

of our students who have had an opportunity of establishing a career for themselves in Europe or America, have distinguished themselves further and attained scientific eminence. The career of the late Dr. Y. Subba Row who rose to the position of the Research Director of the Lederle Laboratories, is an illustrious example of such a case. All these facts prove the contention that we, in India, have not yet established a "Research Climate" which would nurture creative talent to its full stature. The causes which have led to this

unhappy state of affairs may well be scientifically and dispassionately elucidated by a specially constituted Committee of the Association of Scientific Workers of India to whom, after all, the responsibility of creating the right type of climate for research belongs. We, therefore, urge the immediate formation of a representative committee to go into the question and suggest ways and means by which the present research atmosphere could be altered.

### SIR S. S. BHATNAGAR ON THE NEEDS OF SCIENTIFIC MAN-POWER AND FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

IN the course of his Presidential Address to the National Institute of Sciences of India, Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar surveyed the efforts of the Government of India in the cause of scientific research and referred to the setting up of the Atomic Energy Commission, the creation of National Professorship of Physics, arrangements of visits to India by celebrated foreign scientists and the work of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and various other National Laboratories in existence and in formulation. He also reviewed the activities of the National Institute of Sciences during the current year.

Referring to the appointment by the Government of the Universities Commission to inquire into and report on the conditions and prospects of University education and advanced research in India and to recommend a constructive policy in relation to their special problems and the needs of the country, he said.

"The development of science and industry in this country will need a large potential scientific man-power. While national laboratories and research institutes will play an ever-increasing part in furthering the application of science to industry, it is clear that ultimately we have to depend upon the Universities for an even and constant flow of scientific workers and leaders, imbued with zeal and zest for research.

"The fast changing world conditions and the new role of science necessitate a vital change in the outlook of the Universities and the Government.

"Universities have been rightly regarded as the fountain-head of knowledge and it is in their free atmosphere that we should look forward to vigorous pursuit of fundamental research. Fundamental research is the source from which extraordinary applications are likely to emerge and unless we keep ourselves in the forefront of fundamental work it is unlikely that we would make much original contribution to applied research. I would make a special plea to our Universities, our research institutes and our learned societies not to slacken their support for fundamental research."

He put in a strong plea for sufficient financial and material resources, appropriate to each stage of development and stressed the necessity of bold and flexible thinking in framing the policy of the Universities. While industrial research was the prime necessity for development, a vigorous pursuit of fundamental research was vital, being the source from which extraordinary applications were likely to emerge, he said. It was necessary for young men to follow in the wake of great scientists and blaze the path of the better world of tomorrow.

### SCIENCE STAGES A COME BACK TO INDIA

IN a gracious message to the 36th session of the Indian Science Congress held at Allahabad during the first week of January 1949, His Excellency Sri Rajagopalachari, the Governor-General of India, said:—

"Science went out for a long journey from India some centuries ago and it looks as if

she has come back to her home now. May the session of the Science Congress at Allahabad be an auspicious festival of this return home. The future progress of science in India seems fairly assured if we could appraise it on the quality and industry shown by present-day doctors of science."