News and Notes

Indian Science Congress, 39th Session

THE Indian Science Congress opened its 39th session with the recitation of the Vande Mataram in the compound of the Presidency College, Calcutta, which also witnessed the birth of this august organization 39 years ago. H. C. Mukerji, Governor of West Bengal, and S. N. Banerji, vice chancellor of Calcutta University and chairman of the Reception Committee, extended a hearty welcome to the distinguished gathering of scientists, and B. C. Roy, chief minister of West Bengal, inaugurated the session. Then Jawaharlal Nehru. Prime Minister of India, delivered his address, in the course of which he called upon scientists of every rank and level to lend him their active cooperation in the solution of the gigantic problems facing the teeming millions of India. Mentioning that the establishment of National Laboratories was a matter of pride for the people of India, he observed that the masses ought to realize the importance of the role that the scientist has to play in the building of a truly modern India.

J. N. Mukherji, director of the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, and president-elect of the session, in his presidential address entitled "Science and Our Problems: Science and the Yield per Acre," urged scientists to ask themselves how far they were wielding their influence in the planning and implementation of the reconstruction programs of the newly born Indian Republic. He added that planning was no less imperative for successful scientific research and training than for any other undertaking. Dr. Mukherji disapproved of the pursuit of science with purely academic objectives, in virtual isolation from the wider spheres of industry and agriculture.

The session was attended by nearly 40 notable scientists from the United States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Denmark, West Germany, the USSR, Australia, and Japan. Among them were J. B. S. Haldane (UK), biologist; M. Heidelberger (USA), chemist; C. B. Faweett (UK), geographer; E. C. Bullard (UK), geophysicist; and others.

To facilitate discussion the Indian Science Congress has been divided into 13 sections—Mathematics, Statistics, Botany, Anthropology and Archaeology, Chemistry, Geology and Geography, Medical and Veterinary Sciences, Physics, Engineering and Metallurgy, Physiology, Psychology and Educational Sciences, Agricultural Science, and Zoology and Entomology.

Among the presidential addresses of great interest and popularity were "Some Aspects of Crystal Magnetism" (Physics); "Etiology of Cancer" (Medical and Veterinary Sciences); "Some Recent Methods of Solving Problems of Equilibrium and Vibration" (Mathematics); "Technical Education" (Engineering and Metallurgy); and "Adaptation and Evolution" (delivered by S. L. Hora at the anniversary meeting of the National Institute of Sciences of India).

The most important items on the agenda of the sectional meetings were the reading and discussion of research papers, of which more than 700 were communicated by scholars from every part of the country.

Among the significant symposia mention may be made of the following: "Soil Research in India," organized by the National Institute of Sciences of India and initiated by J. N. Mukherji; "Fermentation Technology" (Chemistry); "Is Evolution Purposive?" (Botany and Zoology); "Family Types and Changes in the Family of India" (Anthropology and Psychology); "Geography of Crop Plants" (Botany); "Refugee Problem in Bengal" (Anthropology); "River Control" (Engineering and Metallurgy); and "Mathematical Teaching and Research in India" (Mathematics), which was arranged by B. N. Prasad. In view of the timeliness of the subject it has been agreed that the symposium will be continued year after year to arrive at definite conclusions about the ways and means of reforming mathematical teaching and research in India.

"Relation of Biology with other Sciences," by Professor Haldane; "The Ocean Floor," by Professor Bullard; "Antibiotics," by Dr. Kane; "Story of Monazite Sands," by S. S. Bhatnagar; "Fisheries of South East Asia," by Dr. Kesteven; and "Defence Science and its Organization," by Dr. Kothari, were some of the popular lectures delivered.

One of the most instructive features of the session was the Science Exhibition, to which exhibits from various scientific firms were contributed. Another interesting feature was the arrangement for scientific excursions to the Tata Iron and Steel Works and the National Metallurgical Laboratory of Jamshedpur, Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Damodar Valley Project, Mayurakshi Reservoir Project, and Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.

To synchronize with the annual session of the Indian Science Congress, a large number of scientific associations and societies, such as the National Institute of Sciences of India, Indian Physical Society, Indian Chemical Society, and many others, held their annual meetings. Also, the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Society of India celebrated its Silver Jubilee this year.

