
CURRENT SCIENCE—50 YEARS AGO



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Lt.-Col. R. B. S. Sewell, F.R.S.

CURRENT SCIENCE offers its hearty congratulations to Lieut.-Colonel Robert Beresford Seymour-Sewell on his selection as a Fellow by the Council of the Royal Society, London. He spent the best part of his life in India, first as an officer of the Indian Medical Service, later as the Surgeon Naturalist to the Marine Survey



Lt.-Col. R. Beresford Seymour-Sewell,
MA, ScD, FZS, FASB, IMS, CIE, FRS

of India and finally as Director of the Zoological Survey of India; he went on leave preparatory to retirement from the 22nd April 1933. He was a member of the Editorial Board of the *Current Science* and gave us valuable help at all times and we are particularly glad to hear of his selection as a Fellow of the Royal Society, London.

Colonel Sewell has done very valuable work as a Zoologist, Oceanographer and Anthropologist and a detailed list of his papers was published in the *Records of the Indian Museum*, Vol. XXXV, pp. 270–275 (September 1933), while an account of his life was published in the *Current Science* issue for April 1933. We sincerely hope that the results of his investigations as the Leader of the John Murray Oceanographical Expedition will greatly add to our knowledge of the oceanography and fauna of the Arabian Sea.

Dr. L. L. Fermor, F.R.S

WE record with genuine pleasure the election of Dr L. L. Fermor to the Fellowship of the Royal Society. This has come as a fitting recognition of the long and devoted scientific labours of the present Chief of the Geological Survey of India. Dr Fermor's connection with the Geological Survey dates from 1902 and throughout this long period, his work has been characterised by breadth of outlook and wide human



Dr. L. L. Fermor, O.B.E., D.Sc., F.G.S., F.R.S.

sympathies side by side with mastery of detail and meticulous precision in the expression of scientific observations. Amidst his numerous contributions to Mineralogy, Petrology and Archaean Geology, perhaps the most outstanding work which will remain as a memorial to his ability and industry, is his monograph on the Manganese Ore Deposits of India dealing with every aspect, scientific and economic, of the subject.

Dr Fermor's social qualities are equally great; they find full play in his administrative duties, not only in

his department, but also such institutions as the Asiatic Society of Bengal, of which he is the President, and of the Mining and Geological Institute of India, of which he is the Treasurer and Editor. A happy disposition, an even temper at all times and the capacity to understand and appreciate other points of view that his own, characterise his dealings with his official colleagues and non-official friends and acquaintances. We wish him long life and further honours.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINTER SCHOOL ON BIOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS OF MAGNETIC RESONANCE

A two week Winter School on Biological Applications of Magnetic Resonance will be held in Bangalore during 25 September–6 October 1984 immediately following the XI International Conference on Magnetic Resonance in Biological Systems to be held in Goa, India. This Satellite event after the International Conference will provide unique opportunity to Young Indian scientists and those from other developing countries to learn and discuss the latest advances in Magnetic Resonances and its applications with emphasis to biological systems. Most of the lectures will be given by Internationally renowned

scientists attending the Goa conference.

The admission will be restricted to 50 participants from outside Bangalore and will be decided by a National Committee. The last date of receiving applications is 30 May 1984 and the selected participants will be informed of the decision of the National Committee by 30 June, 1984.

Those desirous of attending the School should apply to the undersigned in a proforma that can be obtained from the convener. Dr C. L. Khetrapal, Convener, Raman Research Institute, Bangalore 560 080.

DR KAILASH NATH KATJU AWARDS FOR SCIENCES

Dr Kailash Nath Katju awards for Sciences of Rs. 50,000/- has been jointly awarded to Dr R. K. Singh of Rani Durgawati University, Jabalpur, Dr S. K. Goswami of Bhopal University, and Dr J. S. Rathore

of Awadesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa. The Award was presented to the scientists by Mr. Zail Singh, President of India.

HARI OM ASHRAM GOLD MEDAL

The Hari Om Ashram gold medal for durg research in Ayurveda has been awarded to Dr (Mrs.) Mohana Krishnaswamy (Biochemistry) and to Dr K. K. Purushothaman (Phytochemist), of the Captain Srinivasamurthy Drug Research Institute, Madras. The award is being given for their work in screening

the anti-cancer activity of a herb chitraka (*Plumbago zylanica*). This research project concerns the isolation of a chemical compound and pre-clinical research in its anti-cancer activity. The drug has great poential as a breakthrough in cancer treatment.
