

## NOTES AND NEWS

### FOUNDATION OF MEDAL

The President is pleased to announce that the Tata Memorial Trust have founded a Medal for the *Paleontological Society of India*.

The President and Council of the Society take the opportunity of placing on record their deep appreciation of this gesture on the part of the Tata Trust.

### ECAFE

The second meeting of the Ecafe on the preparation of Geological, Mineral and Tectonic maps was held at Calcutta from 4th to 15th November, 1957. Mr. V. P. Sondhi, Director, Geological Survey of India, was Coordinator for the maps. Mr. Sondhi and Dr. S. A. Popol, President, Mines Department, Afghanistan, presided at different sessions of the meeting. Fellows of the Society who attended as official delegates were, besides Mr. Sondhi, Dr. M. R. Sahni, Dr. A. G. Jhingran and Mr. A. B. Dutt.

As coordinator, Mr. Sondhi attended the second Ecafe meeting in Paris, in 1958.

### DEUTSCHE GEOLOGISCHE GESELLSCHAFT : ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. M. R. Sahni, President, Palaeontological Society of India, was invited by the Deutsche Geologische Gesellschaft (through courtesy of its President, Prof. A. Benz and the Government of West Germany), to attend the Annual Meeting of the Society at Hannover, held to celebrate Prof. Hans Stille's 80th birthday, in October 1956. He addressed the international gathering on "*Recent advances in palaeontological research in India*." Subsequently he visited the oil fields area near Hannover, as well as several

Universities and Institutes in West Germany, making contacts with distinguished German palaeontologists and palaeobotanists.

Later he visited the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, the British Museum of Natural History, London and Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge.

### SOVIET PALAEOLOGISTS IN INDIA

The Russian scientists, Prof. N. N. Subbotina, Dr. P. S. Lubimova (Life Fellows of the Palaeontological Society of India) and Dr. N. D. Mechedlishvily from the Oil Research Institute, U. S. S. R., are on a visit to this country at the invitation of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. Prof. Subbotina is a specialist in foraminifera, Dr. Lubimova in ostracoda and Dr. Mechedlishvily in spores and pollen. They have been interesting themselves in the microfauna and microflora of Jaisalmer and other areas. They also visited the palaeontological laboratories of the Geological Survey of India and were shown the micropalaeontological, palynological and other palaeontological laboratories of the Department organised by Dr. Sahni.

### INTERNATIONAL PALAEOLOGICAL UNION

A meeting of the *International Palaeontological Union* was held in London, in July, 1958. Among the more important assignments of the Union are (a) to hold symposia, (b) prepare detailed lists of palaeontological and palaeobotanical materials (particularly type specimens), (c) lists of palaeontologists, palaeobotanists and of Journals dealing with the relevant sciences, in each country. As Council Member for India, Dr. Sahni has been entrusted with these activities in so far as this country is concerned.

## SOVIET HONOUR FOR PRESIDENT

Dr. M. R. Sahni was elected Honorary Member of the Palaeontological Society of the U.S.S.R. He and Mrs. M. R. Sahni were subsequently invited by the Soviet Academy of Sciences to visit the Soviet Union. They were also invited by the Academia Sinica (Chinese Academy of Sciences) to Peking. Dr. Sahni visited many Universities and centres of Palaeontological and Palaeobotanical research in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Odessa, Tashkent, Peking, Chou-kon-tien and Nanking, travelling by the Trans-Siberian railway from Moscow to Peking.

THE PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH,  
INDIA

The Panjab University at Chandigarh is organising its first Department of Geology. Dr. M. R. Sahni who recently retired from the Geological Survey of India, has been appointed Professor of Geology in the University. It is hoped to develop Chandigarh into an important centre for teaching oil and structural geology, vertebrate and invertebrate palaeontology and palaeobotany, including palynology, as well as for advanced research. Chandigarh is situated close to the Siwalik belt abounding in vertebrate fossils, and is an ideal center for work in the aforementioned sciences.

## INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS : GEOLOGY SECTION

Dr. A. G. Jhingran, who was elected President of the Geology Section, Indian Science Congress in 1957, presided over its deliberations at the Madras Session, January 1958. Besides a number of palaeontological papers, a Symposium on the Age of the Vindhyan System was also held. This resulted in an interesting discussion in which Dr. R. C. Misra and others took part.

The Symposium was opened by Dr. M. R. Sahni.

Professor Potonié, distinguished palaeobotanists from Germany, visited India for a period of about 3 months at the invitation of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow.

