

The offer is subject to a number of terms and conditions, which can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture. The suitability, practicability and efficacy of any method submitted and the question whether the prescribed conditions have been complied with shall be determined by a committee which shall be appointed by the Minister for Agriculture, whose decision shall be final. Applications for the reward will be received by the Minister for Agriculture, up till 1st July 1937.

We may add that the botanical name for what is called "skeleton weed" in the above is *Chondrilla juncea*. The characters of the plant appear various and it is known under a number of specific names such as *C. lacinata*, *C. intybacea*, *C. lutea*, *C. latifolia*, *C. viscosa*, *C. rigens*, and so on.

While on this subject we may also remind readers that a similar reward awaits nearer home, viz., the reward promised by the Government of Mysore for a suitable remedy for the spike disease of sandal announced some twenty-five years ago which, so far as we know, has not been withdrawn nor been claimed and won by anyone.

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We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following:—

"Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales," Vol. XLVI, Pt. 12.

"Journal of Agricultural Research," Vol. 51, No. 4.

"Journal of Agriculture and Livestock in India," Vol. V, Pt. VI, November 1935.

"Journal of the Royal Society of Arts," Vol. LXXXIV, Nos. 4331-4333.

"Indian Journal of Agricultural Science," Vol. V, Pt. V, October 1935.

"Journal of the Annamalai University," Vol. V, No. 1, November 1935.

"Biochemical Journal," Vol. 29, No. 11, November 1935.

"The Journal of the Indian Botanical Society," Vol. 15, No. 1, January 1936.

"The Journal of the Institute of Brewing," Vol. XLI, No. 12, December 1935.

"Canadian Journal of Research," Vol. 13, Nos. 4 and 5.

"Chemical Age," Vol. 33, Nos. 856-859.

"Berichte der Deutschen Chemischen Gesellschaft," Vol. 68, No. 12.

"The Journal of the Indian Chemical Society," Vol. 12, No. 11, November 1935.

"Forschungen und Fortschritte," Vol. 11, Nos. 34, 35, 36.

"Monthly Statistics of the Production of Certain Selected Industries of India," July and August 1935. (Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, India.)

"The Philippine Agriculturist," Vol. 24, Nos. 1 to 7.

"Scientific American," Vol. 153, Nos. 5 and 6.

"The Review of Applied Mycology," Vol. 14, Pts. 2-11.

"Transactions of the Faraday Society," Vol. 31, Pt. 12, December 1935.

"Report No. 12 from the Fisheries and Marine Biological Survey for the year ending December 1934," South Africa.

"Quarterly Bulletin of the Health Organization," Vol. 4, No. 3, September 1935. (League of Nations, Geneva.)

"Department of Commerce and Industries—Fisheries and Marine Biological Survey Division, South Africa, Investigational Report," No. 5.

Indian Central Cotton Committee Technological Laboratory, Technical Leaflet No. 5, November 1935.—"The Influence of Method of Picking on the Quality of Cambodia Cotton."

"The Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences in U.S.S.R.," August 1935.

"Marriage Hygiene," Vol. II, No. II, November 1935.

The Punjab Irrigation Research Institute—"Report for the year ending April 1935."

"Nature," Vol. 136, Nos. 3447-3450.

"The Journal of the Bombay Natural History," Vol. 38, No. 2, Index and Title-page. Vol. 37, Nos. 3 and 4.

"The Journal of Nutrition," Vol. 10, No. 5.

"Journal de Chimie Physique," Vol. 32, No. 9.

"The Indian Trade Journal," Vol. CXIX, Nos. 1540-1541.

#### CATALOGUES.

"Catalogue of Books of Messrs. John H. Knowles on Agriculture, Botany and Zoology," No. 22, 1935.

"Neuere Chemische und Physikalische Werke," November 1935.

"Verzeichnis der Werke und Zeitschriften" (Akademischen Verlagsgesellschaft, M.b.H., Leipzig).

## Indian Obstetric and Gynaecological Congress.

THE first All-India Obstetric and Gynaecological Congress was held at Madras on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th January 1936, under the distinguished presidency of Dr. Ida Scudder, M.D., D.Sc., F.A.C.S. His Excellency Lord Erskine, G.C.I.E., the Governor of Madras, inaugurated the session. Rao Bahadur Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, M.D., F.C.O.G., Chairman of the Reception Committee, extended a very hearty welcome to the vast and representative assemblage of delegates to the Congress.

