

When an equipment is provided with a blower, the greatest care should be exercised to see that the blower is not operated in a closed room or shed, and that wherever it is operated the outlet or exhaust from the fan is not inhaled. The handle of the blower should always be removed so that the uninitiated cannot do any harm either to themselves or others.

COCO-NUT OIL AS LIQUID FUEL.

At the Vunapope Catholic Mission, situated at Kokopo in New Britain, coco-nut oil is being used as a liquid fuel. It is running a 30 h.p. H.M.G. two-stroke semi-diesel engine. The engine runs well and pulls a full load. Combustion appears to be complete, for there is no sign of smoke from the exhaust. The only trouble so far experienced was that after about fourteen hours' running, the fuel pump and injector valves began to stick and had to be taken down and cleaned.

Planters are invited to submit suggestions for the improvement of the GAZETTE.

Appreciation of the GAZETTE can be shown by lending it to your friends.

VEGETATIVE PROPAGATION IN TROPICAL PLANTATIONS.*

The Imperial Bureau of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, East Malling, has issued Technical Communication 13 on this subject by G. St. Clair Fielden and R. J. Garner. It deals with the vegetative propagation of some 55 plantation crops, and follows a previous communication (issued in 1936) dealing with the vegetative propagation of some 100 fruit varieties grown in the tropics and sub-tropics. The help of technical experts has been invoked for adequate treatment of such major crops as rubber, coffee, cacao, &c., while the foreign literature has been thoroughly combed for details of propagation of the less familiar, but nevertheless important, crops. One feature of the previous work, which commended it also to workers in temperate regions, is retained and considerably enlarged, namely, the section devoted to methods used in vegetative propagation. The descriptions are supported by simple, clear, line drawings of some seventeen types of graft and seven types of budding commonly used in vegetative propagation. Tropical workers will also be glad of the illustrated detail of the construction of loosely woven potting baskets which have been found so useful a substitute for pots in nursery work in the tropics. For those who wish to study originals, a list of references immediately follows the discussion on the propagation of each particular crop.

* *Nature*, No. 3690, 20th July, 1940.