

NOTES AND NEWS

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THERMAL ANALYSIS

For reasons outwith the control of the Organizing Committee it has proved necessary to alter the venue of the above conference (referred to in the last issue—*Clay Min. Bull.*, 1964, **5**, 410). It will now be held in **Aberdeen, Scotland**, on **6th-9th September 1965** and the subject for discussion will be **Thermal Techniques and their Applicability**. The Conference will be interdisciplinary and all thermal analysis methods will be covered. The following Sections are proposed:

1. Advances in instrumentation (including new methods of general applicability).
2. Organic materials, including polymers.
3. Inorganic compounds and metallurgy.
4. Physical chemistry, including quantitative studies.
5. Minerals, ceramics, glass, refractories and building materials.

Suitable papers for presentation in these Sections (having regard to the general theme) will be welcomed. Papers will not be published in full, but a volume containing lengthy summaries in English, French or German will be available before the Conference; this volume of summaries will also be available to non-participants at a price to be determined later. It is hoped that the first session in each Section will be opened by an address given by an authority on the subject. A ladies' programme for non-participants is also proposed.

A registration fee of £5 (\$15.00 or 13 roubles) must be paid by 1st April 1965, and provisional preregistration should be made immediately on forms which may be obtained from Dr R. C. Mackenzie, The Macaulay Institute for Soil Research, Craigiebuckler, Aberdeen, or from other members of the Organizing Committee—namely, Prof. Dr R. Barta, Czechoslovakia; Prof. Dr L. G. Berg, U.S.S.R.; Prof. Dr L. Erdey, Hungary; Dr C. B. Murphy, U.S.A.; Dr J. P. Redfern, London, and Prof. T. Sudo, Japan. Liaison officers have also been appointed in some thirty other countries where thermal analysis techniques are employed. Second and subsequent circulars will be sent **only** to those who have preregistered, so early provisional registration is essential.

THERMAL ANALYSIS GROUP

Thermo-analytical techniques are becoming so widely used in various branches of research and industry that it has been considered by many that the time is now ripe for formation of a British discussion group on the subject. Moves towards this end were made at a meeting held at Battersea College of Technology, London, on 12th November 1964, when it was agreed that a group to be known as the *Thermal Analysis Group* should be formed. The following were elected as members of a Committee to go into further detail and to make arrangements regarding meetings, etc.: *Chairman* Dr R. C. Mackenzie; *Secretary and Vice-Chairman* Dr J. P. Redfern, Department of Chemistry, Battersea College of Technology, London, S.W.11; *Treasurer* Mr C. J. Keatch, John Laing R and D Ltd., Manor Way, Boreham Wood, Herts.; *Members of Committee* Dr D. Dollimore, Mr J. A. Forrester, Dr A. A. Hodgson, Dr W. Manz, Mr E. P. J. Schilling, Mr D. A. Smith and Mr F. W. Wilburn. It was decided not to publish a journal and the annual subscription was fixed at 10s. Further details regarding meetings will be given in due course; meantime anyone interested should contact the Secretary.

DEUTSCHE KERAMISCHE GESELLSCHAFT

At a meeting of the Deutsche Keramische Gesellschaft at Travemünde in July 1964, two sessions on 3rd July were devoted to a discussion on *Kolloidchemie der Tone*. This discussion was opened by Prof. Dr A. Dietzel (Würzburg) and he and Prof. Dr U. Hofmann (Heidelberg) presided at the two sessions. The following papers were read and discussed:

Über die Kinetik der Phasenbildung in kondensierten Systemen: M. KAHLWEIT (Göttingen).

Oberflächenladung und Rheologie der Tonminerale: U. HOFMANN (Heidelberg).
Einige Eigenschaften der 1. bis 4. Wasserschicht in quellungsfähigen Schichtsilikaten: A. WEISS (Heidelberg).

Über ein illitisches Tonvorkommen in Jugoslawien und Betrachtungen zu einer Entstehung: F. OBERLIES (Würzburg) and J. ZLATANOVIC (Skopje).

Hydratationseigenschaften von Montmorillonit: R. C. MACKENZIE (Aberdeen).
Bedarf die Sedimentationsanalyse einer Revision?: G. ROSENTHAL (Würzburg).

These papers will, in due course, be published in full in *Ber. dtsh. keram. Ges.*, which is one of the journals the Group receives through an exchange arrangement.

VIII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOIL
SCIENCE

The above Congress was held at Bucharest, Rumania, on 31st August–9th September 1964. It was attended by about 1200 delegates from some sixty-five countries. At Section VII of the Congress (Soil Mineralogy) some fifty papers, most of which dealt with clay mineralogy, were read. They were considered under the following headings:

1. Genesis of minerals and their changes in the soil.
2. Clay minerals specific of various types of soil-forming processes.
3. Influence of clay mineral nature on the physical and chemical properties of the soil.
4. Methods for identification of minerals and their application.
5. Clay-mineral structure.
6. Morphological and petrological methods in soil research and especially in the study of soil-forming processes.
7. Mineralogical composition of various soils.
8. Mineralogical composition of soils as determined by the chemical and mineralogical composition of the parent rock and weather conditions.

Anyone interested in obtaining the *Transactions* of the Congress, in which the papers are printed in full, should contact the International Society of Soil Science, c/o Royal Tropical Institute, 63 Mauritskade, Amsterdam, Netherlands.