

1306 (1)



ZOROASTER.

meet the expenses he incurs over buildings, funerals, and other domestic occasions; and rural indebtedness has reached alarming proportions. Religious prejudice has caused little attempt to be made to thin out the herds of under-sized cattle which eat up the available fodder. The peasant, owing to lack of secondary occupations, is idle for a large part of the year. Diseases such as malaria and hook-worm, due largely to lack of sanitation, are often endemic.

I early realized that measures for rural reconstruction and the encouragement of marketing and transport, and of indigenous industries such as fishing, fruit growing, tanning, weaving, dairying, and animal husbandry, on an extensive and intensive scale, were urgently needed. Owing to the civil disobedience movement it was not until 1932 that we were able to launch a campaign, but the enthusiasm with which it was welcomed was proof in itself of the long-felt need for a movement of this kind.