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Synopsis cum miniprint

WITH a steady increase in the number of papers offered for publication, coupled with a not-so-steady increase in costs, *Min. Mag.*,¹ in common with most scientific journals, has an awkward problem.

So have our readers: for most, only a proportion of the papers in any issue are of interest, and only a few will be critically read from beginning to end.

There is at least a partial solution to all this: if the journal consists of two parts, a Synopsis section and some form of miniature of the complete text of papers, costs can be reduced, and at the same time readers can quickly scan the synopses and decide which papers they ought to read *in extenso*. Council have decided to give such a system a trial, and authors are invited to cooperate by offering papers for a synopsis-cum-miniprint experiment.

Synopses will, in effect, be extended abstracts of up to two pages (a maximum of about 1000 words), and may carry illustrations where these are essential, provided the maximum space of two pages is not exceeded. They will be set in type and published in the earliest available issue of the Magazine.

Two systems are available for reproduction of the complete text from camera-ready copy: miniprint, which is a photo-offset reproduction at 1/3 the original size, and can easily be read with a hand lens; and microfiche, a much more drastic reduction on to photographic film, which is usually read with a special reader but can almost as easily be read with a low-power binocular microscope.

Each system has its advantages, and Council have decided to give miniprint a trial run in vol. 41. Authors should submit typescripts in the ordinary way (2 copies), and only after final editing should the camera-ready copy be prepared according to a specification supplied by the Editor, and very carefully checked, since no proof corrections are possible.

The complete texts in miniprint form will constitute a separate section of the Magazine, following the papers, synopses, and short communications; they will be sent to press, as far as possible in multiples of 64 pages of typescript, as soon after the appearance of the synopsis as practicable, but will not normally appear in the same issue as the synopsis. In binding, the miniprint sections should be collected at the end of the volume.

A general adoption of this system should enable us to publish up to twice our present volume of material with little or no increase in cost, and if the experiment is successful it will become the normal form of publication in *Mineral. Mag.*

Camera-ready copy for Tables

Typesetting for Tables is a particularly expensive item, and we are therefore asking authors to provide camera-ready copy for any Tables that are to be printed in the ordinary way. The specification for such Tables is not the same as for copy for reproduction as miniprint (or microfiche), and will be supplied by the Office on request, or by the Editor when he reports the referee's findings.

M. H. HEY

¹ Sorry, *Mineral. Mag.*! We have adopted the abbreviations for journal titles of British Standard BS 4148: Part 2: 1975 (an internationally agreed system), except that all diacritical marks, including the umlaut, will be retained, and the abbreviations will be printed in capitals and lower case, not wholly in capitals.

I.M.A.-I.U.Cr. Joint Committee on Nomenclature of Polytypes

Two copies of the report of this Committee have now been received by the Society, and are available for loan to members; photocopies of the 16-page document can be supplied at cost.

For most purposes the nomenclature proposed by J. A. Gard (*Nature*, 1966, **211**, 1078) is recommended, or in suitable cases the simpler version proposed by Ramsdell (*Am. Mineral.* 1957, **32**, 64).