

Phytopathological News

SILVER JUBILEE OF INDIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

On the occasion of Silver Jubilee of the Indian Phytopathological Society, an International Symposium on Plant Pathology was held at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, from 27th January to 3rd February, 1971. This was the second such symposium organised by the Indian Phytopathological Society, this time under the joint auspices of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Indian National Science Academy and International Society of Plant Pathology. The symposium was attended by more than 600 delegates representing 24 countries, including scientists like Sir Frederick Bawden, Dr. L. M. Black, Dr. J. M. Bove, Prof. Homer D. Chapman, Dr. J. F. Dastur, Dr. A. E. Dimond, Dr. J. G. Horsfall, Dr. J. G. ten Houten, Prof. A. Kelman, Dr. J. B. Kuntz, Dr. G. Rangaswami, Dr. H. S. Loring, Dr. K. Marmorosch, Dr. G. Melchers, Dr. A. B. Joshi, Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Dr. M. L. Dhar, Dr. S. K. Mukherjee, Dr. H. R. Arkeri, Dr. D. N. Shivpuri, Miss F. Quak, Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Dr. T. S. Sadasivan, Dr. R. Prasada, Dr. R. S. Vasudeva, Dr. H. K. Saksena, Dr. D. N. Srivastava, Dr. H. A. B. Parpia, Dr. L. S. Negi, Dr. A. Shigo, Dr. S. Sinha, Dr. E. Shikata, Dr. R. L. Steere, Dr. P. R. Mehta, Dr. W. C. Snyder, Dr. R. N. Tandon, Dr. M. J. Thirumalachar, Dr. J. M. Wallace, Dr. S. Wakimoto, Prof. R. K. S. Wood, Dr. W. C. Price and many others.

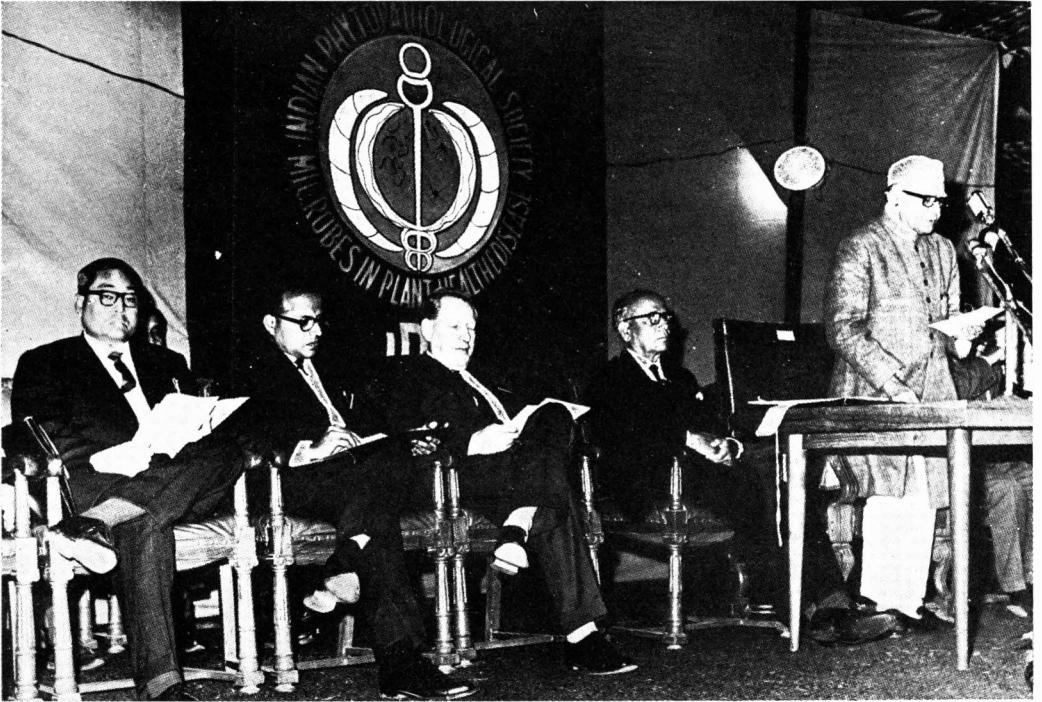
The scientific papers were presented in 35 sessions and 7 group discussions; two of these sessions were held at Agra and two at Aligarh. Two special lectures by Sir Frederick Bawden and Dr. Karl Marmorosch were also organised. The regular sessions were on the following topics: The role of plant pathology in modernizing agriculture; Man made diseases and diseases of complex etiology; Genetics of disease resistance; Insects in relation to plant diseases; Air and water pollution in relation to diseases; Mycotoxins and mycotoxicosis; Cooperative work in plant pathology in the Commonwealth countries; Fine structure of plant pathogens; Seed pathology especially in relation to tropical plants; Resistance breeding; Ecological aspects of soil-borne pathogens; Chemical control of plant diseases and residual effects; The relevance of herbaria and culture collection to mycology and plant pathology; Physiology and biochemistry of pathogenesis; Newer problems of high yielding crop plants (Nematological); Microbial deterioration; Newer problems of high yielding crop plants (Fungal); Newer problems of high yielding crop plants (Bacterial); Newer problems of high yielding crop plants (Viral); Mycoplasma and Bdellovibrio; Genetics of fungal plant pathogens; Training of plant pathologists for teaching and research; Problems in plantation crops—I (coffee and coconut); Citrus die-back in India; Cultivation of edible fungi and mushroom diseases; Quarantine in relation to plant introduction and seed certification; Problems in vegetable crops; Problems in forage crops; Virology; Newer problems of