At the general meeting of the Science Congress D. M. Bose, director, Bose Research Institute of Calcutta, was elected president of its 40th session, which will be held at Lucknow in January 1953. B. N. Prasad, of Allahabad University, and S. R. Sen-Gupta, of Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur, were elected general secretaries, and P. C. Mahalanobis was elected treasurer.

B. N. PRASAD (General Secretary, Indian Science Congress Association)

Mathematics Department University of Allahabad

Scientists in the News

John E. Allen, acting head of the Department of Geology of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, has joined the research staff of the New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources. Charles R. Holmes, of the Research and Development Division of the institute, will resume his investigations on underground water this summer after having spent a year as instructor in geophysics.

Allen V. Astin has been named director of the National Bureau of Standards. He has been acting chief of the bureau since last October, shortly after the resignation of Edward U. Condon, AAAS presidentelect. Dr. Astin, who has received recognition for his contribution to the development of the proximity fuse. joined the Bureau of Standards in 1932. Until 1940, he was active in electronic research and did pioneer work in radio telemeter techniques for exploring the earth's upper atmosphere. In 1940 he was assigned to the newly formed proximity fuse research group in the bureau and took a leading part in development of the fuse. After the war Dr. Astin became assistant director of the bureau's ordnance department and in 1947 became chief of that division. In 1950 he was appointed associate director of the bureau, had charge of ordnance and missile development, and coordinated the bureau's technical work with other government agencies.

Ernest F. Bean, state geologist of Wisconsin, is retiring after 35 years of service on the State Geological Survey. Also retiring from the University of Wisconsin faculty is J. H. Mathews, chairman of the Department of Chemistry. Dr. Mathews started his teaching career at Wisconsin in 1908, seven years before Dr. Bean.

Among the members of the Lehigh University faculty who will be retired June 30 are Jacob L. Beaver, professor of electrical engineering; Arthur W. Klein, professor of mechanical engineering; and Kenneth W. Lamson, associate professor of mathematics.

On July 1 Vernon I. Cheadle, at present head of the Department of Botany and director of graduate studies at the University of Rhode Island, will assume his new duties at the University of California, Davis, as professor of botany, chairman of the Division of Botany, and botanist of the Experimental Station.

The Atomic Energy Commission has established an Office of Industrial Development, headed by William Lee Davidson, former director of physical research for the B. F. Goodrich Company, for the distribution of technical atomic information "of primary importance" to industry "in the fields of chemistry, metallurgy, specialized equipment, and power generation."

C. E. Nabuco de Araujo, Jr., has been elected to

the Board of Directors of the Standard Oil Company of Brazil and assumed his new obligations on May 1.

The Katherine Berkan Judd prize for the greatest advancement made during 1951 toward the discovery of a cure for cancer was awarded posthumously to Konrad Dobriner, former chief of the division of steroid metabolism at the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research. Dr. Dobriner died on March 10.

The 1952 medal of the American Cancer Society for "important contributions to the control of cancer" has been presented to **Mrs. Edward F. Hutton, a** founder of the woman's division of the New York City Cancer Committee, a division of the American Cancer Society. Certificates of award also were presented to 38 scientists who are receiving grants for cancer research this year.

Earl D. Johnson, assistant secretary of the Army in charge of procurement and research and development programs, has been designated as the civilian Army member of the Research and Development Board. Mr. Johnson succeeds Archibald S. Alexander, who recently resigned as under secretary.

Jorgen Koch, of the Institute of Theoretical Physics at Copenhagen; Nicholas Van Kampen, of the University of Leiden; and Raymond Coutrez, physicist, Observatoire Royal de Belgique at Brussels, were recent visitors at the National Bureau of Standards.

The H. C. Hachmeister Lecture in Pharmacology for 1952 was delivered by George B. Koelle on the subject "Pharmacological and Therapeutic Significance of Anticholinesterase Drugs." Dr. Koelle was selected for the lectureship for his pioneer studies on anticholinesterase drugs and for developing a histochemical method for localizing cholinesterase activity. Now with Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Dr. Koelle has just been appointed professor of pharmacology in the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Medicine.

