cultivator to do for himself.

Rai Bahadur SARAT CHANDRA RAY: Is any propaganda work done by the Agricultural Department for that?

Mr. B. K. GOKHALE: No, Sir.

Rai Bahadur SARAT CHANDRA RAY: May I know, why not?

Mr. B. K. GOKHALE: Chiefly for want of funds.

Mr. NANDA KUMAR GHOSH: Will Government be pleased to state what they mean by the words "want of necessary expert staff"? Is it in the whole of the province or in the Ranchi district?

Mr. B. K. GOKHALE: There is no expert in this province who can carry out the entomological survey, so far as the local Government are concerned. There may be some expert at Pusa, but I am not aware of it.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

INVESTMENT OF THE JHARIA WATER BOARD WITH THE POWERS TO APPOINT ITS ENGINEER.

Babu MANINDRA NATH MUKHARJI: Sir, I beg to move:

This Council recommends to Government to take necessary steps to empower the Jharia Water Board to appoint, suspend and dismiss and to fix the scale of pay and allowances of the Engineer to the Board.

Sir, I am afraid the Council is not very familiar with this Board or its functions and affairs, and so I shall seek your permission to state, as briefly as I possibly can, a history of the Board and its composition and functions. This Board was constituted under the Jharia Water-Supply Act of 1914 and was invested with the powers and duties for the construction and maintenance of waterworks and for the supply of water for domestic purposes to the Jharia coalfields.