

proved successful in diagnosing cases of spike naturally transmitted by vectors operating in forests. Since the main objective of the entomologist is to transmit spike through the agency of viruliferous vectors, the vector-fed plant, if it should be pronounced to be typically spiked, should answer the grafting test just as much as a spiked plant (grafted with material derived from a naturally diseased plant) does stand a similar test.

It may be argued that in the case of the *Moona*-fed spiked plants, the dosage was insufficient, that the disease produced was not virulent, and that the vector in question transmitted only a single component of the virus complex which has possibly two or three. But it only serves to establish the fact that the insect transmission has not been the success, as it was announced to be some time ago.<sup>8</sup> It should be, however, admitted that the large number of negative experiments conducted by Chatterjee and Dover are

very illuminating, but it is unfortunate that in spite of the independent efforts of the Mysore Agricultural Department and the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, the natural transmission of spike should still remain obscure. We cordially endorse the opinion of the Editor of the *Indian Forester* that "the only profitable course in future is to repeat them extensively with such modifications of technique as are required by the possibly complex nature of the spike virus and the dependence of virulent infection on such factors as dosage or dual vectors."

<sup>1</sup> *Indian Forester*, 1934, 60, 492.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 1933, 59, 695.

<sup>3</sup> *Nature*, 1934, 133, 382.

<sup>4</sup> *Indian Forester*, 1934, 60, 505.

<sup>5</sup> *Investigations on Spike-Disease of Sandal*, 1932, 5, 12.

<sup>6</sup> *Indian Forester*, 1934, 60, 505.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, 1934, 60, 492.

<sup>8</sup> Dover, *Nature*, 1933, 132, 592.

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## NEWS

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### POLITICS, MANAGEMENT, AND SCIENCE

... "Like most scientists responding to the State department's request for a review of UNESCO, Paul Baker, National Academy of Sciences representative to the US Natl. Comm. for UNESCO, believes that the problems plaguing UNESCO science programmes are managerial and not political. He says that a disproportionate amount of UNESCO science funds (which constitute 28% of its total budget) goes to

support a rigid bureaucracy that splinters programs into less efficient, competitive units. Other critics add that UNESCO, in an attempt to satisfy all of its member states, dilutes its effectiveness by creating too many programs on a limited budget." (Reproduced with permission from *Press Digest, Current Contents*® No. 22, May 28, 1984. Copyright by the Institute for Scientific Information®, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

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### PROTECTING HISTORIC BUILDINGS

World exclusive rights for the marketing of Brethane, the compound which can greatly extend the life of historic buildings, have been granted to Colebrand, the London-based international industrial plant protection specialists. 'On the evidence to date, the compound is likely to be an economic boon to all concerned with the renovation of old buildings', says the company. Brethane is a stone preservative developed over a number of years' research by the British Building Research Establishment (BRE).

The product is a three component compound which

when applied penetratively to stonework, including statuary and carvery on walls, fulfils three major purposes. It binds fragile decayed stone, old and very old, onto underlying sound stone; it encapsulates salts which cause decay, thus rendering them harmless, and in the case of limestones, it protects the stone from chemical attack by acidic air pollutants.

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