

the medium of instruction for higher scientific studies than to introduce Hindi which is equally foreign to a large section of the Indian population. Why should the intelligentsia of the country waste their precious time in improving a language when they are already in possession of the best international language? It is high time that we got over irrational emotions and had a more rational and scientific outlook on the language problem.

The advantages of teaching scientific subjects in English in universities are far too many to be mentioned here. Suffice it to say that it saves the bother of translating every book of scientific interest; the scientist can be up-to-date in his knowledge since every useful scientific book or article of the world is invariably translated into English by hundreds of world-famous book companies, and a large percentage of scientific journals are published in English for the ready reference of the English-knowing scientist. Besides, typing and printing has already been standardised almost to perfection in the English language. No one can deny that Japan was as enthusiastic about her language as any other nation in the world, yet she published a large number of her scientific contributions in English and other European languages! Language is only a

tool in the hands of man, and no one need be unnecessarily sentimental about it. Let us, therefore, adopt the most common language available for promoting the cause of science in India.

Coming to concrete proposals we urge that science be taught, up to the S.S.L.C. standard, in the provincial language with international nomenclature for scientific terms as proposed by the Committee of Scientific Terminology. During this period English could be taught (as Maulana Azad, the Minister for Education, has rightly directed) as a second language. After this preliminary training it is an easy step for the student to take up the study of science in the university entirely in English. This procedure, we are confident, obviates the difficulties that face the student who goes through his education either all in English or all in the vernacular. At this crucial moment in the history of our land we call upon all science institutions, conferences, congresses and academies to give serious thought to this all-important question and place their considered opinion before the universities and governments for implementation. We earnestly hope that India will not introduce in a hurry reforms for which she will have to repent at leisure.

EMPIRE JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL AGRICULTURE

SIR E. JOHN RUSSELL, Chairman, Executive Committee, *Empire Journal of Experimental Agriculture*, Campfield Wood, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, U.K., has addressed a letter to Dr. J. N. Mukherjee, Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, as follows:

"I am writing to ask if you would be willing to approach agricultural research workers and officers concerned with developments to submit papers dealing with their work for publication in our Journal. We do not, of course, wish to encroach upon the publications issued by Research Stations and Departments of Agriculture. But the *Empire Journal* does provide a particularly suitable medium for publishing the results of agricultural research and develop-

ments throughout the Empire, and reaches an audience to which some of the overseas journals are not always readily accessible.

"We would welcome not only papers on specific subjects or individual pieces of research, but also summaries of results, final or in some cases interim, of long-term investigations. Although we particularly desire papers of Empire interest dealing with experiments in the field, we by no means exclude papers on other topics, such as soil problems (including soil conservation) and irrigation; meteorology, economics and education, as related to agriculture; diseases and pests of plants and animals; crop production and agricultural botany; as well as general articles on agricultural conditions and developments in particular areas."
