

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY (LONDON)

A meeting of the Society was held on Thursday, January 22, 1948, in the apartments of the Geological Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W. 1 (by kind permission). The following papers were read: (kindly furnished by G. F. Claringbull, General Secretary):

- (1) *A note on the thermal decomposition of chrysotile.* By Dr. M. H. Hey and Dr. F. A. Bannister.

An x-ray, optical and chemical study of the decomposition products formed by heating chrysotile to 1000° C.

- (2) *Dickite and collophane in the Magnesian Limestone of Durham.* By Dr. K. C. Dunham, Dr. G. F. Claringbull and Dr. F. A. Bannister.

Dickite and collophane, associated with fluorite, baryte, blende and pyrite are described from core-specimens of Magnesian Limestone collected by Mr. A. Fowler and Mr. W. Anderson. The identification of these two minerals has been confirmed by x-ray photographs. The positive birefringence observed in the collophane may be due to form birefringence.

- (3) *Sillenite from South Africa.* By Dr. F. A. Bannister.

- (4) *A simple dichroscope.* By Dr. A. T. J. Dollar.

INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

XVIII SESSION—GREAT BRITAIN, 1948

The Rt. Honourable Sir John Anderson, P.C., G.C.B., F.R.S., M.P., has accepted the office of Honorary President of the General Organizing Committee for the Eighteenth Session of the International Geological Congress which is to be held in Great Britain in 1948, and will welcome the Delegates and Members at the first meeting of the General Assembly. Professor H. H. Read, F.R.S., President of the Geological Society of London, has succeeded the late Sir Thomas Holland as President of the General Organizing Committee and President-Designate of the Congress.

Some 1,100 geologists from countries overseas, accompanied by about 400 relatives, are expected to attend the Congress. The total attendance, including British geologists, is likely to approach 2,000. Twenty-eight Governments and about 160 universities and scientific institutions have already accepted invitations to be represented by Official Delegates.

The meetings of the Congress will be held during the period August 25th to September 1st, 1948, in the Royal Albert Hall and the Lecture Theatres of the Royal Geographical Society and the Imperial College of Science and Technology.

Sir Edward Bailey, M.C., F.R.S., and Professor O. T. Jones, F.R.S., will deliver special addresses to the General Assembly of the Congress on the subject of the Structural History of Britain.

The list of subjects to be discussed at the Sectional Meetings of the Congress is as follows:—

- A. Problems of Geochemistry.
- B. Metasomatic Processes in Metamorphism.
- C. Rhythm in Sedimentation.
- D. The Geological Results of Applied Geophysics.
- E. The Geology of Petroleum.

- F. The Geology, Paragenesis and Reserves of the Ores of Lead and Zinc.
- G. The Geology of Sea and Ocean Floors.
- H. The Pliocene-Pleistocene Boundary.
- J. Faunal and Floral Facies and Zonal Correlation.
- K. The Correlation of Continental Vertebrate-bearing Rocks.
- L. Earth Movements and Organic Evolution.
- M. Other Subjects.

In addition, problems of African geology will be considered at open meetings of the Association des Services Geologiques Africains; and selected paleontological topics will be discussed by the International Paleontological Union. A series of meetings on Mineralogy and Geology of Clays will be organized in conjunction with the Clay Minerals Group of the Mineralogical Society.

The demand for places on the long geological excursions which are to be arranged between August 7th and September 18th as part of the Congress program is very great, and in addition to the 32 excursions previously announced in the Third Circular five more excursions are being organized. Two of these will visit East Anglia, one will visit Jersey, and two others will demonstrate the general geology of Scotland, and the Hydrogeology of England and Wales. There will also be a series of day and half-day geological excursions, and visits to scientific institutions centered on London, between August 22nd and September 3rd.

Full details of the excursion program, and of other arrangements for the Congress are contained in a Fourth Circular which has now been issued.

All communications should be addressed to the General Secretaries, 18th Session International Geological Congress, Geological Survey and Museum, Exhibition Road, London, S. W. 7.