

The systematic absences observed are those of the space group $P2_1/c$.

The observed density of 1.047 g.cm.^{-3} measured by the pycnometer agree with a value of 1.053 g.cm.^{-3} calculated for 4 formula units per unit cell.

The melting point of the crystals examined is 129°C .

The apparent necessity for three-dimensional methods has decided us against making the attempt to determine the complete structure.

Notes and News

Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. The notes (in duplicate) should be sent to the General Secretary of the International Union of Crystallography (D. W. Smits, Mathematisch Instituut, University of Groningen, Reitdiepskade 4, Groningen, The Netherlands).

F. J. M. Stratton

F. J. M. Stratton, who died in his 79th year in Cambridge, England, on 2 September 1960, a few days after the ending of the Fifth International Congress of the International Union of Crystallography, was known to only a few crystallographers. Yet the Union of Crystallography largely owes its existence to Stratton, who from 1937 to 1952 was Secretary General of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU). In the period 1946–1948 when the creation of the new Union was being prepared and finally acknowledged by ICSU, Stratton's advice and encouragement were essential. There was a strong feeling among the established Unions that the Unions were there to tie together large domains of science and that no splitting into smaller domains should be permitted. In contrast to this opinion Stratton emphasized the greater activity of the smaller and more tightly knit Unions, and the fluidity of borderline subjects on account of which the subjects of research could not well be assigned to a single Union but might easily drift, for instance from Physics to Chemistry and Biology.

Stratton was an astronomer, and from 1928 to his retirement in 1947 Director of the Solar Physics Observatory in Cambridge. He was associated with Gonville and Caius College from his undergraduate days to the last, and served it with the same unselfishness, humility and cheerfulness as he served his other causes, namely Astronomy, the international brotherhood of scientists, and the Cambridge University Officers' Training Corps. He took a warm personal interest in his fellow men, and by his own life he set to all those who had the good fortune of knowing him an example of true dedication.

I called on Stratton in the Evelyn Nursing Home after the end of the Cambridge meetings and told him of the development of the International Union of Crystallography. He was pleased.

Crystallographers everywhere should remember Stratton as a kind friend of their cause who helped in the shaping of their present world-wide organization.

P. P. EWALD

Precision Lattice-Parameter Determination

Reprints of the series of papers on precision lattice-parameter determination that were presented at the Stockholm Conference, June 1959, of the International Union of Crystallography Commission on Crystallographic Apparatus and published in *Acta Crystallographica* (1960), **13**, 818–850, have been bound together in a single set. One set may be obtained free of charge by writing to William Parrish, Chairman I. U. Cr. Commission on Crystallographic Apparatus, Philips Laboratories, Irvington-on-Hudson, New York, U.S.A. Since only a limited number of sets are available, please do not make a request unless the papers are actually needed. They will be sent by surface mail in order of receipt of request until the supply is exhausted.

American Crystallographic Association 1961 Summer Meeting

The 1961 summer meeting of the American Crystallographic Association will be held at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, from 31 July to 4 August. The local chairman is Dr Walter M. Macintyre, Chemistry Department, University of Colorado; the programme chairman is Dr G. B. Carpenter, Department of Chemistry, Brown University, Providence 12, Rhode Island, U.S.A. Offers of papers should be sent to Dr Carpenter as soon as possible.

Electron Microscope Society of America

The 19th Annual Meeting of the Electron Microscope Society of America will be held from 23–26 August 1961 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. There will be a special session of short contributed papers, and three symposia: Ultrastructure of protein fibres—collagen, muscle, wool; Contribution of electron microscopy to polymer morphology; Nucleoproteins and nucleic acids.

Abstracts of contributed papers should be offered to the Programme Chairman (Dr A. R. Taylor, Research Division, Parke, Davis and Co., Detroit 32, Michigan, U.S.A.) before 1 May 1961.