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## SCIENCE NOTES AND NEWS

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### International Standards Meetings

The Indian Standards Institution will participate in the meetings of a number of technical committees of the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), to be held in London and on the continent during October and the next two months. Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Deputy Director (Chemicals), will represent the Institution at these meetings.

### C.S.I.R. News

*C.S.I.R. News*, Vol. 1, No. 1 of which has just now appeared, seeks to convey information relating to the activities and achievements of the various organisations and institutions functioning under the auspices of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India.

### Mr. K. Ramiah

Mr. K. Ramiah, formerly Director, Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, has been appointed Rice Consultant to the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations.

### Rome Microbiology Congress

An International Congress on Chemical Microbiology was recently held in Rome, when the new international centre for chemical microbiology was also opened. The centre, the only one of its kind in the world, will be directed by Professor Chain, F.R.S., and 15 research scholarships are being provided by the World Health Organisation.

### Research on Solar Radiation

During the past few years the Australian Division of Radiophysics has studied the intensity of the radio waves from the sun, on the following wave-lengths: 3, 10, 25, 50, 300 and 500 centimetres. The Division successfully developed the technique of using spaced receivers, during an eclipse, to determine the position of high emitting areas on the sun. As a result of these observations, and of theoretical studies based on them, it is now possible to recognise a base level of radiation over the wave-length

range from one centimetre to four metres. This radiation is due to thermal emission from the hot gases of the solar atmosphere. Theoretical studies have enabled the investigators to use the radio results to estimate the normal temperature and pressure of these gases at various heights above the visible surface of the sun.

### Dr. S. S. De

Dr. S. S. De of the Indian Institute of Science has left for Bangkok as Regional Nutrition Officer, Asia and South-East Regions of the F.A.O.

### Nuclear Physics Plan for Europe

The creation of a European Regional Laboratory for Nuclear Physics was under further consideration at the Sixth Session of the UNESCO General Conference. The idea has been under study since the 1950 meeting, when approval was given to the setting up of such regional centres, as proposed by Professor Isidor Rabi, of the U.S.A.

### Flying Spot Microscope

A "flying spot" microscope which is able to scan, magnify, measure and count about a million minute particles, such as brain cells, per second, is described in the report of the Nuffield Foundation for 1950-51, issued recently.

The instrument uses a televiser, focussed through an ordinary microscope reversed, to scan the specimen in a series of lines by means of a minute and brilliant spot of light. A photo-electric cell converts the spot's messages into electric signals, which are amplified and converted into a display on a television-viewing screen three feet square. It is believed that the new technique may revolutionize the present primitive methods of counting and measuring cells in microscopic examination.

### CORRECTION TO PREVIOUS NOTE

VOL. 20, No. 1, p. 38.

In the note on "Studies on Ion Exchange", Figs. 1 and 2 are to be interchanged. Also, in Table I,  $10^3 \times m$ . eq. must read as  $m$ . eq.