Bernhard Kummel has been appointed associate professor of geology at Harvard University effective July 1. Dr. Kummel has been a member of the faculty of the University of Illinois since 1948.

Robert W. McLaughlin, Jr., of the firm of Holden, McLaughlin & Associates, New York, has been appointed director of the School of Architecture at Princeton University, Mr. McLaughlin will assume his new duties next fall while continuing the practice of architecture. He succeeds Sherley W. Morgan, who has been associated with the school since its establishment in 1920 and director since 1928.

President Truman has designated Mark A. May, Yale University professor, as chairman of the United States Advisory Commission on Information. The commission advises the Department of State on its informational programs, including the Voice of America. Dr. May has been professor of educational psychology and director of the Institute of Human Relations at Yale. He has been on the Advisory Commission since it was set up under the Information and Educational Exchange act of 1948. As chairman he succeeds **Erwin D. Canham**, editor of the *Christian Science Monitor*.

T. S. Motzkin, of Hebrew University and the National Bureau of Standards, has been appointed to a visiting professorship at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Carleton C. Murdock will retire June 30 as dean of the university faculty and professor of physics at Cornell University. He has been a member of the Cornell teaching staff since 1909 and faculty dean since 1945.

Erwin E. Nelson has resigned as medical director of the Food and Drug Administration of the Federal Security Agency, to become professor and director of the Department of Pharmacology of St. Louis University School of Medicine.

Elburt F. Osborn has been named associate dean of the School of Mineral Industries at the Pennsylvania State College. He will continue to serve as professor of geochemistry and head of the Department of Earth Sciences.

At the regular meeting of the Paleontological Research Institution, Ithaca, N. Y., on Apr. 5, Katherine V. W. Palmer, of Ithaca, was elected director of the institution.

Dean W. Roberts has been appointed director of the Commission on Chronic Illness. Dr. Roberts is now deputy director of the Maryland State Department of Health. He will succeed Morton L. Levin, New York State Department of Health, who received a leave of absence in 1950 to direct the work of the commission in its early stages. Dr. Roberts will assume his new duties on July 1.

Dwight L. Ryerson, associate professor of zoology at Pomona College, has been awarded a Scripps Research Fellowship at the Biological Research Institute of the San Diego Zoological Society for study June 1952–February 1953. The research project is in the field of comparative hematology and will involve the characterization of blood samples taken from a variety of animals available at the zoo.

J. R. Schramm, chairman of the Department of Botany and director of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, has been awarded the Franklin Medal of the American Philosophical Society. This medal, designed by St. Gaudens, was struck in commemoration of the bicentenary of Benjamin Franklin, founder and first president of the /society.

Paul C. Silva, of the University of California, has

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been appointed instructor in botany in the Department of Botany, University of Illinois, beginning Sept. 1. He will offer courses and develop a research program in phycology. Natalie Harlan Davis, of New York, has been appointed scientific artist in the department.

C. Guy Suits has been appointed a civilian member of the Committee on Electronics of the Department of Defense Research and Development Board. Dr. Suits, who is vice president and director of research for General Electric Company, was formerly a member of the RDB Committee on Ordnance, and is at present a member of the Special Technical Advisory Group of the board and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Civilian members in addition to D. A. Quarles, vice president of Western Electric Company and president of the Sandia Corporation, and Dr. Suits are E. W. Engstrom, research director, RCA Laboratories, and William L. Everitt, dean of engineering at the University of Illinois.

Gordon N. Thayer has been made a vice president of Bell Telephone Laboratories with responsibility for its military development program and relationships with the Army, Navy, and Air Force. He succeeds Timothy E. Shea, who is resigning to accept the office of vice president of Sandia Corporation at Albuquerque, N. M., the Western Electric-Bell Laboratories-operated organization developing military applications of atomic energy for the Atomic Energy Commission. M. B. McDavitt replaces Mr. Thayer as director of transmission development, and A. J. Busch succeeds Mr. McDavitt as director of switching development.

