

include figures for certain important portions like the preparation of ozone, manufacture of iodine, Dumas method for the composition of water, etc. The author has devoted too much of space to describe some obsolete methods of manufactures like the Weldon's and Deacon's processes for the manufacture of chlorine. Actually the modern practice is to manufacture hydrochloric acid from the electrolytic chlorine and not the *vice versa*. The proof-reading must be done more carefully in the next issue and the mistakes that have appeared on the pages 31, 95, 105, 111, 115, 116, 130, 136, 155, 159, 160, 174, 198, 207 and 221 should be avoided.

M. R. A.

**Thomas Jefferson and the Scientific Trends of His Time.** By Charles A. Brownie. (*Chronica Botanica*, Waltham, Mass., U.S.A.; and Macmillan & Co., Calcutta), 1943. Pp. 63. Price 1.25 dollars.

Thomas Jefferson, patron-saint of American democracy, author of the Declaration of American Independence drafted by him in 1776, father and founder of the University of Virginia, and philosopher, was the third (and twice) President of the United States. That he was also a man of science and naturalist is perhaps not so well known outside the U.S. This scholarly essay by the Dean of American Agricultural Chemists deals with his relationships to the scientific trends, especially those pertaining to Natural History, of his times. As an agriculturist, astronomer, architect, botanist, meteorologist, etc., he considerably influenced subsequent developments in American science and that influence will continue to be felt for a long time. His familiarity with many phases of scientific knowledge which was largely utilitarian is well illustrated by his "Notes on the State of Virginia".

The author of the present contribution has successfully tried to follow the scientific ideas of Jefferson back to their sources and in so doing he has illustrated them by extensive

quotations from Jefferson's own writings. As a history of the development of American science, the book is very interesting. M.

**The Genera of Uredinales with Citations.** By Bisby, G. R. (Imperial Mycological Institute, Kew, England), 1944. Pp. 22. One shilling.

This is a list of all the genera of rusts published since 1801 and up to the end of 1943. Rusts are the most important and interesting among fungi and to a mycologist working in a country whose rust flora is not well known, taxonomy presents many difficulties because of the very large number of genera and species involved. Of the former, the author states that 234 names have so far been proposed.

The genera are arranged in alphabetic order with full citations, dates and the type species whenever possible. No other book has brought together under one cover all the rust genera that have so far been proposed. About 63 names not found in Clements and Shear's *Genera of Fungi*, published in 1931, are cited here although the number of new genera published since that date is only 20.

It is a pity that the author decided not to include comments concerning synonymy and life-cycles. At least those genera which by a majority consent are synonymous, should have been placed in italics (underlined in a mimeographed publication). The author cites *Maseella* as a monotypic genus. This is an error for Sydow proposed a second species in 1928 and two more have been established by Thirumalachar in 1943. With the exception of Saccardo (Vol. VIII, p. 600), all other mycologists, including the present author, have ignored Rabenhorst's genus *Sarcorhopalum* in *Bot. Zeitung*, 1851, p. 627, the species *S. tubiforme* being found on *Aspidium curvifolium* in the Nilgiris. The reasons for its neglect are not clear.

It is hoped that a new edition in a printed form will soon be published. M.

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## SCIENCE NOTES AND NEWS

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### LADY TATA MEMORIAL TRUST SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS, 1945-46

The Trustees of the Lady Tata Memorial Trust are offering eight scientific Research Scholarships of Rs. 150 each per month for the year 1945-46 commencing from 1st July 1945. Applicants must be of Indian Nationality and Graduates in Medicine or Science of a recognised University. The subject of scientific investigation must have a bearing either directly or indirectly on the alleviation of human suffering from disease. Applications must reach by March 15, 1945. Further particulars can be had from the Secretary of the Trust, "Bombay House," Bruce Street, Fort, Bombay.

At a recent auction in the Argentine, Argentine-grown jute fetched on an average about

Rs. 261 per maund, reports the December issue of the *Indian Central Jute Committee Bulletin*. It was the first lot of its kind to be placed on the market, consisting of six bales of 25 kilos each—a kilo equivalent to about a seer. It was regarded rather as a demonstration than as a commercial transaction. The total proceeds amounted to Rs. 1,043-4-0, and they were donated to a charitable fund. The jute offered in the sale was obtained from fields which have been planted with it in the islands of Ibicuy in the delta of the Parana River where it empties into the Rio de La Plata Estuary above Buenos Aires. The sale aroused a certain amount of interest as illustrating the possibilities of jute production in the Republic. Not only in this district of Ibicuy, but in others farther north in Misiones and Corrientes

experimental plantings have been made and the National Bank has interested itself to the extent of granting loans to the colonists willing to take part in the movement.

