

While the page numbering of the second volume is started fresh, the numbering of figures continues from the first volume. It is rather inconsistent with the principle of retaining the universally accepted abbreviations in this vernacularisation that 'Centigrade' is represented by 'செ' and not by 'C'. While the author transliterates the word 'Lithium' it is unnecessary to show (p. 100) how the same might be called 'லித்தியம்'. The reference to Thiruvannamalai on the same page, the paragraph on Mn deficiency diseases and their cure by rice husk (p. 404) the example of lead poisoning through use of 'புரீ காரணம்', the diagram on page 381 and similar things may be omitted from a text-book on Inorganic Chemistry.

The success of such enterprises as these could be judged only when universities follow their encouragement of such efforts by making use of these books.

Bharatiya Vaignanik (Indian Scientists).

By Shyam Narain Kapur. Sahitya Niketan, Cawnpore), 1942. Pp. 364. Price Rs. 3.

An account is given in this book of the lives and works of the following twelve Indian scientists of international repute, namely, Dr. Mahendralal Sircar, Srinivas Ramanujan, Dr. Ganesha Prasad, Sir J. C.

Bose, Sir Shah Sulaiman, Sir C. V. Raman, Sir P. C. Ray, Dr. Meghanath Saha, Dr. Birbal Sahani, Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, Dr. K. S. Krishnan and Dr. H. J. Bhabha.

This is perhaps the first book of its kind in Hindi and is sure to be of great value to readers of Hindi in understanding the achievements of persons whose biographies have been treated in the book. Without going too much into technicalities, the author has attempted to present to the ordinary reader the nature and substance of the researches carried out by each of the dozen scientists and the serious handicaps under which some of them had to labour on account of their country not being politically free. The author has taken great pains to collect information which is both accurate and interesting. The biographical sketches and the delineation of the personal traits and even the idiosyncrasies of some of these pioneers in science make interesting reading and remind one of the fact that scientists, though engaged in dry and abstruse pursuits in secluded laboratories, are as human as the poet or the novelist, a fact which is commonly ignored.

The book is illustrated and the printing and get-up are good though one would wish that for a book of this kind the types selected were bolder than the ones actually used.

M. V. JAMBUNATHAN.

OBITUARY

Dr. V. NARASIMHA MURTHY, B.Sc., M.B. & B.S., D.P.M., D.T.M., Dr.Ph.

WE deeply regret to record the demise of Dr. V. Narasimha Murthy at the prime of his scientific career. He was under forty.

Graduating from the Central College in 1924, he was one of the first to take his M.B. & B.S. degree of the Mysore University. As House Surgeon in the Victoria and Krishnarajendra Hospitals, he displayed an unusual keenness for research which received early and handsome recognition by the Government. He was entrusted with the investigation of typhoid and cholera in various parts of the State, which he carried out with praiseworthy enthusiasm, devotion and thoroughness. He took up the study of guineaworm disease prevalent in Chitaldroog; these studies won for him recognition as a research worker of great promise.

He was deputed to the School of Tropical Medicine at Calcutta and spent some time at the Haffkine Institute at Bombay.

He was chosen as the Rockefeller Scholar and sailed for America in 1936. On his return to India in 1938, he had fewer opportunities for pursuing his scientific research. He fell a victim to the disease which he was investigating and the best medical aid that was rendered to him could not save a precious life so full of promise in the field of scientific research.

Dr. Narasimha Murthy was an endearing and loyal friend and as a scientific investigator, he was highly esteemed by his colleagues.

We wish to offer our sincere condolences to his bereaved family.