The resignation of Shields Warren as director of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Biology and Medicine and the appointment of John C. Bugher as his successor have been announced. Dr. Warren will become a member of the AEC's Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine. Dr. Bugher, deputy director of the Biology and Medicine Division since 1951, has been a member of the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation since 1938. During his association with AEC, Dr. Warren continued his service as pathologist at the New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston on a part-time basis. He will resume full-time duties there after June 30.

Alfred Weissler, of Washington, D. C., has been appointed chief of the Chemistry Branch, Chemical Sciences Division, Office of Ordnance Research. Dr. Weissler has been staff scientist in the Research and Development Division, Office of Chief of Ordnance, Department of the Army. For the past six years he has also served as an assistant professor of chemistry at the Graduate School, University of Maryland.

James A. Welch, of the University of Illinois, has been appointed assistant professor and assistant animal husbandman at West Virginia University.

Education

The Geophysical Institute of the University of Alaska is holding regular colloquia twice monthly, usually on the first and third Wednesdays. Members of the staff and visiting scientists will participate in discussions of the aurora, the ionosphere, and backscatter. On Aug. 20 and 27 there will be a preview of the papers to be given at the third Alaskan Science Conference. Walter I. Flood, Jr., of Cornell, will lecture at least twice during July and August, and during September Sydney Chapman, of Queen's College, Oxford, will give a series of lectures on "Theories of Magnetic Storms and Aurora." Because of the Chapman lectures and the science conference, there will be no regular colloquia during September.

The Division of Biological Sciences of the University of Michigan will present its third Summer Biological Symposium, dealing with "Biological Regulations," July 7–18. Speakers will include Jack Myers, Frank H. Johnson, Carroll M. Williams, and Dwight J. Ingle. There is no registration fee, and visiting scientists are invited. Further information concerning the program may be obtained from Ursula R. Freimarck, 2092 Natural Science Bldg., Ann Arbor.

Weizmann Institute, Israel, has recently added a Department of Experimental Biology, headed by Isaac Berenblum, formerly of Oxford University. Associated with him is M. C. Shelesnyak, whose interest is in reproductive physiology. New activities contemplated include a section that will deal with cell genetics, a laboratory devoted to enzymology of abnormal tissues, and the study of the biochemistry of cell particulates. A new biological building is being erected to provide laboratories for an enlarged staff, space for students and visitors, and animal quarters.

In the Laboratories

Robert Austin, of Consolidated Engineering Corporation, has joined **Beckman Instruments** as a specialist in the development of titration instruments.

A new center for fresh-water fisheries research, to be known as the **Rocky Mountain Fishery Investigations**, has been opened by the Fish and Wildlife Service in the Forestry Building of the Utah State Agricultural College at Logan. The staff is headed by Oliver B. Cope. Chief interest will be in the fishery of Yellowstone Lake, where field work has been carried on for the past two summers. Fresh-water problems in other public lands in the area will probably fall within the purview of the new organization.

Shell Chemical Corporation has concluded negotiations for the purchase of Julius Hyman & Company and has made an agreement with Velsicol Corporation for exclusive rights to aldrin and dieldrin, agricultural insecticides. The Hyman Company will continue to be operated under its present name, as a wholly owned subsidiary of Shell, and most of the present operating and technical personnel will be retained.

Meetings and Elections

The third Alaskan Science Conference and the annual meeting of the Alaska Division of the AAAS will be held Sept. 22–28 at Mount McKinley Park Hotel. C. T. Elvey, director of the Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska, will be chairman of the Geophysics Section, which will have sessions on the physics of the aurora, radio propagation, meteorology, and other topics. Further information may be obtained from Dr. Elvey or by writing to the secretary, Alaska Division, Box 960, Anchorage.

The following officers have been elected by the American Neurological Association: president, Hans H. Reese; president-elect, Roland P. Mackay; vice presidents, Thomas K. Davis and James C. White; secretary-treasurer, H. Houston Merritt; assistant secretary, Charles Rupp.

