

SCIENCE NOTES AND NEWS

Scientific Research Association

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister, was elected President of the Association of Scientific Research for the year 1948 at the annual meeting of the Association held at Patna.

According to the draft constitution of the Association, it will henceforward be run on Trade Union lines. The constitution also restricts the membership of the Association to Science Graduates and professionally competent scientific workers.

Science Congress Association

Sir K. S. Krishnan, Director of the National Physical Laboratory of the Government of India, and Dr. B. Mukherji, Director, Central Drugs Laboratory, Government of India, were elected President and General Secretary respectively of the Indian Science Congress Association for the year 1948-49 at the annual meeting of the Central Committee of the Association.

The following were elected members of the General Council of the Association: Dr. B. Mukherji, Dr. B. C. Guha, Dr. W. D. West, Dr. K. N. Bagchi, Dr. K. Venkataraman, Dr. A. C. Ukil, Dr. B. Sanjiva Rao, Dr. K. N. Bahl, Dr. U. P. Basu, Dr. Baini Prasad and Prof. G. P. Mazumdar.

The following were elected Presidents and Records respectively of the twelve Sections of the Association:—

Mathematics: Dr. S. Chowla and Dr. P. N. Das Gupta.

Statistics: Dr. V. S. Nair and Mr. S. Sen Gupta.

Physics: Dr. R. S. Krishnan and Dr. P. S. Gill.

Geology and Geography: Dr. C. Mahadevan and Dr. S. C. Chatterji.

Anthropology and Archaeology: Dr. Nirmal Kumar Bose and Dr. M. N. Basu.

Medical and Veterinary: Dr. M. B. Soparkar and Dr. H. N. Ray.

Agricultural Sciences: Dr. R. S. Vasudeva and Mr. P. C. Raheja.

Physiology: Dr. B. B. Sarkar and Dr. N. P. Banawasi.

Engineering and Metallurgy: Prof. M. Sen Gupta and Prof. J. Ganguli.

Chemistry: Dr. P. B. Ganguli and Dr. D. Chakravarti.

Entomology and Zoology: Dr. M. L. Roonwal and Dr. H. D. Srivastava.

Botany: Mr. M. S. Randhawa and Dr. R. L. Nirula.

Psychology and Education: Mr. T. K. N. Menon and Mr. Kali Prasad.

Industrial Research Council

With effect from January 1, 1948, the Governing Body of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research have been reconstituted as under for the period ending March 31, 1950:

1. *Governing Body of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research*: Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (President); Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee (Vice-President); Mr. S. A. Venkataraman (Ministry of Industry and Supply); Mr. P. C. Bhattacharya (Ministry of Finance); Prof. M. N. Saha, Sir J. C. Ghosh, Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, Sir Sri Ram, Prof. S. N. Bose, Mr. G. L. Mehta, Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai, Sir A. L. Mudaliar, Dr. S. S. Joshi, Mr. Frank Anthony, Sir V. N. Chandavarkar, Mr. H. Sitarama Reddi, Dr. K. Hamid, Mr. G. D. Birla, Mr. N. V. Gadgil, Principal Nirvan Singh, Sir Ardeshr Dalal and Mr. J. R. D. Tata.

2. *Board of Scientific and Industrial Research*: Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (President); Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee (Vice-President); Mr. S. A. Venkataraman, Dr. B. C. Roy, Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, Sir K. S. Krishnan, Dr. Jivraj Mehta, Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznabi, Sir J. C. Ghosh, Prof. M. S. Thacker, Prof. Birbal Sahni, Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai, Prof. M. N. Saha, Sir Shri Ram, Dr. K. A. Hamid, Sir Ardeshr Dalal, Dr. H. J. Bhabha, the Scientific Adviser to G.H.Q., Sir C. V. Raman, Mr. D. N. Wadia and Dr. J. N. Mukherjee.

Commonwealth Collection of Type Cultures: The Hon'ble Vice-President, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Scientific Consultative Committee, Government of India, has nominated Mr. M. Sreenivasaya, Lecturer in Fermentation Technology, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, as a member of the Permanent Committee of the Commonwealth Collection of Type Cultures in London.

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Bose Institute

The Bose Institute, Calcutta, celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Institute on the 30th November 1947 under the presidency of H. E. Sri. C. Rajagopalachari, Governor, West Bengal. Dr. J. N. Mukherjee, Director, Indian Research Institute, Delhi, delivered the Jagadish Chandra Memorial Lecture on "Some Scientific and Practical Problems of Agriculture in India".

Central Institute of Education

On Friday, the 19th December 1947, the Central Institute of Education was opened in Delhi by H. E. the Countess Mountbatten of Burma. A grant of Rs. 18 lakhs and about Rs. 2.5 lakhs for equipment have been sanctioned towards this project. This has been instituted in accordance with the plan of the Government of India to provide "Model Teachers" for the various provinces and states in the country.

