

quate secretariat. "Delegates to international conferences must have documents beforehand in their own language to be able to discuss them with their own people." This was strongly supported by Dr. Ranganathan, who pointed out that many conferences fail because of quite inadequate preliminary documentation. He also advocated that older delegates to conferences should be accompanied by a younger man, who would thus be properly experienced when it became his turn to lead. He emphasized how adequate documentation overcame language difficulties, while the use of a universal classification system, such as the U.D.C., prevented misunderstanding as to the precise definition of a subject. Dr. P. Bourgeois (director, Swiss National Library) pointed out that this was not generally being done, and instanced some recent international conferences, which had achieved little because of the paucity of their practical application of documentation.

Mr. A. B. Agard Evans (Ministry of Works Library) said that there were far too many international resolutions, and not enough practical activity. This was due, in some instances, to the lack of national collaboration first, and he directed attention to the fact that the building industry was one of the wealthiest in the world, yet it had little international collaboration.

In association with the conference, Aslib arranged an exhibition of representative bibliographies and abstracting journals. IVOR B. N. EVANS

INDIAN DAIRY SCIENCE

THE immense importance of a substantial increase in production and consumption of milk and milk products, both to the balance of Indian agriculture and in contributing protein, fat and minerals to the very largely cereal diet of the 320 ± 20 million inhabitants of present-day India is being increasingly appreciated in that country. For perhaps two decades, real efforts have been made to improve the dairy industry in India both as regards milk production (in which Mahatma Gandhi took a personal interest) and as regards milk distribution and manufacture. Progress, hindered by religious as well as economic obstacles, has, however, been rather disappointing.

This slow development has also been due, in no small part, to other causes—paucity of knowledge, the serious shortage of trained dairy husbandrymen and of satisfying opportunities for their activity, the acute lack of dairy scientists, technologists and engineers and the absence of more than a small handful of research workers in dairying. Research is clearly needed in two directions: first, the application to the severer climatic and other conditions of India of the knowledge already applied in the more progressive dairying countries in the temperate zones; and secondly, basic study of the nutrition, breeding and physiology of dairy stock in India and of the microbiology, biochemistry and engineering underlying modern dairying operations.

The recent formation of an Indian Dairy Science Association with similar objects to those of the Society of Dairy Technology in Great Britain, namely, the advancement of dairy science, the provision of opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and ideas, and the encouragement of scientific inquiry into problems arising in the industry, is a step in the

right direction. The Association is fortunate in having Sir Datar Singh, the energetic chairman of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, as its first president. The Association has just issued the first number of a new journal, the *Indian Journal of Dairy Science*, which is to appear quarterly under the editorship of the director of the Indian Dairy Research Institute at Bangalore, Dr. K. C. Sen (Indian Dairy Science Association, Hosur Road, Bangalore, India. 12 rupees per annum).

The present number contains six original articles dealing with aspects of milk production, control of milk keeping quality, milk composition, milk phosphatase, vegetable rennet and indigenous butter. While it would be unfair to apply too critical an eye to some of these early contributions, they are all of value, and one at least, by Krishnamurti and Subrahmanyam, is outstanding. A promising start has been made, and several in Britain who know at first hand of the immense difficulties which have still to be overcome before the mutually dependent partners, dairy science and the dairying industry, can flourish in India, will look forward with great interest to the future progress of this *Journal*.

H. D. KAY

FOREST POLICY IN UGANDA

A STATEMENT on the forest policy for Uganda was recently issued by His Excellency the Governor and published as a Supplement to the *Uganda Gazette* of June 15, 1948.

This statement is of interest as it is promulgated by the Governor himself. The main points are as follows: 1. (i) To reserve in perpetuity, for the benefit of the present inhabitants of Uganda and of posterity, sufficient land (either already forested or capable of afforestation) to maintain climatic conditions suitable for agriculture, to preserve water supplies, to provide forest produce for agricultural, industrial and domestic purposes, and to maintain soil stability in areas where the land is liable to deterioration if put to other uses. (ii) To manage this forest estate to obtain the best returns on its capital value and the expenses of management, in so far as such returns are consistent with the primary aims set out above. (iii) To foster, by education and propaganda, a real understanding among the people of Uganda of the value of forests to them and their descendants. (iv) To encourage and assist the practice of sound forestry by local authorities and private enterprise; and to educate selected Africans in technical forestry.

It is of interest to note that these points in forest policy were first laid down by the Secretary of State for India in London as far back as 1862. They have since been repeated by many governments in many parts of the world, but only rarely have been given practical effect.

The Governor continues: 2. To achieve the first objective of this four-point policy, namely, the creation of an adequate forest estate, the following guiding principles shall be observed: (i) The climatic and physical conditions of the country must be preserved and, if possible, bettered, by first, the reservation of suitable land, and secondly, the maintenance, improvement or re-establishment of vegetation on the most important catchment areas and on other strategic positions. (ii) The supply in perpetuity of the many forms of forest produce required