

enough to cause devastating epidemics over large tracts of the country, as at present. That should lead to a saving of millions of rupees annually whereas the cost over these measures would amount only to a few thousands.

These methods have been approved for trial by competent bodies of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research as well as by some of the leading scientists abroad and it now remains for Provincial Governments and the States concerned to test their efficacy over a number of years *simultaneously* in their respective territories.

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research staff, since the year 1930, prior to which this work was carried out by the writer for a period of seven years at considerable personal expense.

Other acknowledgments due have been fully recorded in the two monographs, referred to above, and for want of space it is unnecessary to repeat them here.

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OBITUARY

DR. W. L. DAVIES, Ph.D. (Cantab.), D.Sc. (Wales), F.I.C., N.D.A.

IN the sudden death in Delhi of Dr. W. L. Davies, at the early age of 45, the cause of scientific research in milk and milk products has suffered a grievous loss.

After a distinguished career at the Reading University where he was Advisory Agricultural Chemist to the Southern Advisory Province from 1924 to 1927 and Research Dairy Chemist to the National Institute for Research in Dairying, Shinfield, from 1927 to 1939, Dr. Davies arrived in India to take up the duties of the newly created post of Director of Dairy Research under the Government of India. He applied at once with characteristic enthusiasm to the establishment of an Imperial Dairy Research Institute in New Delhi, but the war unfortunately interfered with the immediate financing of an ambitious project. Undaunted, Dr. Davies approached the Imperial Agricultural Research Institute for such laboratory facilities as can be spared, and, on these being readily offered, he initiated research work on urgent problems of the dairy industry, particularly detection of adulterants in *ghee*. The considerable knowledge which he acquired in the course of a preliminary survey of the indigenous

industry he embodied in a brochure entitled "Indian Indigenous Milk Products". The standard of this book is such as to be useful to all interested in the exploitation of milk in India, especially students of dairying, agricultural and animal husbandry, biochemists, analysts and technologists. The other contributions while in India include articles on (a) Colloid aspects of milk technology, (b) Deterioration of butter during storage, (c) Conservation of grass, and (d) Anti-oxygenic effect of cereal flour paste as a coating on contact wrappers for fatty foods. Dr. Davies' great reputation as a Dairy Chemist will, however, continue to be enshrined in his Monograph on "The Chemistry of Milk" (being Volume 10 of a series of monographs on Applied Chemistry under the Editorship of Dr. Howard Tripp; Chapman & Hall) which was so well received by the scientific world that a second edition was called for within three years of its original publication in 1936.

During the 22 months he was spared to live in India, Dr. Davies made many contacts; and impressed all as a good "mixer" and a devoted scientific worker.

B. V. N.