

most interesting and important objects should only be preserved on the site when, as at Sarnath near Benares, this is easily accessible from some important centre of population, never when it is inaccessible as at Nagarjunakonda. And it should be the aim of the Department to see that the various types of sculpture that have developed at various times in various parts of the country are well represented in museums, both in India and abroad, provided they will be safely preserved and properly utilised for public education. Only first class specimens can worthily represent India's achievements, and in their absence from foreign museums the country will not get a reasonable chance of receiving the appreciation it deserves.

After discussing in detail the departmental changes recommended, and their financial implications, the report concludes "At present the country expends twelve and a half lakhs and gets, in my opinion, very poor value for its money; there is indeed no justification for so great an expenditure unless there is to be a very great improvement in the work done by the Department, and there is no chance of such improvement unless the Department be radically reformed. But given reforms on the lines I have suggested, and this small extra expenditure which they involve, India will in a short space of time be in possession of a first class archæological service which will amply repay its cost. The material for such a service is ready to hand and it only requires to be trained and organised to be of the utmost value both to international science and to the cause of popular education in this country. If on the other hand it be decided that a country so poor as India cannot afford the extra half lakh of rupees which the scheme of reform demands, then I can only say that it is not justified in spending, as at present, some twelve lakhs for which it gets so inadequate a return. It would be better to set aside roughly six lakhs for continuing the

upkeep of the ancient monuments already conserved and to close down the Department of Antiquities until the finances of the country were in a more prosperous state or until criticism in India and abroad made the resuscitation of the Department unavoidable."

The report contains valuable suggestions some of which—such as wider co-operation with other institutions—had already been initiated by the present Director-General before it was written. It is to be hoped that its strong wording will not be allowed to interfere with the careful consideration that it obviously deserves, and that the Central Government will not fail to provide the funds necessary to initiate all such developments as this consideration may show to be desirable. India is so large a country that it is impossible to stop or even adequately check the destruction now going on of scattered megalithic antiquities, sculptures, etc. (most of them still unknown to investigators) by road menders, builders, amateur excavators, etc. And if the other alternative is adopted and all but the conservation side of the Department closed down for a time, much of the priceless evidence now available will inevitably have disappeared before it can be investigated and recorded.

The Indian Journal of Entomology

WE have much pleasure in welcoming the entry of a new Indian Scientific Periodical—*The Indian Journal of Entomology*—into the arena of Indian Scientific Journalism. It is intended to be the organ of the Entomological Society of India, which was inaugurated in January 1938 at Calcutta, at a joint meeting of Indian and British Entomologists on the occasion of the Jubilee Session of the Indian Science Congress. Although entomological work has been in progress in India for over fifty years, it is a rather strange circumstance that there has

been till now no Indian periodical entirely devoted to entomological science. Papers on general entomology were being published either in the *Records of the Indian Museum*, the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* or the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal*, or in foreign periodicals, especially in the United Kingdom. Results of work done on applied entomology, on the other hand, found entry generally into the publications of the Agricultural, Forest or Medical Departments. As only finished work could be accepted in these journals, there has been till now no scope for the record of occasional observations or stray notes by amateur entomologists or beginners in entomology. The *Indian Journal of Entomology* has been designed to meet a long-felt want of entomological workers in India. Whatever the line of work they are engaged in, whether they be systematists or morphologists, whether they be amateur collectors or applied workers on agricultural, medical, veterinary or forest problems, the Journal will be equally open to them for purposes of publication. The

Entomological Society of India has established branches at important centres in different parts of India, wherein local members could meet periodically, read and discuss and exhibit any interesting finds.

We may congratulate the editorial staff of the Journal on the excellent get-up of its first number (Parts 1 and 2), which was received sometime ago. It includes, besides the Introduction, the congratulatory messages received from foreign entomologists, an interesting "Retrospect of Entomology in India", and several articles of high scientific value. There are, besides, various interesting notes in connection with the exhibits and communications made at the Branch Meetings of the Entomological Society of India. Reviews of recent research work and of books and monographs offer items of great value to workers—especially such as are beyond the reach of good scientific libraries. "News and Announcements" provide a very welcome fare for the entomological readers, full of human interest. We wish the new Journal a long and successful career.

Cosmic Ray Symposium at the University of Chicago

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DURING the last week of June, there was held at the University of Chicago a notable Symposium on Cosmic Rays under the Chairmanship of Professor Arthur H. Compton. Among the leading workers on cosmic rays who took part in the discussions were Professors V. F. Hess, Fordham University; Carl D. Anderson, California Institute of Technology; W. Heisenberg, Leipzig; W. Bethe, Heidelberg; J. Clay, Amsterdam; M. S. Vallarta, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and Bruno Rossi, formerly of Padua.

Since the early balloon experiments of Hess in Austria in 1912, by which he estab-

lished the existence of the rays, the study of cosmic rays has contributed much to the fundamentals of physics. Carl D. Anderson discovered positive electrons among his cosmic rays and found evidence for the presence also of the new sub-atomic particle, the meson. Cosmic rays provide a very effective tool for studying the components of atoms and how their nuclei are put together. The discussions were followed with seriousness and interest.

Among the major findings reported may be mentioned conclusive evidence for the existence of mesons, new data with regard to their remarkable penetration, evidence that