Editorial

THE TENTH YEAR

The Bulletin has just entered the tenth year of its publication. It was started in 1952 for the dissemination of scientific and technical information in different branches of Electrochemistry. The India Section is the only Section of the Electrochemical Society to have its own publication. During these nine years we have been gradually expanding and improving the contents. It is heartening to note that the Bulletin and the Special Symposium Numbers published by the Section have been received well in India as well as in foreign countries. The technical papers of the Bulletin are included in Chemical Abstracts. The Bulletin is cooperating in the publication of the new Journal 'Chemical Titles' beginning from this year.

All this has been possible due to the continued cooperation of the Society, members, associates and Patrons of the Section, industries, scientific institutions and individuals, and the generous support from the Government. We hope to maintain the standards and do better service in the future.

—T.L.R.

News Section

SECTION REPORT

Meetings

A Technical Meeting of the India Section was held on 27 October 1960 in Bombay at the premises of the Indian Standards Institution Branch Office. Dr S Krishnamurthy, Chief Chemist, Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., gave a talk on 'The Chemicals for the Electroplating Industry in India'. The Secretary proposed Dr S. N. Anant Narayan, Managing Director, Nickel Information Bureau Private Ltd., to preside on the occasion. The speaker reviewed the progress of the industry in the country in the last decade and particularly the progress of the chemical industry, and stated that the chemical industry had expanded considerably and many of the chemicals hitherto imported were produced indigenously. When the young industry could not face competition from imported chemicals, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Government of India came to the rescue by granting concessions.

The plating chemicals can be divided into two major groups—direct chemicals used in plating and indirect chemicals used in some of the processes connected with plating. Among the first category nickel, zinc, tin, copper, chrome salts and sodium hydroxide and ammonium chloride are typical examples. The speaker gave production figures of nickel salts and some of the other salts in the year 1959. A few chemicals like sodium, potassium and other metallic cyanides like copper, zinc, cadmium, silver and gold are not produced in the country. Some of the special chemicals like sulphamates, pyrophosphates, fluorides and special brighteners are not also produced. Among the category of indirect chemicals sodium carbonate, trisodium phosphate, dichromates, sodium thiosulphate and other acids like sulphuric, nitric and hydrochloric can be grouped together. The speaker gave production figures for these chemicals in 1959. Speaking about the use of made up plating salts, the lecturer was of the opinion that made up salts would be suitable for our country as most of the job platers were not well educated. However, he emphasised that the plating houses supplying these salts should give technical service to help the platers to achieve good results.

At present the quality of nickel and zinc salts produced in the country was up to the standards required by the plating industry, and it is gratifying to note that Indian Standards Institution