International Union of Crystallography

Further notification of adhesion has been given as follows:

On 28 October 1949 by Switzerland.

On 6 January 1950 by South Africa through the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

On 10 February 1950 by Japan through the Science Council of Japan.

On 21 February 1950 by Denmark through the Danish Academy of the Technical Sciences.

The Adhering Bodies are now:

Australia	Group I
Belgium	Group III
Canada	Group IV
Czechoslovakia	Group I
Denmark	Group I
France	Group VII
India	Group I
Japan	Group I
Netherlands	Group IV
Norway	Group I
South Africa	Group I
Spain	Group IV
Switzerland	Group I
United Kingdom	Group VIII
United States of America	Group VIII

British Journal of Applied Physics

The British Institute of Physics has launched, as from January 1950, a new monthly periodical, the *British Journal of Applied Physics*. The primary object of this journal is to announce new applications of physics and developments of those already known, and this will be achieved by publishing original papers and survey articles. There will also be book reviews, correspondence and technical notes.

The first issue consists of 32 pages and includes two special articles, on Scientific Education and on Chemical and Physical Properties of Rubber, and five original contributions. The journal is printed in Times Roman on coated paper in a format similar to that of *Acta Crystallographica*. The price is 6*s*. per part or £3 (U.S.A. $8.50) per volume of twelve parts.

American Crystallographic Association

On 1 January 1950 the activities of the American Society for X-ray and Electron Diffraction and of the Crystallographic Society of America officially ended, and a new society, the American Crystallographic Association, came into existence. Thus the activities and energies of two bodies whose interests have greatly overlapped in recent years have been combined into one common effort.

Officers of the Association for the first year have been elected as follows:

President: I. FANKUCHEN
Vice President: R. W. G. WYCKOFF
Treasurer: J. KARLE
Secretary: H. T. EVANS Jr., Philips Laboratories Inc., Irvington-on-Hudson, N.Y., U.S.A.

Further information about the Association may be obtained from its Secretary.

Book Reviews

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Editor (P. P. Ewald, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, 99 Livingston Street, Brooklyn 2, N.Y., U.S.A.). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.

Gmelin Handbuch der anorganischen Chemie. Antimon *B*2. Edited by E. PIETSCH. Pp. 368 + xiv. Clausthal-Zellerfeld: Gmelin-Verlag. 8th ed. 1949. Price DM. 83·60.

The Gmelin Institute in Berlin was disrupted towards the end of the war, and much of its library facilities was lost or destroyed. Since the first edition of Gmelin's *Handbuch der Chemie* (in three volumes) was published in 1817–19, 'Gmelin' has remained the most important reference work on inorganic chemistry, and its value now is as great as ever. Soon after the end of the war, many of the staff of the Institute were re-assembled under the Director, Dr Pietsch, at Clausthal-Zellerfeld in the British Zone; and work on the production of new volumes is being carried on there in an increasingly successful manner. The problem of the supply of literature has been overcome by the use of the local library of the *Bergakademie*, by the loan of books from other German libraries still in existence, and also by the free supply of current literature from a large number of publishing bodies scattered throughout the world.

The present volume is the second to be issued from Clausthal-Zellerfeld and reflects very great credit on the editor and his staff. Production has been carried out under great difficulties, and it is a pleasure to note that the high standard established in pre-war years has been fully maintained. This volume deals with the properties of antimony (in part), its detection and estimation, and its compounds with hydrogen and oxygen, its oxyacids, and its halides. The literature has been searched to the middle of 1948. Some idea of the fulness of the treatment may be conveyed by the fact that the section on the analytical chemistry of antimony alone occupies fifty-six pages. A glance through the present section quickly reveals, however, how far the systematization of inorganic chemistry has yet to go. In particular, the structures of hundreds of compounds still require elucidation, and knowledge of complexes formed by the antimony halides, for example, is still fragmentary. The nature of the binding forces in substances such as SbF_5Br and SbF_5I is completely unknown. Not the least noteworthy feature of this latest volume of 'Gmelin' is its value as a treasure house of suggestions for future investigations.

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