

The meeting concluded with a valedictory session at which Metcoff presented a report on the formal sessions. Bagchi in his valedictory address referred to the unabated persistence of malnutrition in poor areas and emphasized the imperative need for political and economic steps.

The workshop promoted a good deal of informal discussion between the participants outside the venue of the conference hall and the seminar rooms and was attended by postgraduate students and staff from the departments of Biochemistry, Child Development, Foods and Nutrition and Pediatrics.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

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### PROFESSOR C. N. R. RAO

It has been announced that Professor C. N. R. Rao has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, London. He was born in 1934 and obtained the B. Sc. degree from the Central College, Bangalore (1951), M. Sc. degree from the Banaras Hindu University (1953) and Ph.D. degree from Purdue University (1957/1958). He then joined the Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore as a Lecturer in 1959. The D. Sc. degree of the University of Mysore was awarded to him in 1961. In 1963 he joined the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, as the Professor and Head of the Department of Chemistry. Professor Rao was a Visiting Professor at Purdue during 1967-68. He was a Commonwealth Professor at the University of Oxford and Fellow of St. Catherine's College during 1974-75. He came back to the Indian Institute of Science in 1976 where he organised a new unit devoted to solid state and structural chemistry. Professor Rao's main research interests are in chemical spectroscopy, molecular structure, solid state chemistry and surface science. He has employed UV photoelectron spectroscopy in recent years to investigate electron states of free molecules. In solid state chemistry he has made major contributions to phase transitions, defect solids, electronic and magnetic properties of complex metal oxides and spectroscopy of solids. In phase transitions he has carried out extensive studies on structural transitions of inorganic and organic solids. Monte-Carlo simulations of polytypes, mictomagnets and plastic crystals have also been carried out. A variety of oxides and other materials of novel structures have been synthesised in Prof. Rao's laboratory with a view to presenting unified explanations of properties of complex solids based on chemical bonding principles. In the last few years, he has developed the first surface science laboratory in the country with X-ray and UV photoelectron spectroscopy, Auger spectroscopy, EELS and so on. One of the main characteristics of Prof. Rao's research is the multipronged approach

based on extensive use of a variety of modern experimental methods and theoretical calculations.

Professor Rao is the author of nine books and over 300 research papers and reviews. His first book on UV and Visible Spectroscopy was published (Butterworths, London) in 1960, to be soon followed by 'Infrared Spectroscopy' (Academic Press, New York, 1963). His book with Dr. K. J. Rao on "Phase Transitions in Solids" published in 1979 by McGraw Hill, New York, attempts to make a unified presentation of this cross-disciplinary subject.

Professor Rao is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences (1965) and the Indian National Science Academy (1974). He has received several national and international honours and awards; the Marlow Medal of the Faraday Society, England (1967), the S. S. Bhatnagar prize of CSIR in Chemical Sciences (1968), the Yedenapalli medal and prize of the Indian Chemical Society (1973), the Jawaharlal Nehru Fellowship (1973), the Sir C. V. Raman Award in Physical Sciences of the UGC (1975), the Centennial Foreign Fellowship of the American Chemical Society (1976), Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry prize for research in physical sciences (1977) and the S. N. Bose Medal of the Indian National Science Academy (1980). The President of India bestowed on him the national honour, Padmashri, in 1974. He was elected foreign member of the Academy of Sciences, Yugoslavia in 1981. Purdue University will confer the degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa) in May 1982.