Dr. J. G. ten Houten, President of the Royal Dutch Society of Agricultural Science and Secretary General of ISPP presenting a scroll of honor to Prof. J. F. Dastur, first President of the Indian Phytopathological Society.



Dr. James G. Horsfall of Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New-Haven, Conn., U.S.A. addressing the delegates of the Symposium.



Mr. F. A. Ahmed, Union Minister for Agriculture, addressing the delegates during the inauguration of the Symposium. Also seen in the picture are Dr. B. P. Pal, Director General, ICAR, Dr. A. H. Boerma, Director General, FAO, Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Director, I. A. R. I., and Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Chairman, Symposium Organizing Committee.

crop plants (Nutritional) ; Problems in temperate fruit crops ; Problems in ornamental plants ; Problems in medicinal plants ; Problems in plantation crops—2 (tea and rubber) ; Forest pathology ; and four sessions on brief research papers of phytopathological interest.

Post-symposium tours and group discussions at Simla, Kanpur, Poona, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Cuttack were arranged. In the group discussions the following topics were discussed and some very useful papers read : Current problems concerning potato diseases and their control ; Current problems of wheat diseases and their control ; Recent developments in chemical control of plant diseases ; Current problems regarding diseases of millet and oil seed crops ; Improvement of vegetables and fruits ; Current problems concerning rice diseases and their control.

The Plenary session presided over by Sir Frederick Bawden, has considered the various resolutions drafted by the chairman of different sessions. A steering committee comprising of Dr. M. J. Thirumalachar, Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Dr. M. M. Payak and Dr. V. V. Chenulu after going through the resolutions and the discussions that took place finalized the resolutions which were sent to I.C.A.R. and the National Agriculture Commission, for consideration and implementation.

Prior to the start of the Plenary session on the afternoon of 3rd February, 1971, Dr. J. G. ten Houten, President of the Royal Dutch Agricultural Society and Secretary-General, ISPP, presented a scroll of honour to late Prof. J. F. Dastur, First President of the Indian Phytopathological Society.

