

Closing remarks

DR T. BANERJEE

GENTLEMEN : We have now come to the end of this four-day Symposium but this is only a beginning of the friendship and professional ties with many that we have formed during the last few days. One of the objectives of the Symposium is to come in close contact with experts in different disciplines of science and technology. I am sure we have achieved this objective to a large extent.

I would like to express our sincere thanks to all the delegates from overseas and from India. We are greatly indebted to all the authors for their contributions and to those persons who took part in the discussions and deliberations of the Symposium. I am very much grateful to Dr R. T. Parker and Dr K. Jacob for their excellent and educative lectures. All the papers presented, lectures delivered and discussions that took place will be brought out as a Symposium Volume. If any of you desire to send any further contribution on the papers presented, it will be gratefully accepted. This, however, may please be done at the earliest so as to enable our editorial staff to work on the subject.

The subjects discussed during the Symposium covered a wide range relating to raw materials, techniques of production, role of research, development of finished products, use of substitute materials, innovation of some of the new techniques, basic concepts of physico-chemical reactions, etc. We can hardly expect unanimity of views on all the aspects. We have, however, held no divergent opinion on the very important subject e.g. the development of non-ferrous metals industry in this country with indigenous resources and as far as practicable with indigenous talent. So far as the National Metallurgical Laboratory is concerned, we are prepared to take up any problem on non-ferrous metals' technology, either from public or private sector, with the ultimate goal of finding an increasing use of the indigenous resources. The proposal of setting up an Aluminium Cell at NML is a very welcome proposition and when materialized NML will try to be of use to the aluminium industry.

Another objective of such Symposia is to review the

past work on the subject, take current stock of it, consider the loop-holes and lacunae and also to plan future work in the field. Most of these aspects have been brought into light during the deliberations of the Symposium and we, on our part, feel greatly benefited. I may point out that we have already attached considerable importance to the subject of non-ferrous metals' technology and have taken it up with all the seriousness it deserves right from the inception of this Laboratory. The work done in National Metallurgical Laboratory on non-ferrous metals' technology and the future plans in this connection are being reviewed by the panel of experts in the field of aluminium, copper and other non-ferrous metals.

Before concluding, I would like to express my thanks to the staff of the National Metallurgical Laboratory without whose co-operation this Symposium would not have been such a success. I want to sincerely thank Mr P. I. A. Narayanan, Mr P. P. Bhatnagar and all my colleagues for their kind co-operation and in this respect I may make mention of Mr R. M. Krishnan who has established himself as an expert in organising international conferences. Mr Sewa Singh very efficiently managed the cultural show which I am sure you have all enjoyed. My thanks are also due to Mr. K. L. Viji, Administrative Officer and Mr S. K. Mukherjee, Accounts Officer, for their ready co-operation and assistance. I express my gratitude to The Economic Times and The Financial Express for bringing out Special Supplements on the occasion, to the staff of All India Radio and Films Division of Government of India and to all the press representatives for the excellent coverage made about the inauguration and technical sessions of the Symposium. For any shortcoming on our part, I believe that you will kindly overlook it.

Friends, I would not like to take any more of your time. I wish you all a very happy landing and to remember the affectionate ties which we have established. I will not say 'good-bye' but shall qualify it with 'until we meet again'.