Reliving the Raman days—thro' pictures

By A Staff Reporter

BANGALORE, Sept. 9. — It promises to be a highly rewarding experience, both educational and entertaining — the simple but tastefully-displayed pictorial exhibition on the life and work of renowned scientist C. V. Raman.

Organised as part of the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the Raman Effect, the exhibition brings out the many-faceted life of Dr. Raman, not only his scientific temper and achievements, but his varied interests, his writings and glimpses of his personal life.

The exhibition will be open for the public at a nominal admission fee from September 12 to 15 daily from 2-30 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. and on September 16 and 17 from 9-30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Raman Research Institute near Mekhri Circle here.

Taking pressmen round the exhibition today, Dr. S. Ramaseshan, Deputy Director of the National Aeronautical Laboratory, said the exhibition showed Dr. Raman not as the discoverer of "just one Effect, but as a complete scientist."

Also on display will be rare and precious gems and minerals, a personal collection of Dr. Raman.

Some of the photographs are rare and old. Among the exhibits is the first page of Dr. Raman's first scientific paper when he was just 17 and half years of age. Another is a certificate from Prof. Bilderbeck—"an unusual appreciation for English literature."

RARE MONOGRAPHS

A rare possession is a monograph on bowed string published by Dr. Raman with an inscription by renowned musician Yehudi Menuhin in memory of the latter's visit to the institute—"to an authority on sound from an ignorant violinist", the inscription says.

There is a pencil sketch of Dr. Raman by another eminent scientist, Dr. Bhabha. Others depict, among other things, Dr. Raman's work on whispering galleries and the simple apparatus used to discover his celebrated Effect.

In the gems and minerals collection are beautiful and exquisite specimens known for both aesthetic appeal and as a source of inspiration for his numerous researches in crystallography and mineralogy.

It will be a real treat when one sees some of these collections emiting enchanting colours under ultraviolet light. Dr. Ramaseshan said a suggestion had been made to organise the exhibition into a travelling exhibition.

The Indian Academy of Sciences, founded by Dr. Raman in 1934, had sponsored the publication of the first volume of Dr. Raman's collected works consisting of 94 original papers on scattering of light. The volume had just been released, he said.

The exhibition was originally to be organised in November, the month of Dr. Raman's birth and death, but on a request from the organisers of the 6th International Conference on Raman Spectroscopy, which had just concluded in the City, it had been advanced to September, he added.

Top scientists hail arrangements

By A Staff Reporter

BANGALORE, Sept. 9. — The way in which the Sixth International Conference on Raman Spectroscopy was organised drew high praise from the foreign participants all top scientists in this particular field of work.

Prof. James R. Durig of the University of South Carolina, who was the Chairman of the Conference told newsmen today "The standard set here would be hard to meet in future conference elsewhere".

(The five other conferences had been held in the Western Hemisphere-two in the United States and three in Europe).

Dr. Durig said there were 44 lectures on the wide-ranging work on Raman Spectroscopy and its applications.

Prof. F. A. Miller of the University of Pittsburgh, who had begun work on Raman Spectroscopy while still a student 40 years ago, said "The scientific fare was rich".

Indian science, he said, would benefit enormously from the conference that was held here.

Prof. D. A. Long of the University of Bradford, who was Chairman of the Second International Conference held at Oxford, said the arrangements were excellent. All the three Western Scientists praised the accommodation and service at the Hotel Ashoka, where the six day conference was held.