SYMPOSIUM ON EPIDEMIOLOGY FORECASTING AND CONTROL OF PLANT DISEASES

The Indian National Science Academy sponsored a Symposium on "Epidemiology, forecasting and control of plant diseases", which was convened by Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Head, Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and was held at Lucknow from 18th-20th January, 1971. The symposium was inaugurated by Dr. K. Ramiah former Vice-President of INSA and member, Rajya Sabha. The aim of the symposium was to provide an up-to-date information on the work done during the past decade particularly in the past five years. There were six sessions presided over by six eminent scientists, viz., Dr. R. N. Tandon, Dr. M. J. Thirumalachar, Dr. B. M. Gupta, Dr. A. E. Dimond, Dr. S. Y. Padmanabhan and Dr. R. Prasada. The Plenary session was chaired by Dr. J. G. Horsfall. Dr. Horsfall and Dr. A. E. Dimond delivered special lectures on "Epidem—a mathematical model for simulating epidemics" and "The nature of control of epidemics", respectively. Altogether 100 scientists took part in the deliberations and discussions in various sessions and 47 papers were presented.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON PATHOLOGICAL WILTING OF PLANTS

An international symposium on pathological wilting of plants was held at Madras between January 18-24, 1971 organized by the Centre for advanced studies in Botany, Madras. The symposium covered many facets of wilt pathogens in soils, taxonomy and genetics of the pathogens, host response to infection, physiology *in vitro*, biochemistry of the infected plant, mechanisms of wilting and control. About 50 scientific papers were presented by experts from India, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, U.K., U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. Many observers from India participated in discussions and made the symposium more meaningful. The symposium was organized by the efforts of U.G.C., Prof. T. S. Sadasivan and his colleagues. It was inaugurated by Dr. B. P. Pal, Director-General, ICAR. One of the significant aspects of the symposium was that all the delegates were housed under one roof facilitating opportunities for ample discussion with regard to the problem of wilting not only on the floor of the lecture hall but also during informal discussions among experts in the field.

Dr. M. M. Payak, Maize Pathologist (Associate Project Co-ordinator) attended the VIIth Inter Asian Corn Programme Workshop held at Los Banos, the Philippines from 10th to 16th January 1971. Dr. Payak presided over the session on Maize diseases. Besides Dr. Payak, other members of the Society viz., Dr. B. L. Renfro, Dr. Sangam Lal and Dr. Mahesh, C. Pandey also attended the workshop.

Congratulations to :

Dr. V. V. Chenulu, on his appointment as Professor of Plant Pathology, Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology, IARI.

Dr. R. S. Singh, on his promotion as Professor of Plant Pathology, U. P. Agricultural University, Pant Nagar.

Necrology :

Dr. N. B. Kulkarni of Agricultural College, Poona expired on 26th November, 1970.

Prof. S. R. Bose, Founder member and Hon. Fellow of the Society passed away after prolonged illness on 6th December, 1970.

Prof. J. F. Dastur, former Head of the Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology, first elected President and Honorary Fellow of the IPS suddenly passed away on 11th May 1971.

Dr. B. L. Mathur, Plant Pathologist, Rajasthan passed away in May 1971.

XXIV Annual Report of the Indian Phytopathological Society for the Year 1970

Mr. President, Members of the I.P.S., Ladies and Gentlemen :

I am presenting herewith the 24th Annual report of the Society for the year 1970. One hundred and fifty (150) new members joined the Society, 18 as life-members and 132 as ordinary members, while 25 members discontinued their membership. I regret to report that five members died. They are Rev. Father H. Santapau, Prof. R. K. Saksena, Prof. M. J. Narasimhan, Dr. N.B. Kulkarni and Prof. S. R. Bose (he was our honorary fellow). The total number of members at the end of the year was 1003 and that of subscribers was 340.

During the year, volume XXII, 3-4, 1969, and XXIII, 1-3 1970 of *Indian Phytopathology* have been issued. IPS Bull. No. 5, 1969 'Current Trends in the Taxonomy on Phytopathogenic Fungi ; Chemical control of plant diseases and current plant pathological problems in new agricultural strategy' held at Powai, Bombay on 1st and 2nd January, 1969, has been published. The Book 'Plant Disease Problems' 1970, which embodies the proceedings of the 1st International Symposium on Plant Pathology, is also now available for sale.