The Mining, Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India held its Thirty-ninth Annual General Meeting in the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal at 11-30 a.m. on Friday, January 12th, 1945. After the Honorary Secretary had read the Annual Report of the Council which showed that the Institute had had a successful year, the new Council was elected. Mr. B. Wilson Haigh, M.I.Chem.E., who, for several years, has been Honorary Secretary of the Dhanbad Branch of the Institute, was elected President for the forthcoming year; *Vice-Presidents*: Mr. L. J. Barraclough, Dr. H. Crookshank and Mr. B. Sen; *Honorary Treasurer*: Dr. H. Crookshank; *Honorary Editor*: Mr. E. J. Bradshaw; *Local Secretaries of Branches*: Dr. C. Forrester, Dhanbad Centre; Mr. J. H. Patterson, Asansol Centre; Dr. J. Sanjana, Jamshedpur Centre; Mr. T. A. Wellsted, C.P. Branch; and Mr. A. Reid, *Honorary Secretary*. In accordance with a new arrangement, the retiring President, Mr. R. A. MacGregor, C.I.E., M.I.Mech.E., Chief Metallurgist to the Government of India, presented his Presidential Address at the end of his term of office. After referring to the tragic loss the Institute had sustained by the death of its Honorary Treasurer, Dr. E. L. G. Clegg, Director of the Geological Survey of India, Mr. MacGregor chose as the subject of his Address, "The Place of the Technical Institutions in the Schemes for Post-War Development of Industry in India".

The Indian Botanical Society has elected the following Office-bearers for the year 1945:—*President*: Dr. N. L. Bor; *Vice-Presidents*: Prof. H. Chaudhuri and Dr. B. P. Pal; *Secretary*: Dr. S. N. Das Gupta; *Treasurer and Business Manager*: Dr. A. C. Joshi; *Elected Members of the Executive Council*: Dr. P. L. Anand, Dr. M. O. P. Iyengar, Prof. G. P. Majumdar, Dr. P. Parija, Prof. M. Sayeed-ud-Din, Prof. T. S. Raghavan, Prof. R. L. Nirula, Dr. T. S. Mahabale, Prof. L. N. Rao, and Prof. F. R. Bharucha; *Editorial Board*: Prof. S. P. Agharkar, Prof. H. Chaudhuri, Prof. M. O. P. Iyengar (Editor-in-Chief), Dr. P. Maheshwari, Dr. A. C. Joshi, Dr. S. N. Das Gupta, and Prof. G. P. Majumdar.

#### MAGNETIC NOTES

Magnetic conditions during December 1944 were slightly more disturbed than in the previous month. There were 19 quiet days, 9 days of slight disturbance, 2 days of moderate disturbance, and one day of very great disturbance, as against 11 quiet days, 19 days of slight disturbance and one day of moderate disturbance during the same month last year.

The quietest day during the month was the 7th and the day of the largest disturbance the 16th.

The individual days during the month were classified as shown below:—

Quiet days	Disturbed days		
	Slight	Moderate	Very great
1, 3-12, 19-25, 31	2, 12-15, 18, 26, 28-30	17, 27	16

A magnetic storm of great intensity with a sudden commencement was recorded during the month. No magnetic storms occurred during the same month last year.

The mean character figure for the month of December 1944 was 0.48 as against 0.68 for December last year.

M. PANDURANGA RAO.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following journals:—

"Journal of the Royal Society of Arts," Vol. 92, No. 4678; Vol. 93, No. 4680.

"Journal of Agricultural Research," Vol. 69, Nos. 4, 5 and 6.

"Indian Journal of Agricultural Science," Vol. 13, Pt. 3; Vol. 14, Pt. 2.

"Journal of the Indian Botanical Society," Vol. 23, No. 3.

"Calcutta Review," Vol. 94, No. 1.

"Journal of the Indian Chemical Society," Vol. 21, Nos. 8-9.

"Endeavour," Vol. 3, No. 12.

#### BOOKS

*Your Food*. By M. R. Masani. (Messrs. Padma Publications, Ltd., Lakshmi Buildings, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay), 1944. Pp. viii + 82. Price Rs. 1.

*The Royal Society, 1660-1940*. By Sir Henry Lyons. (Cambridge University Press, Bentley Home, 200, Euston Road, London, N.W. 1), 20-11-1944. Pp. 324. Price 25/-.

*Flowers in Britain*. By L. J. F. Brimble. (Macmillan & Co., St. Martin's St., London, W.C. 2), 1944. Pp. x + 393. Price 12/6.

#### CORRECTIONS

Vol. 13, No. 12 (December 1944)

Article entitled "Classification of Pre-historic Sites in India"—

P. 303, column 1, line 20: there should be a full stop after the word "Krishna". Then the next sentence should read as "They are also abundant in South India."

P. 306, column 2, line 40: read "work" for "dork".

P. 307, column 2, line 21: read "Wood" for "Woo".

Note entitled "Tonic Elongation of Unstriated Muscle"—

P. 311, column 2: the first line should read "It could not only be due to" instead of "it could not be due to".

Note entitled "The Thermal Decomposition of Mercuric Fulminate"—

P. 315, column, 1, line 16: for "result" read "results".

P. 315, column 1, line 27: for "Hg<sub>2</sub>" read "Hg<sub>2</sub>".