RESEARCH IN  
PALAEOONTOLOGY, PALAEOBOTANY  
AND PREHISTORY

The following information concerning progress of research work and other activities has been compiled from notes received by courtesy of persons mentioned below. The information is gratefully acknowledged.

The Editorial Board will be glad to publish brief information concerning research work in progress in different countries.

## I. CEYLON

P. E. P. Deraniyagala : Stone Age burials of *Homo sapiens balangodensis* race, in Uva Province.

## II. GREAT BRITAIN

Courtesy Prof. T. Harris, University of Reading : *K. L. Alvin*: Wealden plants from Belgium ; *W. G. Chaloner* (University of London) : Upper Palaeozoic plants, especially spores ; *J. Walton* : Palaeozoic fructification ; *C. A. Hoping* (University of Glasgow) : Wealden spores ; Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge ; *Miss K. I. M. Chesters* : Tertiary African fruits ; *H. H. Thomas* : S. African Permo-Triassic flora ; *A. Wesley* (Leeds University) : Italian Jurassic flora ; *M. G. Galder* (Manchester University) : Petrified gymnosperms ; *T. M. Harris* (Reading University) : Jurassic flora of Yorkshire ; *W. S. Lacey* (University of Wales) : Lower Carboniferous flora ; *J. W. Franks* : (British Museum) : Palaeozoic spores. *R. S. Holden* : Carboniferous petrification ; *Mrs. E. M. Knox* (Edinburgh) : Coal Measure spores ; *Miss M. E. J. Chandler* : British Tertiary plants (Dorset).

## III. INDIA

M. R. Sahni in charge Palaeontology and Paleobotany Division, Geological Survey of India : (a) Cretaceous Terebratulids of South India and (b) Terebratulidae of the British Chalk (British Museum of Natural History material) (c) A fossil egg from the Cenomanian of S. India.

Several workers carried out researches in collaboration with and under the direction of Dr. Sahni, as part of the Geological Survey of India scheme for training young palaeontologists and palaeobotanists. The names of offices under training, and the research items are mentioned below:—

## INVERTEBRATE LABORATORY

*M. V. A. Sastry* : (a) Mesozoic ammonites from eastern Byans and (b) Cretaceous ammonites from Trichinopoly; *A. P. Tewari* : (a) Permo-Carboniferous mollusca from Spiti, (b) Palaeozoic, Mesozoic and Tertiary faunas from Ladakh; *S. S. Sarcar* : (a) Cretaceous ammonites from Trichinopoly (b) Jurassic ammonites from Jaisalmer; *K. K. Verma* : (a) Lower Palaeozoic fossils from Spiti, (b) Jurassic brachiopoda from Jaisalmer; *S. T. Rajurkar* : Jurassic mollusca from Jaisalmer; *M. B. Pawde* : Jurassic rhynchonellids from Burma.

## VERTEBRATE LABORATORY

(a) *Bos namadicus* from Kalegaon, Ahmadnagar district (b) Permo-Triassic tetrapods from the Panchets of Raniganj coalfields area; (c) *Equus* from Pleistocene deposits. *P. P. Satsangi* : Bovids from the Siwaliks of Chinji and Simla hills.

## PALAEOBOTANICAL LABORATORY

*C. Nageswara Rao* : Plant fossils from the Kota-Maleri (Triassic-Jurassic) of Hyderabad; *S. C. Shah* : Plant fossils from the Tertiary of Jaisalmer.

## MICROPALAEONTOLOGICAL LABORATORY

*V. V. Shastri* : (a) Orbitolines from the Cretaceous of Dras (b) Mesozoic foraminifera and ostracoda from the Jaisalmer area.

## MICROPALAEOBOTANICAL LABORATORY

*R. N. Shrivastva* : Microflora from Cuddappah sediments, (M. B.)

## OTHER INVESTIGATIONS

Certain investigations were in progress independently by the following: *R. N. Shrivastva* : Microflora from the Gondwana sediments—a palynological study of the various coal

seams of India; *A. Chandra* : Palynological study of coal seams, W. Bengal; *M. B. Pawde* and *P. Mehrotra* : Tertiary microflora from Madras; Spores from Ondal area; *A. M. Khan* : Microflora from Karanpura coalfields. *H. M. Kapoor* : microfauna from West Germany and Jaisalmer; *S. C. Pant* : Jurassic foraminifera from Jaisalmer.

## THE INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

*Aligarh University*. *P. N. Ganju* : Petrography of the Rampur coals.

