

THE MIDWEST INTER-LIBRARY CENTER

An all-day meeting of geologists, representing 13 midwestern university geology departments, was held on February 28, 1953, at the Midwest Inter-Library Center in Chicago. The meeting was called by the Center to explore possibilities for the cooperative acquisition of less-used but important library materials in the field. As an outgrowth of the discussions, the geologists decided that the universities that participate in the Midwest Center might appropriately supplement their own collections with a comprehensive collection of foreign geologic maps and with files of minor and less-used journals, particularly those of foreign academies. Such materials would be acquired by and housed at the Center for the joint use of the several institutions.

The Center purchases less-used research books and periodicals that its individual member libraries cannot afford and extends the use of them freely within the group of participants. It was established in 1949 with a million-dollar foundation grant and is supported and controlled by 16 member universities. Its new library building in Chicago has bookshelves with a three-million-volume capacity and is connected with each member library by teletype.

The participants at the February 28 meeting in Chicago were:

Eugene N. Cameron (U. of Wisconsin).	Willard H. Parsons (Wayne U.).
Leland Horberg (U. of Chicago).	John L. Rich (U. of Cincinnati).
Arthur L. Howland (Northwestern U.).	Charles H. Summerson (Ohio State U.).
Brian H. Mason (Indiana U.).	George A. Thiel (U. of Minnesota).
Archie J. MacAlpin (U. of Notre Dame).	James W. Trow (Michigan State Coll.).
R. C. Moore (U. of Kansas).	Sherwood D. Tuttle (State U. of Iowa).
	George W. White (U. of Illinois).

Library Consultants were:

- Lyle E. Bamber (Natural History Librarian, U. of Illinois).
- Leon Marshak (Research Staff, John Crerar Library).
- George R. Meluch (Purdue U. Library).
- Mrs. Marie K. Shaw (Science Librarian, Wayne U.).

GENESIS OF CLAYS AND RELATED MINERALS

This will be the theme of the *Clay Minerals Conference* to be held at the *University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, on 15-17 October, 1953*. The Conference is sponsored by the Clay Minerals Committee of the National Research Council. Anyone interested in presenting a paper on this theme or on clay mineralogy, technology, physical behavior of clays, techniques of mineral determination, origin of soils, clays in soils, origin and distribution of clays in soils, clays related to ore deposits, and allied topics, please write *Mr. A. F. Frederickson, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri*. A detailed program, including field-trip information, will be available on request in August, 1953. Everyone interested in any aspect of clay mineralogy or technology is cordially invited to attend the Conference.

SYMPOSIUM ON GEOCHEMISTRY

A symposium on geochemistry will be held in Zürich, Switzerland, August 10-15, 1953. *President*: Michael Fleischer; *Local Chairman*: C. Burri. The symposium will be held under the auspices of the Section of Inorganic Chemistry of the International Union of Chemistry and will be devoted to two general themes:

(1) The problem of organizing and making available geochemical data: Reports by organizations engaged in revision and compilation of existing data of geochemistry, compilation and computation of rock analyses, etc.

(2) Geochemical research the world over, with a summary of replies received to questionnaire, and individual reports on current work from various centers.

The scientific sessions will be followed by a one or two-day field excursion.

A complete program will be sent upon request. Apply to the secretary: *Prof. T. F. W. Barth, Geologisk Museum, Oslo 45, Norway.*

At a meeting held at Tokyo University on June 30, 1952, it was decided to establish The Mineralogical Society of Japan.

The following officers were elected:

President: Zyunpei Harada, Hokkaido University, Sapporo.

Secretaries: Toshio Sudo, Keiichi Omori.

Treasurer: Bumpei Yoshiki.

Editors: Nobuo Katayama (Chief); Zyunpei Harada, Jitsutaro Takubo, Toyofumi Yoshimura.

In addition a Council consisting of 16 members was selected. Two journals are contemplated, one "Kobutsugaku Zasshi (Mineralogical Journal) in Japanese, and "Bulletin of the Mineralogical Society of Japan" in foreign languages.

Nos. 1 and 2 of the Kobutsugaku Zasshi were published in Sept. 1952, and January 1953. Number 1 of the Bulletin is in preparation.

The National Academy of Sciences at its annual meeting in Washington elected 30 new members and two foreign associates. Among the new members elected were Martin J. Buerger, professor of mineralogy and crystallography at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and John F. Schairer, physical chemist at the Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

To gauge interest in the proposed *Abstract Journal*, to plan size of editions and to estimate subscription price, it is urged that all who would be willing to pay not more than \$2.00 for an annual subscription of four issues, to send a post card indicating your interest to *American Geological Institute, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington 25, D. C.* (Send no money now).