The amount to the credit of the Society in the SB account with M/S National and Grindlays Bank Ltd. (Lloyds Branch), New Delhi and cash in hand, taken together on 30th November, 1970 was Rs. 82,566.55 ; in addition, we have invested Rs. 10,000/- in 12 years' National Defence Certificates in 1969. Thus the assets of the Society amount to Rs. 92,566.55. Several cheques are still in the process of collection.

During the year, the receipts amount to Rs. 77,308.27 and expenditure to Rs. 62,379.54, thus showing a balance of Rs. 14,928.73. We have paid the cost of printing of volume XXII (3-4) 1969, and vol. XXIII (1-3) 1970, of *Indian Phytopathology*. This year, we have received Rs. 10,000/- as grant from the ICAR and CSIR, Rs. 5,000/- each for the 2nd International Symposium on Plant Pathology, to be held from 27th January to 3rd February, 1971.

The Centro Internacional Mejaramiento de Maizy Trigo (CIMMYT) contributed a sum of Rs. 7,317.32, towards meeting the cost of Downy mildew issue, vol. XXIII (2) 1970 through the office of the Rockefeller Foundation (Indian Agricultural Programme). The printing of the journal has been in the hands of M/s Kapoor Art Press, New Delhi.

Two council meetings were held during the year, but several joint meetings along with the Editorial Board and the Organizing Committee of the 2nd International Symposium on Plant Pathology were called from time to time to review the progress.

I am glad to inform you that five more members, Dr. S. N. Bhargava, Dr. K. I. Wilson, Dr. R. D. Singh, Shri P. C. Joshi and Mrs. C. K. Soumini Rajagopalan have expressed their desire to become fellows of the Society. They will be introduced during the meeting, if they are present.

During the year under report the following lectures were delivered by eminent scientists under the auspices of the Society at I.A.R.I., New Delhi :—

1. 22.1.1970. Dr. J. B. Sinclair, Dept. of Plant Pathology, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana, USA, "Testing for systemic fungicides in plants".
2. 14.8.70. Dr. Paul R. Miller, "Epidemiology and forecasting of Plant diseases in U.S.A."
3. 21.9.70. Dr. S. Yoshimura, Central Agril. Exp. Sta., Konosu, Japan "Rice disease situation in India".
4. 30.9.70 Dr. William Brown, Jr. U.S.A. "Plant pathology-problems and progress in N. E. Thailand".

I am glad to report that the 3rd Philip R. White Memorial Lecture is being delivered by Prof. P. N. Mehra, Punjab University, Chandigarh. We are thankful to him for accepting this assignment.

The VII Mundkur Memorial lecture was delivered by Prof. R. N. Tandon at Kharagpur in January, 1970. He was gracious enough to donate Rs. 100/- to the Society. This year the VIIIth Mundkur Memorial Lecture, is being delivered by Dr. P. R. Mehta, to whom we are grateful.

The book 'plant Disease Problems' has received wide appreciation. To members it is available at half cost (Rs. 30/-) and I would appeal to all members to buy this important reference publication and also bring it to the notice of their institutions. We are also keen to have the book reviewed in important scientific journals so that it may receive wide publicity. The co-operation of the members in this direction would be welcome.

Preparations for the 2nd International Symposium on Plant Pathology are in full swing and largely due to the energetic initiative of Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Chairman, Organizing Committee, we expect it would be a good success. So far 400 members from India and abroad have registered as delegates and some more scientists would register after their arrival in India. The Organizing Committee to accommodate more requests for presenting papers have now decided to hold 36 sessions in the symposium. The final programme would become available soon.

Though strenuous efforts were made to bring out the publication "Twenty Five Years of Plant Pathology" simultaneously with commencement of the symposium, I have to inform you that this will not be now possible. The main reason is the delay in the receipt of manuscripts from the authors who were invited to write the review articles. We hope that it would be possible to publish this volume sometime during the course of this Silver Jubilee Year of the Society.

