Editorial

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

The number of scientific conferences, by way of annual technical meetings, seminars, symposia etc, are quite on the increase in India during the last few years. This is more or less a healthy sign, indicating as it does the recent progress in the fields of science, technology and engineering. Several symposia have been organized in electrochemistry and allied topics. It is heartening to note that a Commonwealth Corrosion Symposium will be held in January 1964 so soon after the last one in Kanpur during November 1962. This is in keeping with the importance of anti-corrosion methods, and the special problems to be faced in atomic energy and other fields.

The proceedings of some of these meetings are being published by the sponsors. The valuable system of distribution of preprints of papers in advance has also started. A number of scientists are contributing papers to conferences held abroad. This is a quicker method of enabling outsiders to get familiar with the work carried out in India.

Even so an element of caution is needed. It is essential to maintain the standard of the papers. As has been pointed out recently (Corrosion Technology, July 1963) one has to avoid' . . . . . far too many being presented for the sake of giving a paper rather than for the correct reason of offering some worth-while contribution . . . . .' Smaller gatherings, quality papers and a good sprinkling of specialists will go a long way in making these conferences a real success.

—T.L.R.