
CURRENT SCIENCE—50 YEARS AGO



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Science and Industry

IT is not generally realised, even by promoters of industry that Science and Industry are no more closely related to each other than Philosophy and Religion. It is indeed true that Science provides the basic material for the development of Industries; it should also be admitted that no industry can prosper unless scientific methods are adopted. On the other hand, Science plays only a small part in the organisation of industry. The scientist is only an humble unit in the machinery that is engaged on the conversion of a cheap raw material into a valuable finished product which the consumer buys. The work of the scientist constitutes the foundation on which the industry is built and which in consequence, should be safely and securely laid. It does not all the same, constitute the

entire structure. The scientific worker is fitted to lay more foundations and even strengthen the existing basis, but the main structure must be built by others. It would be of much assistance, therefore, to the progress of industry if the significance of the above could be realised by all concerned, so that there need be no delusions regarding the role of the scientist in industrial organisations; so that his talent may be more usefully employed in the conduct of fundamental researches leading to new industries or in solving technical difficulties relating to the existing ones rather than be diverted into lines of work for which he is not fitted and wherein he may prove a failure.

The truth of this position is, no doubt, realised by the more progressive industrialists, who collect together the right types of talent and organise them into a homogeneous machinery that constitute the prosperous industry. On the other hand, it is not appreciated by many others, particularly in India where the management content themselves with finding the necessary funds and leaving it to their scientific staff to become also the manufacturers, advertisers and even salesmen! The result is that the scientist is obliged to neglect or put off his legitimate duties. He is not generally fitted by either temperament or training for the different types of operations that he is called on to undertake so that, more often than not, he fails in such ventures. Ultimately the industrial venture also proves a failure and the poor scientist comes in for general censure.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

SYMPOSIUM ON 'RECENT ADVANCES IN PROTOZOAN DISEASES'

The Symposium on "Recent Advances in Protozoan Diseases" is being organised at the Hindustan Ciba-Geigy Research Centre, Goregaon, Bombay, on 28-29 November 1983, under the auspices of the Indian Society for Parasitology, and the Indian Society for Gastroenterology.

The Symposium is proposed to cover chemotherapy, immunology, parasitology and biochemistry of Malaria, Amoebiasis, Giardiasis and Leishmaniasis,

the major protozoan pathogens in the tropical and sub-tropical parts of the world. Several international and national scientists are to present their most recent findings.

Further particulars may be had from Dr Paul Anand, Secretary Organising Committee, Hindustan Ciba-Geigy, Research Centre, Aarey Road, Goregaon East, Bombay 400 063.