

### Third National Convention

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ment in India" in which the Directors of Agriculture and the Development Commissioners of States as well as other experts in Agriculture and farmers will participate.

Like the preceding two Conventions there will be delegates and visitor-delegates. The delegates will be selected by the President and the Secretary of the Krishak Samaj in each State with the help, wherever necessary, of the State Department of Agriculture. They will include all members of the All India Farmers' Council from the State, a representative of farmers from each district, additional number of small farmers, young farmers, women farmers, *Krishi Pandits* and State prize holders for the preceding year. Apart from these regular delegates, any other farmer who intends to attend the Convention and take part in the Seminar will be treated as a visitor-delegate and will be allowed to make use of the Railway Concession which is allowed to all other delegates.

The Railway Concession Certificates will be available this year from the Secretary or the Convener of the State Krishak Samaj and all intending visitor-delegates to the Convention are requested to approach the Secretary of the Krishak Samaj or the Director of Agriculture of the State for any information in connection with the Convention or the Concession Certificates.

#### LOCAL STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE FARMERS' FORUM

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh, President of the Farmers' Forum, India has constituted the Local Standing Committee of the Farmers' Forum. It consists of besides the President, Dr. Syed Mahmud, Minister, Ministry of External Affairs and Vice-President of the Forum, Shri K. D. Sharma, Secretary; Maharani Mahinder Kaur of Patiala; Sardar Lal Singh, M. P.; Shri V. N. Kak; Shri S. M. Wahi; Shri Bishan Man Singh; Chowdhry Brahm Perkash, Rana Jang Bahadur Singh and Shri P. U. Oza.

This Committee will look after the day to day working of the Forum.



Shri Chester Bowles addressing the members of the Forum

#### SHRI CHESTER BOWLES MEETS FORUM MEMBERS

Shri Chester Bowles, former U. S. Ambassador to India, who visited New Delhi recently, met the members of the Governing Body of the Farmers' Forum and the Young Farmers' Association, India.

Addressing the members Shri Chester Bowles said that he was a member of two great American Farm Organizations, viz., the Grange and the Farm Bureau Federation. He said that the farms in U. S. A. were large and machines were extensively used to cut down the high costs of labour. He praised the Extension Service of U.S.A. which had been helping the farmers, and their household in every field and said that the Department of Agriculture in the United States was the second largest Department of the Government after the Postal Department.

Shri Bowles said that in U. S. A. the slogan "back to the farm" was becoming more and more popular and the movement was gaining importance.

He said that huge areas of the world were under-developed and could not produce enough food, thus leaving millions of people under-fed and under-nourished. There were other areas, especially countries

like the U. S. A. and Canada which were actually suffering from such huge surpluses of agricultural commodities that they had to destroy millions of tons of food every year. He proposed the idea of a World Bank of Agricultural Commodities, where, he said, all the world's surplus countries could bank their extra food while those countries that badly needed food could come to the Bank and draw out their food requirements, in exchange for other commodities which the surplus countries required. This, he hoped, would be a reality in the not too distant future. A workable plan of this kind could bring more peace and consolation to the war-torn world. He asked the Indian farmers to work for this goal.

Shri Bowles advocated the idea of farmers' exchange programme among various countries to enrich the agriculturist and the agriculture of the different nations.

#### WEST BENGAL FARMERS' CONVENTION

The First Convention of the Farmers of West Bengal will be held at Kalyani on February 19 and 20. The Convention will be inaugurated by Dr. P. S. Deshmukh, Union Minister for Agriculture and President, Farmers' Forum, India.