

respects, this may have more advantages than starting an independent Geophysical Institute.

Finally, the Committee have recommended the formation of a National Committee of Geodesy and Geophysics, and also a Central Board of Geophysics. The National Committee is proposed to take steps for its affiliation with the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, while the Central Board is to function

as a Standing Committee for co-ordination of the geophysical work carried on by the various scientific departments and Universities.

On the whole, the Report of the Planning Committee constitutes a valuable scientific document, while the recommendations if given effect to, would lead towards a progressive and integrated knowledge of Geophysics in India.

M. B. R. RAO.

SCIENCE NOTES AND NEWS

Lady Tata Memorial Trust

The Trustees of the Lady Tata Memorial Trust announce on the 18th June 1949, the death anniversary of Lady Meherbai Dorabji Tata, awards of scholarships and grants for the year 1949-50.

The international awards of varying amounts (totalling £3000) for research in diseases of the blood with special reference to Leucæmias are made to Doctors Edith Paterson (England), M. C. Bessis (France), J. Bichel (Denmark), Pierre Cazal (France), J. Clemmesen (Denmark), C. F. M. Plum (Denmark), E. Kelemen (Hungary), Edoardo Storti (Italy), Charles Oberling (France), Jagdish Chandra Mehta (India), Pascou Atanasiu (France) and Gunther Schalloëk (Germany).

Indian Scholarships of Rs. 250 per month each for one year for scientific investigations having a bearing on the alleviation of human suffering from disease are awarded to Messrs. Gangagobinda Bhattacharya (Calcutta), Bimal Kumar Sur (Mysore), K. Ramamurti (Bangalore), Gauranga Roy (Calcutta), D. V. Siva Sankar (Madras) and P. R. Srinivasan (Coonoor).

Director of Geological Survey

Dr. M. S. Krishnan, Director of the India Bureau of Mines, New Delhi, it is understood, has been appointed to act as Director of Geological Survey, in the place of Dr. W. D. West who is proceeding on leave. Dr. Krishnan is the first Indian to be appointed to the post.

Award of Research Degree

The Syndicate of the Andhra University have resolved that Mr. C. Ramasastry, M.Sc., be declared qualified for the degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners consisting of: Dr.

R. W. B. Pearse, Dr. R. F. Barrow, Prof. W. Jevens appointed to adjudicate on the thesis entitled "Band Spectra of the Diatomic Halides of Zinc, Cadmium and Mercury and Spectrum of Triatomic Molecules CS₂."

World Medical Conference

The general conference of the World Medical Association is being held in London this summer.

Sixteen nations are preparing the agenda at preliminary committee meetings. These are now proceeding in Madrid.

World Tuberculosis Conference in London

Representatives from all over the world—from 33 different countries, including all those of the Commonwealth—are to attend the second Commonwealth and Empire Health and Tuberculosis Conference, to be held in London from July 5 to 8.

The Conference, which is being arranged by Britain's National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, will give special attention to Commonwealth questions but the opening session will be devoted to tuberculosis as a world problem because it is against this background that all other problems must be considered.

India will be represented at the Conference by a delegation of five. It will consist of Dr. P. V. Benjamin, a member of the Tuberculosis Association of India, Major Khushdeva Singh, Dr. Ram Chandra Adhikari, Dr. P. K. Ghosh and Captain S. D. Sharma. Dr. Benjamin, who read a most interesting paper at the last Conference, will be one of the speakers at this year's Conference.

One of the most interesting features of the Conference will be an exhibition illustrating

the most modern methods in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of the disease, both scientific and psychological.

On the scientific side there will be exhibits illustrating the manufacture and use of the new drugs Streptomycin and para-Amino-Salicylic Acid and an X-ray demonstration unit with a darkroom in which films will be shown. On the psychological side the Art Therapy exhibit will be especially interesting as this scheme, started by the N.A.P.T. three years ago, has now been adopted with great success in over 100 sanatoria.

The Royal College of Physicians, the Matrons and Medico-Social Sections of the N.A.P.T., and the journal *The Practitioner* are planning to give receptions for Conference members. There will be a large choice of specially arranged visits of medical interest to such institutions as Brompton Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, the King Edward VII Sanatorium at Midhurst in Sussex, Papworth Village Settlement at Cambridge, and Harefield County Hospital, Middlesex.

Study Grants for Indian Scholars

Under the scheme for the promotion of interchange between British Universities and those in Commonwealth countries, the British Council has awarded travel grants covering return fares to Mr. O. P. Bhatnagar, Lecturer in History at Allahabad University, and to Mr. B. Bhattacharya of Benares Hindu University.

Mr. Bhatnagar will visit London University and Mr. Bhattacharya will study spectroscopy at Cambridge.

200th Anniversary of Dr. Edward Jenner

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Edward Jenner, the British physician who introduced to the world the technique of vaccination, an exhibition has been arranged in London.

It was in 1798 that Dr. Jenner first placed before the world the results of his researches into the possibilities of vaccination. This new technique soon spread to all parts of the civilised world and by 1800 had become recognised medical practice. He was the first person to introduce the idea, and the first to have the courage to test his theories in practice.