Being the first sessions of the Congress a greater portion of the Presidential Address naturally dealt with its aims. The President said "As an outcome of this Congress," which is a fruition of the conjoint efforts of the Bombay Obstetrical

Society and the Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Madras and S. India, "research should be stimulated and with this end in view we should encourage the establishment of an Indian Obstetrical and Gynaecological Journal . . . . .". The President then proceeded to discuss methods of coping with the many-sided obstetric problem of the Indian villages a subject which he has pursued with ardour for over three decades. The large infantile and maternal mortality to which His Excellency adverted in his inaugural speech, was greatly due to the ignorance of the lay public that needed education to avail of the modern methods of obstetrical practice. In this direction the young medical practitioner had a duty to perform in



disseminating knowledge amongst and bringing relief to the superstitious and suffering villagers. There would thus arise the necessity for the establishment of a central organisation with powers to control and supervise all obstetric and gynaecological work in the country. Such an organisation, with the co-operation of the different Local Bodies, would alone lead to rural upliftment in maternity and child-welfare.

In the welcome address, delivered earlier by the Chairman of the Reception Committee greater emphasis was, however, laid on the need for research in our country in obstetrical and allied problems. And, as for the means to carry on such research, the Chairman remarked. "May we not hope that an appeal from this Congress and through Your Excellency to the generous public, will not fail to evoke a sympathetic response? May we not also hope that various administrations in British India and Indian India will co-operate in a spirit of healthy rivalry to organise and support all such laudable enterprise?"

About fifteen papers pertaining to obstetrics and gynaecology were read and discussed during the session. Of these, the papers read on the last day were particularly interesting devoted, as they were, mostly to problems of post and ante-natal care, causes and prevention of infantile mortality, and of child-welfare in general. There were two debates, one on "Pelvic Disproportions" and the other on "Displacements of the uterus". Mrs. Margaret Sanger gave an evening lecture on "Contraception".

A noteworthy feature of this Congress was an exhibition, displaying medical and surgical goods used in obstetrical and gynaecological practice, infant foods and milk products, patent medicines and drugs.

A tea and a dinner and visits to the different hospitals of Madras formed the social functions of the Congress.

At the business sessions of the All-India Obstetric and Gynaecological Congress, it was resolved that the Congress should be a biennial one, and at the invitation of the Bombay Obstetric Society, the next session is proposed to be held in Bombay in December 1937. It was also resolved that provincial Obstetric and Gynaecological societies should be formed in Bengal, and if provincial organisations were not possible, two or three Provinces may possibly join together and form a central association, as the Northern India Obstetric and Gynaecological Association, or the Central India Association. The States of Mysore, Hyderabad, Travancore, Cochin and Pudukottah, it was felt, should be included in the Obstetric Association of Southern India.

The question of the publication of a Journal in Obstetrics and Gynaecology was deferred consideration till the formation of provincial societies was complete.

At the next Congress, two subjects were included on which a symposium should be prepared and discussion held, *viz.*,

- (1) Toxæmias of pregnancy,
- (2) Carcinoma of the cervix uteri.

A resolution was also passed urging that the Indian Medical Council should lay down a standard of training in Midwifery for medical students, which should be not less than 6 months of hospital training and the personal conduct of 20 cases of labour.

M. SRINIVASAN.

### Indian Institute of Science—Quinquennial Reviewing Committee.

THE Personnel of the Committee has been announced:—

#### Chairman:

Sir James Colquhoun Irvine, C.B.E.,  
D.Sc., F.R.S.

#### Members:

Dr. Arthur Henderson Mackenzie, M.A.,  
D.Litt., C.S.I., C.I.E.;  
Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar, D.Sc., O.B.E.

#### Secretary:

Mr. F. F. C. Edmunds, M.A., B.Sc.

Sir James Irvine who is 58 years old, is the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the St. Andrews University since 1921. He was formerly Professor of Chemistry and Dean of the Faculty of Science in that University; he served on the Advisory Council of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, was lately Vice-President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and is still Chairman of the Forest Products Research Board.

Dr. Arthur Henderson Mackenzie, born

February 1880, is the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Osmania University. He was Principal, Government Training College, Allahabad 1908-1919 and Chief Inspector of Vernacular Education, 1919-1921. He was appointed Director of Public Instruction, U.P., 1925-1935. He was also a Member of the Legislative Council, U.P., 1922-34, and the officiating Education Commissioner with the Government of India, 1930-31.

Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar who was recently honoured with the title of O.B.E., is the University Professor of Physical Chemistry and Director of Chemical Laboratories, University of Punjab. He is well known for his researches on Magneto-Chemistry, and is the author of a standard work 'Physical Principles and Applications of Magneto-Chemistry' (Macmillan & Co., London, 1935).

Mr. F. F. C. Edmunds, Inspector of Schools, Coorg and Bangalore, was the Secretary of the last Reviewing Committee constituted in 1930,