

servatory building in a manuscript volume (1793–94) (kept at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics) the first 10 and the last few pages of which have been missing. The Astronomer Topping's accounts have unfortunately not survived. The Goldingham manuscript being the only extant contemporary account, has led to the erroneous belief that the observatory was founded in 1792.

The original instruments of the observatory were donated by Petrie: (1) a sidereal clock by Shelton (2) 20" transit instrument by Stancliffe, (3) a quadrant by Bird, (4) three identical achromatic telescopes by Dolland, of 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " aperture and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' focus. To these, Goldingham added a portable transit by Ramsden, and 12" diameter circular instrument (attazimuth) by Troughton.

Two papers by Goldingham published in 1822 in Philosophical transactions (pp 408–430; 431–436)

refer to observations made as early as 1787, by Petrie, Topping, and Goldingham himself. But the 1787 observations are not the oldest on record. The oldest observations on record pertain to 1786, the year of the foundation of the observatory, and are recorded in the Manuscript Observations. On 1786 December 5, the longitude and latitude of Masulipatnam Fort Flaggleft was measured.

Thus 1782 is neither the year of setting up of the observatory (which happens to be 1786) nor the year of takeover by the East India Company (which is 1789). The observatory building was constructed in 1782; but even afterwards a part of astronomer's house continued to be used for official purposes.

The detailed paper by R. K. Kochhar of Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore will appear in the 1985 June issue of the *Bulletin of the Astronomical Society of India*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORKSHOP ON ECODEVELOPMENT

Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Field Station at Sirsi,
District Uttara Kannada, November 20–December 3, 1985

This workshop will explore the conceptual as well as practical aspects of ecodevelopment with special reference to the Western Ghats. The topics covered will include enhancing the production and increasing the efficiency of use of plant biomass for meeting the needs of manure, fuel, fodder and shelter as well as developing non-conventional resources of energy. The emphasis would be on exposure to actual situation in the field.

This workshop is basically meant for Masters degree holders in Life sciences/Agricultural sciences teaching in Colleges and Universities in the Western

Ghats region of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala States. A few seats may be available for similarly qualified candidates working in research institutes, Botanical and Zoological Surveys and Voluntary Organizations. The total number of seats is 20. Some financial support for train/bus travel and board and lodging will be available to the participants.

Applications with biodata and reasons for attending this workshop along with the names of two referees should reach Prof. Madhav Gadgil, Convener, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 560 012, on or before 1st September, 1985.

SYMPOSIUM ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

The Research Centre in Biology, Department of Zoology, S. G. S. Arts College, Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) will be organising a UGC-sponsored 'Symposium on Developmental Pollution and Biological Systems' on 7–9 September, 1985 at

Tirupati. The details regarding the sessions, themes and registration may be had from Prof. V. Chandrasekharam, Convener, Research Centre in Biology, Department of Zoology, S. G. S. Arts College, Tirupati 517 501.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON PROTEINS IN FOOD, HEALTH AND INDUSTRY

International Symposium on Proteins in Food, Health and Industry will be held on 7-11 January 1986 at Loyola College (Autonomous) University of Madras. The symposium will be a followup programme of the two National Symposia conducted earlier at Loyola College on Food Proteins in March 1979 and on Protein Foods and Feeds in April 1982.

The symposium will focus its attention on the recent advances in the fundamental and applied aspects of proteins in the fields of food and nutrition, health and diseases and increasing role of proteins in biotechnology, industry and in society.

Intending participants are requested to send two

copies of the abstracts of their original work with definite results in 250 words, on one side of the bond paper leaving a margin of one inch on all sides. The matter may be neatly typed in single spacing with the title in capital letters. The last date for receiving the abstract is **31 August 1985**. Full papers for the accepted abstract will be received on or before **31st November 1985**.

All communication regarding the symposium, exhibition and advertisement may be addressed to Prof. Dr. A. Srinivasan, Convenor, ISPROFHI-1985-86, Department of Chemistry, Loyola College, Madras 600034.

NEWS

STOP TALKING AND LIVE LONGER

... Researchers at U. Maryland believe there is a link between talking and high blood pressure: "To test the theory, we asked 30 volunteers with normal pressure to read out loud—first at their usual speed and then much more rapidly. At normal pace their average pressure rose from 118/65 to 125/70. 'Speed reading' drove it up to 130/75. This experiment suggested that by learning to speak more slowly and breathing more regularly, hypertensives might be able to control their pressure surges. But though breathlessness can drive up blood pressure, that's only part of the story. It's the emotional implications of communicating, rather than the physical act of talking,

that deeply influence blood pressure and may determine how high it goes We have found that learning to listen to other people can help hypertensives lower their blood pressure. In conversations with patients, I found that when I succeeded in getting their attention, their blood pressure often fell dramatically, sometimes to lower levels than they had seen in years!"

[(James J. Lynch [U. Maryland Medical Sch.] in *American Health* 4(3): 39-43, Apr 85). Reproduced with permission from Press Digest, *Current Contents*®, No. 18, May 6, 1985, p. 14, (Published by the Institute for Scientific Information®, Philadelphia, PA, USA.)]

WILL INFORMATION SCIENCE ABOLISH LIBRARY SCIENCE?

... "Library educators face both obsolescence and competition. That shiny new information technology is already an integral part of America. An expansive 'information industry,' with an assist from the current federal administration, is hell-bent on forcing most access to and dissemination of information into the competitive marketplace. Add the great interest in computer-related careers among those entering college, and all of academe is excited. The library schools face the burgeoning development of computer and information programs in other academic departments

and schools, from business to engineering. The movement came so fast that the library schools rushed to paste on a new face, and by now 'information science' has been added to the names of their association and most of their schools."

[(John Berry in *Library Journal* 110(5):23-6, 15 Mar 85) (Reproduced with permission from Press Digest, *Current Contents*®, No. 22, June 3, 1985, p. 13. Published by the Institute for Scientific Information®, Philadelphia, PA, USA.)]