It was not till about 80 years later that Pasteur extended Jenner's discovery by using vaccination against cholera and anthrax. It was he who

proposed a meeting of the Medical Congress in London, that vaccination be officially adopted as the term for this method of conferring immunity from infectious diseases. He suggested this as a "homage to the merit and immense services rendered to medicine by one of England's greatest men, Dr. Jenner".

Los Angeles Arboretum

Dr. Frans Verdoorn, who has been Director of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum at Arcadia near Pasadena, California, since last autumn, will return to his editorial, historical, and international relations work at Waltham, Massachusetts on April 15, 1949.

It is with deep regret that the Trustees of the California Arboretum Foundation, Inc. accept his resignation on completion of the initial organizational phase in the development of the Arboretum. Its office, library and the Southern California Horticultural Centre have been established, and preliminary landscaping plans (by Architect Bent) have been completed, and a Biological Survey of the Arboretum area is well under way.

Dr. Verdoorn will continue to serve the Arboretum as a Councillor.

Pending the appointment of a new Director, Wm. Hertrich, Curator Emeritus of the Huntington Garden, and a member of the Arboretum Board of Trustees, will supervise horticultural activities, Mr. Howard Miller, of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the general office, and Mrs. Richard Dakin the historical reconstruction work.

George Spalding, Propagator at the Arboretum, has been appointed Acting Superintendent.

Indian Standards Institution (ISI)

The International Organisation for Standardization (ISO) is holding a number of Conferences in Paris from the 25th of June to 11th of July next, at which India will be represented by Dr. Lal C. Verman, Director of the Indian Standards Institution (ISI). Apart from the ISO Council, of which India is an elected member, the General Assembly of the ISO, on which 27 leading nations of the world are represented, will meet for the second time since its inauguration in 1946 in London. Ten of the 69 Technical Committees of the ISO are expected to hold working sessions in which concrete proposals for International standardization of several subjects will be discussed and programmes for future work in these fields will

be laid down. Revision of ISO statutes will also be considered by a Special Committee of the ISO Council, of which Dr. Verman is a member.

Dr. Verman, who will be leaving for Paris on the 24th of June, has been selected by the ISI to represent India in all these conferences of the ISO. It is anticipated that he will take this opportunity to hold informal consultations with delegates from other countries concerning international standardization of Shellac and Mica in which India is most interested from the export point of view, and for which India has been entrusted with the secretariats of the ISO Committees. The ISI had already circulated draft proposals for standardization in these two fields to all the ISO Members interested in the subject and Dr. Verman will endeavour to arrange that it should be made possible for the ISO Committees on Shellac and Mica to meet in India during the coming winter.

Brazil's Jute Industry

A campaign for an all-out Government support to Brazil's jute industry, which is reported to have made a "miraculous recovery", has been launched by a united front of cultivators, manufacturers and exporters, reports the May issue of the *Jute Bulletin* recently released by the Indian Central Jute Committee. Trade circles in Rio de Janeiro believe that Brazil which is now producing sufficient bags will eventually be able to produce surplus jute for export. There was a storm of protests from sacking manufacturers and exporters alike when a bill seeking to allow duty-free importations of used jute bags was recently introduced in Congress.

Recent production figures from Amazonas and Para, whose combined output jumped from less than one million kilos in 1941 to more than 7 million kilos in 1947, provide reasonable basis for the prediction made by the Rio Weaving Syndicate that complete self-sufficiency would be achieved by Brazil in 1949. It is estimated that the 1949 crop will be three times the 1947 figure. Conversely, imports of Indian jute dropped from over 25 million kilos in 1938 to only 10 million in 1947.

At present imported jute constitutes 40 per cent. of the raw material consumed by Brazil's 33 sacking factories. The other 60 per cent. is

indigenous and includes Caroa and several other native fibres grown in Northern States. Last year 32 million jute bags crossed Brazil's borders carrying exports of various agricultural produce.

Experimental Cell Research

A new journal is about to be launched under the auspices of the International Society for Cell Biology.

Experimental Cell Research will publish papers dealing with experimental analysis of the activity, structure and organization of the cell and its subunits, including work on virus. Technical or theoretical papers aiming at the further development of methods in the field of experimental cytology will also be included. Papers may be submitted in English, French, or German.

Experimental Cell Research will be edited by Törbjörn Caspersson, Stockholm; Honor Fell, Cambridge; John Runnström, Stockholm; Francis O. Schmitt, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Paul Weiss, Chicago, Illinois; Ralph W. C. Wyckoff, Bethesda, Maryland. J. F. Danielli, London, will act as editor of communications from the Society for Cell Biology.

Authors residing in the Western hemisphere should send their papers to U.S. editors; those residing in the British Isles should mail them to Dr. Honor Fell, Strangeways Laboratories, Cambridge; papers originating in other countries should be forwarded to the Scandinavian editors.

One volume, consisting of four issues, will be published annually.

The new journal will be released under the imprint of Academic Press, Inc., New York.

ERRATA

Vol. XVIII, No. 5, May 1949, pages 180-81

Note on *Cerebella* on Sugarcane :

In the heading

for "*Cerebella* on Sugarcane" read "*Cerebella* on Sugarcane ergot".

p. 181, line 3, for "inhibit sclerotial development" read "inhibit sclerotial development".

p. 181, para 2, line 7, for "suppressing the sclerotial stage" read "suppressing the sclerotial stage".