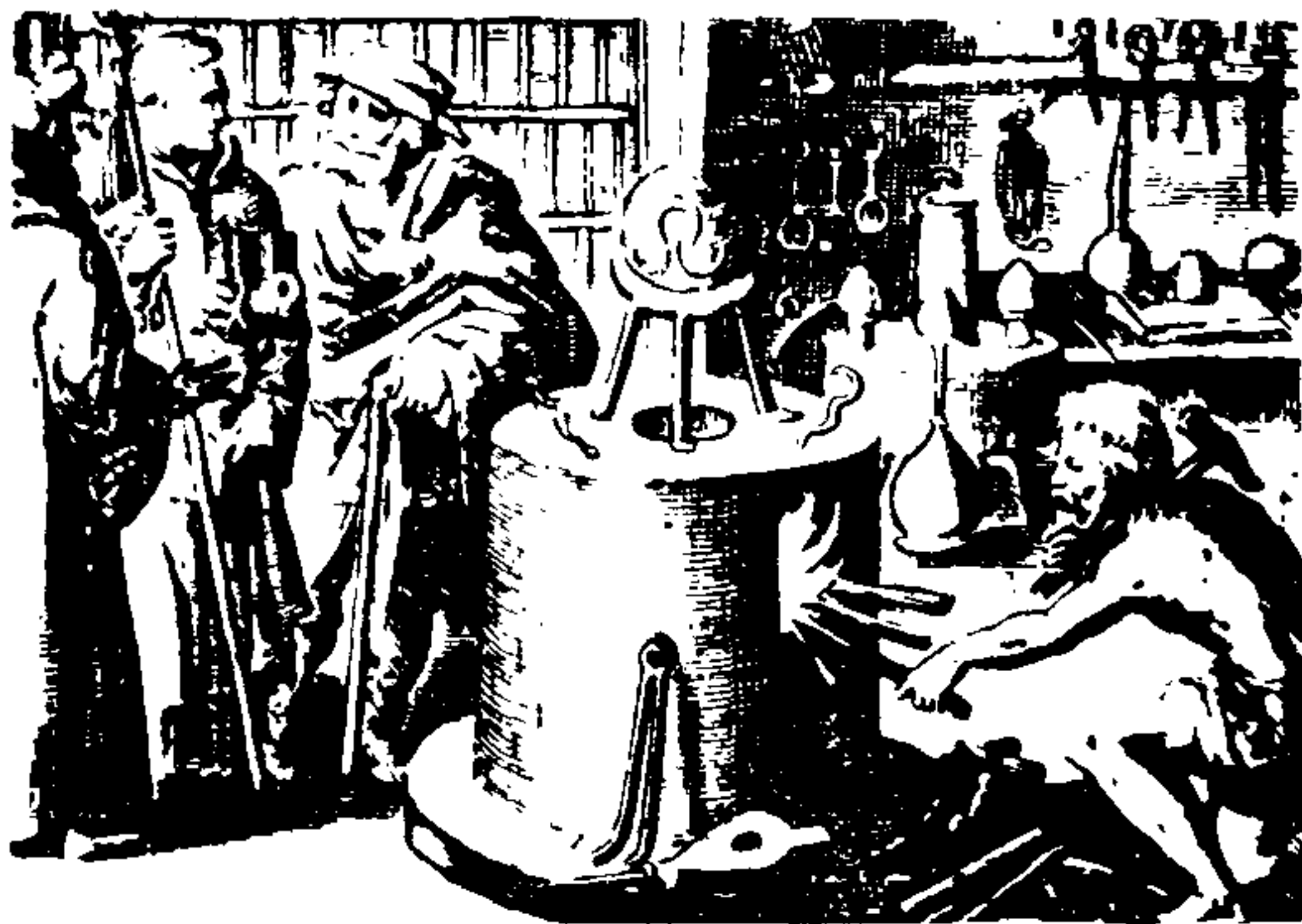
Professor Rao is a member of the Bureau of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. He was the Chairman of the Commission of Chemical Education of the International Union till recently and he is now the Chariman of the Commission of Spectroscopy and Molecular Structures. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA) of the International Council of Scientific Unions. Prof. Rao was the Vice-President and is now

Secretary of the Indian Academy of Sciences. He was a member of the first National Committee of Science and Technology and is now a member of the Science Advisory Committee to the Union Cabinet.

Professor Rao is on the editorial boards of ten international journals. He is the Chairman of the editorial boards of the *Proceedings (Chemical Sciences)* and *Bulletin of Materials Science*, published

by the Indian Academy of Sciences. He is the Vice President of the Current Science Association. Professor Rao is particularly known for his unassuming nature, genial temperament and unbound enthusiasm for scientific discussions with his students and colleagues. Current Science wishes him all success.

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