A Conference on Magnetism, sponsored by the Office of Naval Research, will be held at the University of Maryland Sept. 2–6. Foreign visitors expected to attend and present papers include Louis Neel, E. C. Stoner, L. F. Bates, W. Sucksmith, and C. J. Gorter. V. Wilson, General Electric Research Laboratory, Schenectady, N. Y., is in charge of schedules for visits to laboratories and universities for the foreign participants, and G. T. Rado, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D. C., is chairman of the program committee.

Newly elected officers of the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists are: president, Clifford C. Church; vice president, Morton B. Stephenson; secretary-treasurer, Cecil G. Lalicker (reelected.)

West Virginia Academy of Science elected the following officers at its annual meeting in Buckhannon: president, B. G. Anderson; vice president, E. E. Myers; secretary, James T. Handlan, Jr.; treasurer, James L. Hall.

Miscellaneous

The American Society of Biological Chemists has awarded funds for travel to the second International Congress of Biochemistry, which meets in Paris July 21–27, to: G. W. Plaut, University of Wisconsin; Warwick Sakami, Western Reserve University, and E. R. Stadtman, National Heart Institute.

The imperative need of integrating science is reflected in the rapidly increasing number of associations for the advancement of science. Most recent additions to the list are organizations functioning under this name in Venezuela and Ecuador and, in the Eastern Hemisphere, in Ceylon, Burma, and the Philippines. Unesco, through its Natural Sciences Department, is sponsoring a coordinating committee of associations to maintain contacts and to arrange regional meetings that should minimize tendencies on the part of any such organization to develop too provincial an outlook. The Association of University Women has awarded 33 fellowships, totaling \$58,700, for the coming academic year. Twenty-three of the annual awards went to U. S. citizens, one to a Peruvian, and the others to women in Switzerland, South Africa, Canada, Austria, Norway, Sweden, and England. Stipends range from \$1500 to \$3000 and will support work in both science and the humanities.

Meeting on Oct. 18, in Rio de Janeiro, delegates from 12 nations founded a new world medical society to be known as the International Fertility Association. The first World Congress on Fertility and Sterility sponsored by the new society will be held in conjunction with the meeting of the American Society for the Study of Sterility in New York City next May. For further information address Carlos D. Guerrero, Secretary-General, Miguel E. Schulz, 10, Mexico, D. F., or Abner I. Weisman, Associate Secretary-General, 1160 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Recent Deaths

Edward H. Berger (59), industrial chemist, Roseland, N. J., May 12; Howard W. Blakeslee (72), science editor, Associated Press, Port Washington, N. Y., May 2; Frederick S. Breed (75), educator, Chicago, May 16; George L. Brodhead (83), obstetrician, New York, May 13; A. Rex Burnette (64), of New York, consulting engineer, Camaguey, Cuba, May 2; Thomas F. Burns (60), pediatrician, Fall River, Mass., Apr. 24; Eugene A. Case (74), pathologist, Philadelphia, Apr. 20; Guido Castelnuovo (87), mathematician, Rome, Apr. 27; Archibald Church (91), neurologist, Pasadena, May 8; Charles G. Cole (80), educator, South Orange, N. J., May 16; Allston Dana (67), design engineer, Harrisburg, Pa., May 12; Marguerite T. Dean (61), dentist, Hernando, Miss., Apr. 21; Everett E. Edwards (52), agricultural editor, Bethesda, Md., May 1; James H. Edwards (74), economist, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., May 18; John B. Ekeley (81), chemist, Boulder, Colo., Apr. -

Heman C. Fogg (57), chemist, Dover, N. H., May 5; Alger C. Gildersleeve (83), civil engineer, New York, May 3: Samuel G. Gordon (54), mineralogist, Cincinnati, May 17; Russell L. Haden (63), medical director, Red Cross national blood program, Cleveland, Apr. 26; Hugh E. Hale (78), civil engineer, New York, Apr. 30; Robert L. Hallett (70), mining engineer, New York, May 17; Virginius B. Hirst (61), otolaryngologist, New York, May 9; Edward Hoenig (70), gynecologist, New York, May 3; Percy Hughes (80), of Belvidere, N. J., psychologist, Clinton, N. J., Apr. 22; Clark L. Hull (67), psychologist, New Haven, Conn., May 10; Leonard Johnstone (--), wireless pioneer, Wilmot Station, N. S., May 6; Carleton P. Jones (71), chemist, Amherst, Mass., May 16; Frederick A. Jostes (56), orthopedic surgeon, St. Louis, May 19.

