

Experiments on the production of mechanical pulp from wattle wood suitable for the manufacture of newsprint are in progress at the Forest Research Institute. Meanwhile the results of the experimental work already done have been brought to the notice of the paper industry.

TRAINED WORKERS FROM INDUSTRIAL CENTRES

806. Shri Sivamurthi Swami: (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state the actual number of workers trained from the Industrial Training Centres under the Central Government and the number of such workers employed in Government service since 1948?

(b) What is the reason for not utilizing the services of more trained candidates from the Industrial Centres established by the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) 41,692 persons have successfully completed training from the Industrial Training Institutes/Centres of the Ministry of Labour during the period April 1945—October, 1952. Information as to the number of these trainees employed in Government service is not available, as there is no machinery at present to follow up the careers of individual ex-trainees.

(b) Government of India do utilize the services of their trained men but not all Ministries have recognised their qualifications. Steps are being taken to remove these difficulties.

RAILWAY WAGONS LYING NEAR KANCHRAPARA

807. Shri A. C. Guha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of wagons are lying on the railway track near Kanchrapara (West Bengal) since 4 or 5 years; and

(b) if so, (i) their number; (ii) the reason therefor; (iii) whether any attempt was made to repair and utilise any or all of these wagons and if so what result?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) About 700.

(ii) These wagons belong to the E.B. (Pakistan) Railway. They are unfit for further use. E.B. Railway's concurrence is required before they are condemned and disposed

of. They have agreed to condemnation of 891 wagons and their agreement with regard to the rest is awaited.

(iii) Does not arise.

ATROPINE

808. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether a circular was sent to the State Governments suggesting economy in the use of Atropine in Government Hospitals as there was difficulty in importing it owing to "shortage of shipping space"?

(b) Where is this imported from?

(c) What is the quantity imported last year and the value in rupees?

(d) What is the shipping space it occupied last year?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) It is a fact that instructions were issued in 1942 suggesting economy in the use of Atropine but the reason was shortage of supplies and not shortage of shipping space. These instructions have recently been cancelled in view of improvement in the supply position.

(b) to (d). The information is not available as no separate statistics are maintained in respect of Atropine.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MADRAS

809. Shri Viswanatha Reddy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government of Madras has made a request for immediate financial assistance to meet the scarcity conditions in that State, and if so, what decision has Government taken on that request?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Yes. The Central Government have offered to the Madras Government a grant of 50 per cent. for gratuitous relief and a loan of 50 per cent. for other relief expenditure.

EASTERN RAILWAY ROUTE CHARTS

810. Shri Lokenath Mishra: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the Eastern Railway Route Charts, published along with the Railway Time Table dated the 15th May, 1952, and the Time Table next thereafter and state whether there is any omission in the later Route Chart of railways projected or under construction lying within the State of Orissa?

(b) If so, what are those railways omitted and why have they been omitted?