Dr. H. K. Saksena, President of our Society will be delivering a stimulating and thought provoking address which I am sure would receive wide appreciation. We express our deep gratitude to him for guiding the affairs of the Society intelligently and efficiently.

The IPS, as decided last year, has in 1970 become an associate Society of the International Society for Plant Pathology, by paying Rs. 210/- as associateship fees. We are glad to report that the ISPP has recently brought out its first number of International Newsletter on Plant Pathology. We would urge more members to join the ISPP through IPS by remitting Rs. 21 to Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Honorary Treasurer, ISPP.

As you might have noted the 4 numbers of *Indian Phytopathology* are becoming bulkier and bulkier each year. This reflects an increased amount of research activity in the country and consequently more research papers. However, the task has proved formidable and it has been carried out with great skill by Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Chief-Editor and especially Dr. V. V. Chenulu, Joint-Secretary and a member of the Editorial Board. We are also grateful to the reviewers and referees who have cooperated willingly at the cost of great personal inconvenience.

During this last year of my tenure the burden of my office has been increasingly taken over by my colleague and Joint-Secretary Dr. V. V. Chenulu and our worthy Treasurer Mr. V. C. Lele to whom I am greatly indebted. I have no words to express my deep gratitude and obligation to my worthy colleague Shri Girdhari Lal Ji but for whose patience and hard work, we would not have run the affairs of the Society as efficiently, as we think, we have. To all other office bearers I record my deep sense of gratefulness for their indulgence and patience shown to me. I will be laying down the office of Secretaryship soon and I hope I will be pardoned for errors of omission and commission.

This year has been an unfortunate one in that we lost in quick succession an eminent array of 3 Presidents and one honorary fellow. I allude to the sad demise of Prof. M. J. Narasimhan, Dr. R. K. Saksena and Prof. S. R. Bose. We also lost Rev. Father H. Santapau who was a great well wisher of the Society since its inception even though professionally he was not a plant pathologist.

Dr. B. P. Pal's name is almost synonymous with Agricultural Research and Progress in India and we are very proud and happy that he is holding the highest office to which a scientist could be elevated in the country, that is the General-Presidentship of the Indian Science Congress. He not only holds officially the highest position in our country as a scientist but also in the hearts of his countrymen. His kindly agreeing to preside over the meeting where the VIIIth Mundkur Memorial lecture will be delivered by Dr. P. R. Mehta bespeaks of his abiding interest in our Society and his affecting and love for Dr. B. B. Mundkur. We express our profound sense of gratitude for his finding time to participate in the annual activities of the Society.

Dr. Atma Ram, President of the INSA and Director-General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has been gracious enough

to accede to our request for chairing the Annual Meeting during which the Presidential Address would be delivered. Gratefulness is due to him for his kindly sparing time to preside.

This year's meetings are noteworthy in that we are having eminent participants from abroad. Dr. George Melchers from the Max Planck Institute, Tubingen, needs no introduction and we express our appreciation for chairing the meeting in which Prof. P. N. Mehra would deliver the 3rd Philip R. White Memorial lecture. Dr. M. Oostenbrink from Wageningen, Netherlands is another luminary who would speak on his favourite topic of nematodes and this session will be chaired by Prof. B. R. Seshachar, President-Elect of the INSA (Indian National Science Academy).

As our Annual meetings are held in conjunction with the Indian Science Congress sessions, every year, we rely heavily on the organisers. We are particularly grateful to Dr. Ashima Chatterjee, General-Secretary, Indian Science Congress, and the local secretaries Prof. M. Shadakhshara Swamy, Prof. M. Nagaraj, Prof. N. Rudriah and Prof. T. Ramesan for providing comfortable accomodation and for making other arrangements to conduct our meetings here at Bangalore. Lastly, I express my profound sense of appreciation and gratefulness to Dr. H. C. Govindu for providing us all help, guidance and information in respect of arrangement of our meetings and providing comforts to the members in the salubrious climate of Bangalore.

M. M. PAYAK

Secretary

Indian Phytopathological Society