
CURRENT SCIENCE—50 YEARS AGO

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Extracts from the Editorial "Cooperation in Scientific Research" at page 185 of the January 1933 issue of Vol. 1.

THE doctrine that, "neither science nor the people would lose much if not attempt ever was made to bring them together", should not commend itself to the local self-governing institutions whose problems need the aid of science in every detail and particular. Science indeed loses its entire significance if it does not establish an intimate contact with the vital forces of civic administration. In modern life it is becoming increasingly clear that science and society must collaborate for the fullness and enrichment of both, and science is deprived of none of its dignity by being associated with the problems of every-day life. The introduction of fast moving vehicles in India without a previous preparation of the road conditions in the cities has been the cause of certain wide-spread diseases of the throat and the eye from which, as the Reports of the Medical Inspection of schools and colleges have abundantly shown, a large majority, of the school-going population is suffering. Traffic in the cities has become positively dangerous. The disposal of town refuse or its utilization is essentially a scientific problem. Town-planning, the distribution of

wholesome water, the drainage system, the supply and control of unadulterated food-stuffs, the protection of people against outbreak of epidemics, the preparation and interpretation of vital statistics and a number of other municipal problems require the effective assistance of scientific research for their solution. The municipalities ought to take the fullest advantage of the universities and the Indian Science Congress to which they should present their own local problems for investigation. In order to widen the scope of the usefulness of the Science Congress it may be deemed desirable to admit within its province the problems of municipal administration which directly concern the health and efficiency of the people.

Under the reformed constitution Indian scientists will be confronted with tremendous problems, and their preparedness to grapple with them on the basis of a common purpose and common understanding, must in a measure constitute the vindication of the general demand for the freedom of the country to progress.

ANNOUNCEMENT

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CALOTES VERSICOLOR

A Symposium is to be organized on *Calotes versicolor* during late 1984/early 1985 at Poona/Mysore. It will cover all aspects of this lizard: systematics, ecology, behaviour, anatomy, biology, reproduction, development, endocrinology, immunology, pathology, parasites, etc. It is proposed to publish the proceedings of the Symposium as a monograph containing all available information on *Calotes versicolor*. All scientists working or having worked on *Calotes versicolor* are, therefore, requested to participate in the Symposium. For achieving harmony and coordination a network is being formed

of all persons willing to participate in the Symposium. All interested scientists are requested to communicate their participation content to any one of the following.

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