*Lucknow University*. *R. C. Misra* : a Pre-Cambrian and early Palaeozoic floras with particular reference to the Vindhyan; *B. S. Tewari* : Jurassic foraminifera from Cutch; *S. B. Bhatia* : Smaller foraminifera from the Miocene of Surat-Broach region.

*Banaras Hindu University*. *S. K. Agarwal* : Palaeontology and stratigraphy of the Jhura dome, Cutch; *V. D. Shukla* : palaeontology and stratigraphy of the Nara dome, Cutch; *K. R. Mehta* : Lower Gondwana microfossils; *I. C. Pande* and *V. D. Shukla* : Plant fossils from the Naini Tal area, outer Himalayas.

*Mysore University*. *L. Rama Rao*, *S. Samba Gowda* and *G. R. Chandra Sekhar* : Microfossils from the South Indian Cretaceous; *M. G. A. Chetty* and *S. Venkatesh* : Microfossils from the Pondicherry area.

*Madras University*. *A. K. Kasthuri* : South Indian Cretaceous invertebrates, *Calcutta University*. *A. K. Dutta* : Permo-Carboniferous fauna, S. Rewa; *D. Bhattacharya*, *T. Ray Chaudhry*, *K. Dutta*, *R. Bannerjee*, and *T. G. Sarkar* : Gondwana plant fossils and spores; *K. Sarma* : Foraminifera from Baripada beds, Orissa.

*Allahabad University*. *D. D. Pant* : Structural study of the Glossopteris flora.

*Darbar College, Rewa*. *S. D. Saksena* : Mega-and Micro-plant fossils from the Gondwanas of S. Rewa.

*Government College of Science, Nagpur*. *S. Chitale* : Inter-Trappean flora.

## BIRBAL SAHNI INSTITUTE OF PALAEOBOTANY

*R. N. Lakhanpal*, *C. G. K. Ramanujam*, *P. K. Nair* and *Gurdip Singh* : Plant collections from Ootacamund, Madras and Kerala,

Courtalam, and pollen of the families Ranunculaceae, Dilleniaceae, Berberidaceae, Nymphaeaceae, Fumariaceae, Papaveraceae, Cruciferae, Violaceae, Caryophyllaceae, Portulacaceae, and Gramineae; *D. C. Bharadwaj*, *K. M. Lele*, *G. B. Navale*, and *Hari Paul Singh* : Microflora of various coal seams of India.

PRE-AND PROTO-HISTORIC STUDIES :  
INDIA

*Deccan College and Post-Graduate Research Institute, Poona* : Under the guidance of Prof. H. D. Sankalia : *K. D. Bannerjee*, *A. P. Khatri* and *G. C. Mahapatra* : Excavations at Nevasa, Navda Toli and Maheswar, C. India; Middle Palaeolithic tools and stone Age Collections from Central India and Orissa.

*Baroda University and Department of Archaeology, Saurashtra* : Excavations at Amra, Lakhbawal and Somnath for post-Harappa Chalcolithic Cultures;

*Allahabad University* : Rock shelters and paintings and Stone tools of Paleolithic and Mesolithic periods from near the Vindhyan hills;

*Department of Archaeology, Mysore* : Megaliths from Chinthamani taluq and the sarcophagus burial of the type associated with Perumbur.

*Department of Archaeology, Government of India, Madras* : Excavations at Nagda and Palaeolithic tools and Megaliths from Nagarjuna Konda valley, Andhra; and the Harappan site at Lothal, Saurashtra;

*Department of Archaeology and K. P. Jayaswal Institute, Poona* : Excavations near Udaipur and Patna, respectively.

*Anthropology Department, Calcutta University* : Early stone age tools and the Neolithic Culture implements from Mayurbhanj State, Orissa.

III. TURKEY

Courtesy of Prof. Mme. L. Erentoz, M. T. A., Ankara and Prof. I. Ketin, University of Istanbul: *Mme. L. Erentoz* : Tertiary Micropalaeontology and marine Oligocene fauna of Turkey; *Mme C. Kirali* : Palaeozoic Corals of Turkey; *A. Dizer* : Micropalaeontology;

