

Our Chinese Connection

Powder Diffraction is pleased to announce that beginning with Volume 8 this journal is being translated into Chinese for distribution within the People's Republic of China. Professor Lin, of Nankai University in Tianjin, PRC, has arranged the translation and printing of the Chinese version at no cost to *Powder Diffraction* to encourage its use among Chinese scientists. This effort is especially appropriate this year because it coincides with the International Union of Crystallography Congress of crystallographers in Beijing and especially the satellite meeting on powder diffraction in Hangzhou this summer. In addition, there is also the workshop on powder diffraction organized and sponsored by the International Centre for Diffraction Data in association with the Hangzhou meeting where ICDD members and staff will interact with Chinese powder diffractionists, partly in the Chinese language.

The major goal of every international publication is to disseminate new information to the widest possible audience. This dissemination should be in two directions: Not only should it publish good technical papers from any country, it should also encourage readership in any country where there is good technical activity. *Powder Diffraction* has been receiving manuscripts from the People's Republic of China over the last 3 years. It is apparent that the rate of submissions of manuscripts will be encouraged with

this new arrangement. As the Editor who usually processes these manuscripts, I can say that the average quality of the papers we have received has been very high. Our major problem has been in corresponding with the authors in an efficient manner. Correspondence does leave something to be desired.

This new connection should have many additional benefits other than just the transfer of printed information. I would encourage individuals in China (and any other country) to communicate activities of international interest to Mrs. Helein Hitchcock, the Editor of *International Report*. I would like to learn of all information on computer programs for powder diffraction analysis, so that the information can be included in the Powder Diffraction Program List for the International Union of Crystallography. New material descriptions, especially with accompanying powder diffraction data, are obviously valuable whether they result in an article or just in getting the new data into the Powder Diffraction File. It may also be possible to promote individual correspondence between scientists if similar interests.

The benefits of this new China connection are potentially large. Let us all encourage scientific exchange through this medium.

Deane K. Smith, *Editor-in-Chief*