The Indian Dairy Science Association

The "Indian Dairy Science Association" has been founded at Bangalore. A meeting of the Executive Committee was held at New Delhi on the 16th December with Sir Datar Singh in the Chair. It was decided to open the membership of the Association to all persons engaged in teaching, research and advisory work in dairying, or holding technical positions in the field of dairying. The Association's aim is to

publish a Journal devoted to Dairy Science and fill up a long-felt want in this direction.

The headquarters of the Association is located at the Indian Dairy Research Institute, Bangalore. Members who wish to join the Association may communicate with the Joint-Secretary of the Association.

Soil Research Station in Madras

Mr. N. V. Gadgil, Minister for Works, Mines and Power, Government of India, opened in Madras the Concrete Laboratory and the Soil Engineering Research Station built in connection with the Ramapadasagar Dam on 19th December 1947.

Conference on Compost

On the initiative of Shrimati Mira Behn a Conference of workers and others interested in the Compost Programme was held in the Secretariat Buildings, New Delhi, on the 16th and 17th of December 1947. The Conference was opened by the Hon. Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

The Conference resolved that a systematic utilisation of urban and village wastes would yield about 110 million tons extra manure, while a programme for providing alternative fuel in place of cow dung would release another 200 million tons of manure, which would increase our food production by about 12-15 million tons and at the same time provide additional fodder.

Resolutions were also passed suggesting methods of implementation of schemes for country-wide production and utilisation of compost.

Research Scholarship

One Science Research Scholarship will be awarded this year by the London Exhibition of 1851 to students from Indian Universities or institutions having post-graduate departments of Science. The scholarship, which is of the value of £350 per annum and tenable for a period of two years, is intended to enable the selected student, who has already completed a full University course and whose record gives evidence of capacity for original scientific investigation, to devote himself to post-graduate research in some branch of pure or applied science at any institution abroad approved by the Commissioners.

Subjects of the Dominion of India and Indian States, below the age of 26 years on May 1, 1948, will be eligible for this scholarship. Applications from students, whether residing in India or abroad, have to be recommended by the authorities of a University or an institution and are to be made to Provincial Governments and Local Administrations through the Universities and institutions concerned, who would forward them so as to reach the Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India, not later than 10th March 1948.

Scholarship in Minerology

Dr. Ben H. Parker, President of the Colorado School of Mines, U.S.A., has announced that a scholarship at the School of Mines will be awarded annually, beginning with the school year 1948-49, to a resident of India upon the recommendation of the Minister of Education.

The scholarship meets all tuition expenses (now \$425 a year), and is renewable for a maximum of 4 years provided the student maintains satisfactory record. Deposits, special student fees, summer session tuition and living and other personal expenses are not included.

The Colorado School of Mines trains students in mining, metallurgy, geology, petroleum production and petroleum refining with options in fuel engineering and geophysics, and elective courses in the production and utilisation of cements, refractories, clays, and other non-metallic minerals.

The Minister of Education's recommendation must reach the office of the President of the School by June 15, 1948. Further particulars may be obtained from the United States Foreign Embassy.

Lady Tata Memorial Trust

The Trustees of the Lady Tata Memorial Trust are offering six scholarships of Rs. 250 each per month for the year 1948-49 commencing from 1st July 1948. Applicants must be of Indian nationality and Graduates in Medicine or Science of a recognised University. The scholarships are tenable in India only, and the holders must undertake to work whole-time under the direction of the head of a recognised Research Institute or Laboratory. The subject of scientific investigation must have a bearing either directly or indirectly on the alleviation of human suffering from disease. Applications should reach by March 15, 1948. Further particulars may be had from the Secretary of the Trust, Bombay House, Bruce Street, Fort, Bombay 1.

Lord Rayleigh OBITUARY

Lord Rayleigh, the distinguished physicist, passed away on December 13.

Born in 1875, he studied at Eton and Cambridge, from where he passed out with First Class Tripos in Natural Science. After working for a number of years at the Cavendish Laboratory, he became Professor of Physics at the Imperial College of Science.

Lord Rayleigh was interested in a wide range of subjects, including agriculture and dairy farming. He was more of a skilled experimentalist than a theoretician, and studied common phenomena like the evening sunlight and the shapes of stones. He was elected an F.R.S. and also to the Presidentship of the British Association, two honours which incidentally, his father had also received.

Srish Kumar Sen

We regret to record the death of Srish Kumar Sen, a noted systematic Botanist and a retired Government servant of Bengal, on October 9, 1947. An active member of the Dacca Botanical Society and an organiser of the University Botanical Gardens and Herbarium at Dacca, Sen was responsible for bringing into light many new species of plants of Bengal. Sen was also a great patriot who had been charged in the famous Arabindo case of 1908. His loss is deeply regretted by all his friends and admirers, who are many.