*Mme. M. Kabuli* (University of Istanbul) Echinodermata; *Mme M. Turkunal* : Cephalopoda; *Mlle A. Nazli* : Tertiary lamellibranchs and gastropods; *Mlle R. Tekin* : bryozoa and brachiopoda; *C. Oztemur* : Tertiary larger foraminifera; *Mme V. Oztemur* : Cretaceous and Tertiary smaller foraminifera; *Y. Peemen* : Nummulitidae; *S. Gez* : Tertiary larger foraminifera; *Mlle N. Nacar* : Tertiary smaller foraminifera; *Mlle M. Baran* : Tertiary smaller foraminifera; *Mme U. Bilgutay* : Phitopalaeontologie; *K. Turmovsky* : Tertiary smaller foraminifera and ostracoda; *van Ginkel* : Palaeozoic foraminifera; *R. Wagner* : Phitopalaeontologie. *Mme. N. Karacabey* : Palaeozoic and Mesozoic gastropods and lamellibranchs; Upper cretaceous fauna of northern Turkey and revision of Rudistids. *F. Ozansov* : Vertebrate fossils; fauna from the Miocene and Pliocene of Turkey; *Mlle S. Basad* : Stratigraphy and palaeontology of the Jurassic of Ankara and Mesozoic foraminifera; *S. Gez* : Tertiary palaeontology and stratigraphy; *Mme U. Bilgutay* : Stratigraphy of N. Ankara.

*Ankara University* : *S. Ere* : Fusulinidae; *Esso-Standard Inc. Mrs. M. Tasman* : Micropalaeontology; *M. R. Egemen* : Mesozoic and Tertiary Palaeobotany; *Ankara University. M. Senyurek* : Prehistoric Archaeology.

IV. YUGOSLAVIA

Courtesy Prof. Milan Herak. (*University of Zagreb*) : *V. Kochansky-Devide* : Carboniferous and Permian foraminifera; *D. Nedela-Devide* : Upper Cretaceous foraminifera; *M. Pavlovski* : Miocene gastropods; *A. Polsak* : Rudistids; *M. Herak* : Triassic calcareous algae; *D. Sikic* : Eocene molluscs; *V. Amsel* : Micropalaeontology of Miocene and Pliocene sediments

(*Yugoslav Academy of Arts and Science Zagreb*); *M. Salopek* : Carboniferous fauna; *M. Malez* : Quaternary mammals. *Geological and Palaeontological Museum Zagreb* *A. Milan* : Eocene molluscs; *D. Anic* and *A. Taksic* (*Geological Survey of P. R. Croatia, Zagreb*) : Tertiary molluscs; *S. Muldini* : Micropalaeontology of Miocene and Pliocene; *Naftaplin, Zagreb*, *K. Jenko* : Tertiary molluscs, Faculty of Mining and Geology, Zagreb, *P. Stevandvic* : Tertiary molluscs; *Z. Petronijevic* : Tertiary mammals; *N.*

- Pantic* : Fossil floras ; *V. Kostic* : Palaeozoic corals; *O. Spaic-Miletic* : Neogene molluscs; *J. Petrovic* : Cretaceous echinoids; *M. Andelkovic* : Jurassic and Cretaceous ammonites; *Z. Sucic* : Cretaceous brachiopods (Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb); *B. Milaovanotic* : Rudistids (Geological Survey of P. R. Serbia, Belgrade); *R. Radoicic* : Biostratigraphy of Jurassic; *A. Lubarda* : Biostratigraphy of Cretaceous; *S. Prodanovic-Pantic* : Biostratigraphy of Palaeozoic and Triassic; Geological Institute "Jovan Zujovic", Belgrade) *O. Mareovic* : Corals and biostratigraphy of Cretaceous; *S. Obradovic* and *R. Dzodzo* : Micropalaeontology; *M. Pasic* and *D. Pe'ovic* : Biostratigraphy of Upper Cretaceous *D. Veselinoic* : Biostratigraphy of Jurassic; *Milinea Veselinovic* : Biostratigraphy of Oligocene and Miocene; *Miroslat Veselinotic* : Biostratigraphy of Palaeozoic: (Philosophical Faculty, University of Ljubljana) *Raeotec* : Tertiary and Quaternary mammals; *A. Ramotus* : Permian. (Geological Survey of P. R. Slovenia. Ljubljana); *A. Budnar-Tregubot* : Palaeobotany. *M. Plenicar* : Upper Cretaceous fauna; *T. Nosan* : Tertiary molluscs; *Lj. sZ'ebnie* : Triassic cephalopods; *J. Rijavec* : Micropalaeontology; *I. Soe'ic* : (Pozarnica" Simin Han, Tuzla) Tertiary molluscs. *R. Zarevsei* : (Museum of Natural History, Skopje) Tertiary mammals.