Frank A. S. Kautz (76), obstetrician, Cincinnati, May 12; George W. Knight (74), chemist, Philadelphia, May 14; H. A. Kramers (57), physicist, Leyden,

Netherlands, Apr. 24; Karl Krug (79), electrical engineer, Moscow, Apr. 26; Henry A. Laessle (80), otolaryngologist, Philadelphia, May 13; Arthur B. Lamb (72), chemist, Cambridge, Mass., May 15; Jorge A. Lleras (68), electrical engineer, author, and astronomer, Bogota, Colombia, Apr. 20; Wm. F. Lynch (71), surgeon, Worcester, Mass., May 2; G. W. McCoy (75), epidemiologist, Washington, D. C., Apr. 2; Charles E. MacQuigg (67), engineer, Columbus, Apr. 24; Nikolai Maksimov (73), plant physiologist, Moscow, May 9; Arthur B. Meservey (67), physicist, Hanover, N. H., May 8; Ernest B. Mongel (76), eye specialist, Philadelphia, May 12; Maria Montessori (81), educator, Noordwijk, Netherlands, May 6; Joseph W. Mountin (61), public health authority, Washington, D. C., Apr. 26.

Morris H. Nathanson (59), physician and educator, Los Angeles, Apr. 24; Aven Nelson (93), botanist and educator, Colorado Springs, Mar. 31; Joseph S. Newell (54), aeronautical engineer, Boston, May 5; Albert B. Newman (64), chemical engineer, New York, May 9; Charles W. Norton (62), research engineer, Lakeville, Mass., May 3; Thomas Ordway (75), pathologist, Albany, N. Y., May 12; Benjamin O'Shea (75), former president, Union Carbide & Carbon Corporation, Lester Manor, Va., May 2; Edward C. Phillips (74), astronomer, St. Andrew-on-Hudson, N. Y., May 9; John B. Price (69), otorhinolaryngologist, Norristown, Pa., May 11; Paul H. Ringer (70), specialist on pulmonary diseases, New York, May 8; Alan M. Rodgers (62), engineer, Albany, N. Y., Apr. 22; Pavel Romanov (56), specialist on light industry and leather processing, Moscow, Apr. 26.

Benedict Šaurino (47), statistician, Philadelphia, May 9; Traugott Schuck (68), obstetrician and surgeon, Hoboken, N. J., May 15; Ellwood D. Schuster (84), civil and mining engineer, Franklin, N. J., Apr. 29; John S. Shaw (67), of Wilmington, Del., safety engineer, Houston, Tex., Apr. 26; Ernest G. Sloman (57), dentist and oral surgeon, Madera, Calif., Apr. 30; Elmore G. Smith (51), logistics expert, Formosa, Mar. 13; P. G. Spilsbury (65), consulting engineer, Washington, D. C., May 3; Arthur Staples (83), educator, Wrightsville Beach, N. C., May 1; Julius W. Sturmer (82), pharmaceutical chemist, Collingswood, N. J., May 4.

Rollin H. Tanner (77), educator, Thomaston, Me., Apr. 23; Eugene Theimer (---), of East Orange, N. J., research chemist, Hoboken, N. J., May 5; Harry G. Thomas (82), of Pawling, N. Y., physician, New York, May 6; Thomas G. Tickle (61), otologist, New York, Apr. 26; C. Laurence Warwick (63), eivil engineer, Philadelphia, Apr. 23; George B. Waterhouse (69), metallurgist, Cambridge, Mass., May 10; James Watson (64), psychiatrist, Cleveland, Apr. 27; Lucius A. Whipple (65), educator, Greenville, R. I., Apr. 20; John J. White (69), industrialist, Greenwich, Conn., May 15; Louis Wirth (54), of Chicago, sociologist, Buffalo, N. Y., May 3; Fannie H. Yarow (65), obstetrician and gynecologist, New York, May 9.