

presents a fine example of what could be done in this direction. Then, again, the forests are getting to be increasingly important as the store-house of industrial raw material to be processed into consumer goods. This trend has created a demand for the services of the specialist who, with a grounding in the fundamentals of forestry, is called upon not to manage forests, but run forest industries. The facilities for such specialised training are conspicuous by their almost total absence in our country. And, here, the U.S.A., Canada and Germany could give us valuable lessons.

The fact that such packed agenda was disposed of within the course of some eleven working days was a tribute as much to the efficient and business-like organisation and the preparatory technical work as to the ability, tact and genial personality of the distinguished Chairman, Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya, to whose work a chorus of tribute was paid by the delegates at the close of the Conference. The Conference was also fortunate in another respect. It was singularly free from rivalries and 'lobbyings'

which make some international gathering a nightmare. Foresters naturally fraternise; they fell, with axes but not with axes to grind and no secrets to jealously guard against prying eyes and ears. They are ready indeed anxious to share their experience and to pool their knowledge. This contributed to the amity and dignity of the international gathering.

As a postscript, it may be added that the immediate and concrete sequel to this Conference is the setting up of a new forestry office at Bangkok, with D. Lin as its first Director. The Delegation strongly urged the Government of India for the location of this office on suitable geographical grounds and on the basis of past experience and the great facilities for research which India affords. We were naturally disappointed that the vote of the Conference in this matter went against India, but, this by itself is not a matter and we wish every success to the new office and its distinguished Director in Bangkok in the discharge of their respective duties in the service of Forestry.

BRITISH INDUSTRIES FAIR

THE biggest trade fair in the world—the British Industries Fair—to which thousands of visitors and buyers flock from all parts of the world, will be held this year at London and Birmingham from May 2 to May 13.

Representative of all trades and industries in Britain, this year's Fair is expected to surpass all previous exhibitions in the quality, range and beauty of its exhibits.

India's interest in the British Industries Fair of 1948 was, in comparison to other countries, markedly high. Over 700 buyers attended the London section alone in a total of 12,505 buyers from nearly 100 countries. And the coming Fair is likely to attract even more buyers from India.

The lighter industries will exhibit in London, while the Engineering and Hardware Section will be organised, as usual, in Birmingham.

The 1949 Fair will include a major display by the Textile and Clothing industries and is expected to be the best exhibited so far.

Other industries exhibiting in London include brushes and brooms, chemicals, chemists' supplies, cutlery, jewellery, ware, silverware, watches and clockwork, domestic suction cleaners, fancy goods, types, foodstuffs, beverages and furniture, leather and leather goods, instruments, office machinery and equipment, plastics, pottery and glassware, printing, bookbinding machinery, radio sets and other trades, scientific and photographic equipment, sports goods, stationery and paper, games and other general and sales sections.

At Birmingham, the buyer will find a conceivable item of equipment needed in the building trade, for electricity and engineering of all categories, for transport, for mining, colliery, road and oilfield. There will be a section for hardware, iron and brass foundry and also metals of all kinds. In fact everything that India needs for setting up her own industries and modernising her state.