

sulphur, which is equivalent to 10,000 tons of sulphur. The mine is 40 miles from Bellpat, the Railway Station. Sulphur also occurs in other parts of Baluchistan, e.g., on the extinct volcano of the Koh-i-Sultan and other volcanic regions in the desert district of Chagai.

Recent work carried out by the Geological Survey under the auspices of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Sulphur Committee, has proved extremely fruitful and it is estimated that at one place in the surface deposits alone approximately thirty thousand tons of sulphur rock are available and mining operations will probably produce very much more. The deep boring operations in Baluchistan have been reported to be capable of yielding even larger quantities. Proposals are before the Government for working out the deposits in these two places and while the boring opera-

tions in the Sanni district have not yet been resorted to, there is no doubt that the success of the first deposit will lead to greater efforts on our part for obtaining more sulphur by boring. For obvious reasons it is not necessary nor desirable to give fuller details of the quantities of sulphur now required for India and the Eastern Group Nations in the British Empire, but it can be well imagined that the requirements will be large and for this reason, the report that the Simla mines of iron pyrites and the iron pyrites discovered in Sone Valley are not so small as they were at one time pictured, is of special interest. Iron pyrites have also been discovered in the Hyderabad State. The occurrence of sulphur and the large quantity of iron pyrites is a hopeful sign for the rapid development of sulphur sources in this country.

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## ANNALS OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE

THIS is a new addition to the specialist scientific journals in this country. The Journal "is meant to publish original papers. It also publishes reviews on scientific subjects and books and reports of scientific interest". The first number has sixteen contributions covering 116 pages.

In a foreword to the first number of the *Quarterly Review of Biology*, Raymond Pearl writes: "It is reported that there exist in the world to-day approximately 25,000 reputable scientific journals, devoted in whole or part to the publication of the results of research. In the face of such an overwhelming statistic it is entirely appropriate to raise the question: why start another? As the *Quarterly Review of Biology* stands, at the moment, in the position of the latest addition to the already large population of scientific journals, there is an obligation to make some statement as to its *raison d'être*. This obligation may fairly be judged a moral one, because like all forms of population growth, that of scientific

journalism shows definitely a tendency to approach a state of troublesome saturation." This statement was made fifteen years ago, in January 1926, and to-day it has greater significance.

In the light of the above, two questions may be asked: Was there a sound justification for a new journal? Could not have the existing journals satisfied the interests intended to be served by the new journal? These questions are important for a country whose budget for the advancement of science is miserably small.

The promoters of this new venture have, no doubt, considered these aspects and felt the need of a new journal in addition to those already existing. Let us hope that this feeling is shared by a large number of scientific workers in the country, whose sympathy and co-operation is essential in conducting and maintaining a high standard for the Journal.

We welcome the Journal and wish it a long and purposeful career.

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