



FIG. 3
Tracks of Malabar Storms.

In the absence of information about weather from ships, it is difficult to say when the storm developed the core of

hurricane winds around its centre. The microseisms recorded at the Bombay Observatory however seem to show that the storm became severe after it started moving towards the coast.

The tracks of the cyclones that have struck the Malabar coast since 1845 are shown in Fig. 3. It will be seen that the recent cyclone followed an easterly course before striking the coast. This was very unusual, as the storms which originate in the south-east Arabian Sea generally travel in a northerly direction. Indeed, there has been only one other instance of a storm taking an easterly course in the southeast Arabian Sea—that of May 1932, shown in Fig. 3. It is interesting to note that, even the recent cyclone, in the earlier stages, tended to move towards the north. But, in the end, it decided to move eastwards and release all its energy in Malabar; and it did—with what disaster!

RAI BAHADUR PROF. K. C. MEHTA, Sc.D.

WE have great pleasure in congratulating Professor K. C. Mehta, Rai Bahadur, M.Sc., Ph.D. (Cantab.), F.N.I., of Agra College, Agra, on the award of the Sc.D. Degree of the University of Cambridge. It is a rare distinction and is a just recognition of the valuable contributions made by the Professor to our knowledge of the wheat rust problem of India. Notwithstanding heavy duties at the College, he has been conducting, since the year 1923, research on the various aspects of an obscure problem of great national importance, at considerable personal ex-

pense in the earlier stages of this work. Since 1930, these investigations have been continued with adequate grants from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and with the help of temporary research staff. After a comprehensive study of the parasites concerned, Prof. Mehta has been able to suggest simple and inexpensive methods of control of rust epidemics on wheat and barley. Prof. Mehta presided over the Botany Section of the Indian Science Congress in 1929.