
CURRENT SCIENCE — FIFTY YEARS AGO

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS*

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An event of major importance to the development of science in India during the past year was the decision made by a group of scientists during the last session of the Indian Science Congress at Bangalore to publish a scientific journal on the lines of the well-known English weekly journal, *Nature*. A committee was appointed and eventually the publication has been commenced of a monthly journal entitled *Current Science*; the first issue appeared in July, 1932. You will all agree that the journal is a success, for there has been no lack of material suitable for publication and the journal is pleasantly printed on good paper. On one point, however, the Board of Editors have cause for anxiety. The University of Madras and the Indian Institute of Science have made grants towards the maintenance of this journal, and, in addition, there are receipts from the sale of the journal and from advertisements. The total receipts from these

sources is not, however, sufficient to meet the total expenditure, and for its continuance the journal will require either additional grants from other bodies, or an increased number of subscribers. These are hard times and it is going to be difficult to secure donations from University bodies. But when I mention that the present year's budget of the journal has been framed on the basis of only 300 subscribers, which is less than one per million inhabitants of the country, and that 200 additional subscribers would square the budget, it will be seen that if Indian Science deserves the dignity of supporting an All-India journal in science, it can easily secure this dignity by what is really a trivial increase in the number of subscribers; for what are 500 subscribers amongst over 300 million people? No doubt, many of you have been waiting to see what the journal was like before subscribing. Now that you see the result, I hope that as many as possible will send in their subscriptions. ****

*at the 1933 Session of the Indian Science Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GEOMAGNETISM SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Symposium on 'Interdisciplinary Approaches to Geomagnetism' was organised by the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism at Bombay,

during May 1981, have now been published. Copies can be had from Dr R. Rajaram, Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Colaba, Bombay 400 005.

WORKSHOP ON NEUROBIOLOGY

The Department of Zoology, University of Poona, will be organizing a Workshop on Neurobiology from 1st to 14th March, 1983. Dr John M. Palka of the University of Washington, Seattle, U.S.A. (Fulbright visiting Professor in Poona University) and some eminent Indian neurobiologists will be conducting the teaching programme, which includes lectures and

practicals on development of nervous system, neuroanatomy, electrophysiology, neurochemistry, neuroendocrinology, neurogenetics and neuropathology. Those interested in joining the workshop are requested to send their biodata to Dr S. R. R. Reddy, Department of Zoology, University of Poona, Pune-411 007, on or before 25th January, 1983.