

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL

***992. Shri C. R. Chowdary:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the International Wheat Council has been informed by the Government of India that they are not taking the quota of one million tons of wheat under the International Wheat Agreement for the year from July 1953 to June 1954?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Yes, Sir. The first crop year under the revised and renewed International Wheat Agreement is from 1st August, 1953 to 31st July, 1954 and not from July, 1953 to June, 1954 as stated by the hon. Member. It is correct that the International Wheat Council has been informed by the Government of India that they are not taking the quota for the 1st year of the International Wheat Agreement which is from 1st August, 1953 to 31st July, 1954.

RADIO LICENCES

***993. Shri L. Jogeswar Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of possession and working of radio receiving sets without a proper licence have so far been detected since January 1953;

(b) how many persons were prosecuted in this connection; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure registration of radio sets?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 12,436 from 1st January, 1953 to 31st December, 1953.

(b) 1,575.

(c) The anti-piracy staff employed by the Department arranged anti-**piracy drives** throughout the year for checking and licensing radio sets.

ELECTION CONTEST BY EXTRA-DEPARTMENTAL STAFF

***994. Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Communications be

pleased to refer to starred question No. 413 asked on the 30th November, 1953 and state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken about allowing the extra-departmental postal staff to contest panchayat and other local elections; and

(b) the categories of other Government employees who will be given this latitude?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes. They can contest the elections referred to.

(b) Any person who is not a whole time Government servant and does not belong to any regular civil service will be eligible.

SUBSTITUTE FOR PETROL

***995. Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to starred question No. 714 asked on the 8th December, 1953 regarding an apparatus running on water and kerosene instead of petrol, and state:

(a) whether it has been tested; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

EQUIPMENT FOR POST OFFICES

***996. Shri Raghavaiah:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the absence of clocks, record boxes and such other minimum necessities in branch post-offices, permanent as well as experimental; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Clocks or Time pieces are supplied only to important branch offices which are in direct communication with the R.M.S.