

training thus obtained might not be all that is desired. No provincial agricultural college has got a definite post-graduate training scheme.

In U.S.A., besides the workers in individual States either on Government employment or attached to the Universities, there is the federal Government which has also a large agricultural department with a team of research workers and there are schemes directly under their control not only at federal headquarters but also scattered in the different States to supplement the work which the individual States might already be doing. The Imperial Council of Agricultural Research in India no doubt functions to a certain extent on the model of the federal department of agriculture in U.S.A. but it has not got the expert technical personnel to help or give guidance to workers in individual provinces or States.

This is a matter that requires consideration from the point of view of all-India interest. Apart from other considerations, it will be well if the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research could examine at least the question of providing for the country competent personnel in sufficient numbers with sound training in plant breeding. It is quite likely that at least some of the agricultural research centres already existing in the country could be utilised as training centres with additional facilities provided wherever found necessary.

In conclusion, it may be definitely stated that plant breeding research offers the greatest scope for increasing the food production of the country not only as an emergency measure under the present conditions but also as a long-range measure in the post-war period.

PROF. H. J. BHABHA, F.R.S.

PROF. H. J. BHABHA, F.R.S., has been awarded the Adams Prize for 1941-42 by the University of Cambridge. Readers of *Current Science* will rejoice to learn that Prof. Bhabha is the first Indian to win this unique distinction.

The Adams Prize, valued at about £300, is awarded every even year for the best essay on some subject pertaining to pure mathematics, astronomy or some other branch of natural philosophy. Any person, who has at any time been admitted to a degree in the University of Cambridge, can compete for this coveted Prize, which is looked upon as one of the highest distinctions for distinguished scholarship and exceptional ability at exposition by all research workers. Quite often the award of the Prize could not be made for want of recipients as the standard set is extremely high. Between 1850 and 1913 this Prize was awarded only fifteen times! The list of Adams Prize winners includes the names of some of the greatest scientists of England, viz., Maxwell, J. J. Thomson, Poynting, Larmor, Love, McLarin, Jeans and Fowler.

The subject of the essay for which Professor Bhabha was awarded the Prize was "The

theory of elementary physical particles and their interactions". Prof. Bhabha is among the world's foremost workers in this field and has made many original contributions of fundamental importance to this subject during the last few years. Prof. Bhabha's presidential address to the Physics Section of the Indian Science Congress at its last session, was on the same subject and, in that address, he has indicated some of his ideas on the latest developments of the subject very clearly. This address was the subject of an excellent article by Sir Ralph Fowler, F.R.S., in the *Nature* of 5th June 1943.

Prof. Bhabha, at the moment, is engaged in writing a book on this subject, to be published by the Oxford University Press, and the Adams Prize essay forms only a part of the volume. We have no doubt this book will be most welcome as it will be the first systematic and logical development of the modern theory of the elementary particles of nature.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Prof. Bhabha on this occasion. He is still in his early thirties and we wish him many long years of eventful research and greater distinctions to crown his scientific endeavours.

CO-ORDINATION OF RESEARCH IN UNIVERSITIES

DELIVERING the inaugural address of the Madras University Research Scholars' Association, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, Dewan of Travancore, appealed to universities in South India to pool their resources and co-ordinate research work. The universities could sit together, confer together on their work so that there might be an interchange of students and professors and to avoid duplication and competition in the future. He would be a false prophet who forecast that, at the close of the war, there was going to be the best possible world ushered in. The post-war world would be a ruthless competitive world.

There was everywhere a great deal of talk

about international gatherings and a considerable amount of research devoted to the new order of things. Whatever might result from such efforts there was no gainsaying that India would have to establish her industries and commerce not in a world of peace but in a world in which other countries, which were better able to produce and sell, would compete with her.

Unless India was abreast of the industrial nations of the world, she would be swept off by the current. It was from this point of view that they, in Travancore, had planned research schemes in their university.