

THE INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS, POONA

THE Indian Science Congress is scheduled to hold its 37th session at Poona from 2nd to 8th January, 1950. The President is Sir K. S. Krishnan and the President-elect is Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis. Honourable Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee, Minister for Industries and Supplies, Government of India, will inaugurate the session and His Excellency Sir Maharaj Singh, Governor of Bombay, has been approached to become the Patron for the session. The Vice-Chancellor of the Poona University has extended an invitation to all scientists interested in the development of science to assemble at Poona and help in making the deliberations of the session a success.

The work of the Indian Science Congress session will be organised into 13 different sections, each presided over by a Sectional President. The following are the Sectional Presidents: Dr. N. M. Basu (Aligarh), Mathematics; Dr. P. V. Sukhatme (New Delhi), Statistics; Dr. R. N. Ghosh (Allahabad), Physics; Dr. J. K. Chowdhury (Calcutta), Chemistry; Mr. J. Coates (New Delhi), Geology and Geography; Dr. P. Maheshwari (Delhi), Botany; Dr. B. C. Basu, (Izatnagar), Zoology and Entomology, Dr. Von Fuhrer Haimendorf (Hyderabad), Anthropology and Archæology; Dr. M. V. Radhakrishna Rao (Bombay), Medical and Veterinary Sciences; Mr. R. L. Sethi (New Delhi), Agricultural Sciences; Dr. Kalidas Mitra (New Delhi), Physiology; Prof. Kali Prasad (Lucknow), Psychology & Educational Sciences; Dr. D. R. Malhotra (Ajmir), Engineering and Metallurgy. Meetings of each section will be normally held every day, where original papers will be read. Discussions on subjects of special scientific interest have also been arranged both in individual sections as well as jointly in more than one section.

FOREIGN SCIENTISTS

As on previous sessions of the Congress at Delhi, Patna and Allahabad, a special feature of the Poona Congress will be the visit of a delegation of front-ranking overseas scientists from Great Britain, America and France. Invitations have already been extended to these delegates by the Indian

Science Congress Association and also by the Department of Scientific Research, Government of India, through the various Indian Embassies in foreign countries. It is expected that the team from Great Britain would consist of Sir Robert Robinson, President of the Royal Society, London, Prof. J. H. Burn, Britain's top-ranking Pharmacologist in the Oxford University, and Prof. Desmond Bernal, the distinguished Physicist. From America Prof. Herman Mark, the internationally known expert on high polymers, originally of Germany and Prof. Szent Gyorgyi, the celebrated Biochemist, originally of Hungary, have been invited. France is sending Professor and Madame Curie-Joliot, known all over the world for their contributions to Atomic Physics. Invitations have also been sent to many learned societies and bodies in Afganistan, Ceylon, Australia, Canada, etc., to send their delegates to the session, if possible. It is hoped that the overseas scientists would be staying here for a period of about two months and would deliver lectures and give demonstrations in the various academic centres throughout India.

POPULAR LECTURES

A special feature of the Congress would be the organisation of a series of 'popular lectures' on scientific subjects, which will be arranged in the evening. The subjects of the lectures are chosen in such a manner that the best scientific brains of India and foreign countries can place before the public in a popular way the implications of science in social welfare and the achievements of sciences towards nation-building activities. Arrangements are being made to have some of these lectures broadcast and the Association will later publish them for distribution to learned societies, bodies and institutions, etc.

Universities and other academic centres desirous of arranging lectures and discussions by foreign scientists in their institutions are requested to get into touch with the General Secretaries (Dr. B. Mukerji, 1, Park Street, Calcutta, and Prof. B. Sanjiva Rao, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore).