

SCIENCE NOTES AND NEWS

Research Grants

A meeting of the Governing Body of the Council of Industrial and Scientific Research was held at New Delhi on August 25. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, presided.

The Council sanctioned schemes of research involving a total expenditure of Rs. 83,700.

It was decided to establish a National Internal Combustion Engineering Laboratory, and to send abroad fifteen students for advanced study and training in internal combustion engineering in order to meet the needs of the National Laboratory, Industries and Technological Institutes.

The Council also recommended a grant of Rs. 2.25 lakhs to the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the training of personnel in internal combustion engines and for long-range research in the field. The setting up of an Indian Aircraft Establishment, and Admiralty Establishment and an Internal Combustion Engine Development Board was recommended by the Council.

The Council decided to bring out a monograph on Indian medicinal plants and a popular edition of the monograph on aromatic plants of India.

A grant of Rs. 3 lakhs was sanctioned for the Research Institute of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for physical and chemical investigations of the minerals of India under the direction of Sir C. V. Raman.

Dr. Shyamaprasad Mookherjee was elected Vice-President of the Council.

Indian Institute of Science

The Council of the Indian Institute of Science approved, at a meeting on the 8th September, a large building programme for housing laboratories of power engineering, high-voltage engineering, pharmacology, fermentation technology and food technology.

The Council also recommended to the Visitor the appointment of Dr. B. Sanjiva Rao to the post of Nizam Professor of Inorganic and Mineral Chemistry at the Institute.

Unesco Projects for India

It is reported that in the very near future UNESCO will undertake publication of scientific journals in Indian languages, probably from Calcutta, for the purpose of disseminating the results of the latest scientific research from all parts of the world to the Indian public. To begin with, the Journals will come out in Bengali and Hindi, and later it may be published in other Indian languages.

Some of the Most Important Advances in Science in 1946

Science Service of Washington, D. C., lists (1) Distribution of radioactive isotope varieties of common chemical elements, made in chain-reacting atomic pile, for research and medical use; (2) Synthesis of penicillin and of vita-

min A; (3) Revelation of biological warfare developments, including vaccine against rinderpest, and isolation of botulinus toxin; (4) Production of anti-malarials, chloroquin, declared better than atabrine and quinine, and pentamquine, believed positive cure for vivax malaria; (5) First births of animals from foster-mothers into which were transplanted ovaries from other animals.

Substitute for Jute

The South African Government has announced that all details for the cultivation of "wilde stokroos" (wild hollyhock) and the establishment of South Africa's first factory for manufacture of bags from fibre has been settled.

Wilde stokroos will be planted in the low veld of the Transvaal for the time being. Nelspruit has been chosen as the site of the factory.

Records of the Indian Museum

The Records of the Indian Museum, a Journal of Indian Zoology, which was suspended in 1942, was received last year, and Part IV of Volume XLIV appeared in December 1946. The next issue is expected to be published shortly. The Journal will be a quarterly as hithertofore.

A Reaper for Indian Farms

Mr. R. Venkata Ramaiah, a scholar deputed to the Iowa State College for specialisation in Agricultural Engineering, has devised a mechanical reaper of simple construction suitable for use on small holdings in India. The design can be built in Indian workshops at a cost of about Rs. 300, and is capable of reaping $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 acres in a ten-hour day.

Sir C. V. Raman

The World Bank Advisory Council has recommended that nine persons representing various international industrial, scientific and agricultural organisations be selected to form the Advisory Council of the Bank to serve as Councillors for a period of two years. They have included Sir C. V. Raman of India, and S. K. Alfred Sze of China.

Dr. S. R. Palit

DR. S. R. PALIT has been elected Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland on the merit of his published researches.

ERRATA

Vol. 16, No. 7, July 1947, p. 225: "Formation of Complex Compounds ..." Under References on p. 226, omit "Mathur".

Vol. 16, No. 8, August 1947, p. 257: Read Fig. 1 as Fig. 2 and vice versa.

Same page: In second column, para 3, read (Fig. 2) at the end of the sentence "The accompanying figure will give an idea of the distribution of *Fusarium* during different months of the year."