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CORRECTIONS TO RECENT PAPERS ON PROBERTITE AND LINDGRENITE

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In a recent paper on "The Unit Cell and Space Group of Probertite" (*Am. Mineral.*, **34,** 19–25 (1949)), at the bottom of p. 23 and the top of p. 24, Ft_c^* and Ft_a^* are shown equal to Fd_c^* and Fd_a^*, respectively. Since probertite is monoclinic, this is, of course, not true (see bottom of p. 22) when t^* and d^* have their usual significance. The manuscript of this paper was completed in March 1948 and, at the present date, I am unable to offer any explanation for this error except the possibility of an automatic but irrational reflex in making the *b Axis, Zero Level* data symmetrical in appearance with those for the *a Axis, Zero Level*. The aberration does not appear in my original notes. At the bottom of p. 23, *c* translation* (t_c^*) *and spacing* (d_c^*) should read *c* spacing* (d_c^*) and, at the top of columns 2 and 4, $Ft_c^* =$ should be deleted. Similarly, at the top of p. 24, *a* translation* (t_a^*) *and spacing* (d_a^*) should read *a* spacing* (d_a^*) and, at the top of columns 2 and 4, $Ft_a^* =$ should be deleted.

For the data presented in "The Unit Cell and Space Group of Lindgrenite" (*Am. Mineral.*, **34,** 163–172 (1949)), photographs obtained with copper radiation were used. Subsequently other crystals were examined with molybdenum radiation. Since diffraction photographs of the latter, of course, show many more reciprocal lattice points, they were selected for reproduction. Due to the small difference between d_c^* and d_a^* the identities of the c^* and a^* axes have been assigned incorrectly in Figs. 7, 8, 9, 10, pp. 168, 169. Thus under Figs. 7 and 8, *new a axis* should read *new c axis* and under Figs. 7, 8, 9, 10, (*new c* horizontal*) should read (*new a* horizontal*). In this connection measurement of the original negatives of Figs. 7 and 9 to check this point has given values for c^* and a^* within 0.3% of those obtained previously using a different crystal, a different radiation and a different Buerger precession film measuring device,

thus further illustrating the good reproducibility of results obtained with the precession camera.

I am indebted to Professor D. Jerome Fisher for drawing my attention to the slips herein corrected.

An International Committee for the Study of Clays (Comite International pour l'Etude des Argeles, CIPEA) was organized in London in August, 1948, at the time of the meeting of the International Geological Congress. S. Henin of France was elected chairman, and M. Lepingle of Belgium secretary. The Committee is limited to not more than two representatives from each country. The members of the Committee from the United States are R. E. Grim of the Illinois State Geological Survey and W. P. Kelley of the University of California.

The Committee is to function through an executive sub-committee which was designated at the meeting in London as follows:

S. Henin, France
M. Lepingle, Belgium
R. E. Grim, U. S. A.
D. M. C. MacEwan, Great Britain

The Committee wishes to include all phases of clay research and workers on clay in all specialized fields. Its objects are to bring together a complete documentation on the studies of clays and their means of study, to facilitate contacts between specialists in these studies and to hold periodic meetings in the course of which all questions relative to clays will be examined and discussed.

In order that all the specialists can most easily compare their results and that they may speak in effect "the same language," it will facilitate the exchange of reference samples among research workers and will make every effort to make more precise the terminology used in the science of clays as well as the methods used.

It is planned that the members of the International Committee will effect liaison between the International Committee and the research workers of each of their countries. In some countries national committees are being organized with their officers acting as members of the International Committee, for example in Belgium, France, Great Britain, and Sweden.

Questionnaires on the subject of the various questions raised by the International Committee will be sent to the members from each country who will be responsible for distributing them in various countries and obtaining replies.

The first activity of the Committee concerns standardization of the differential thermal procedure, and a statement concerning plans for studying the problems is being prepared.

Cenogonal, a new crystallographic term has been suggested by Professor A. F. Rogers to designate angles that are common to two or more crystal species. Cenogonal angles include the angles in the tetragonal zone [001] of the tetragonal system as well as the angles in the hexagonal zone [00-1] of the hexagonal system and all the angles between the faces of crystals in any one of the zones of the isometric system. (*Science*, Dec. 17, 1948, vol. **108**, No. 2815, pages 692–693.)

The New York *Times* reported the death of Frank J. Keeley on April 12, at the age of 81 years. Mr. Keeley was curator of the William S. Vaux mineral collection at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia. A Fellow of the Royal Microscopical Society of London, he developed methods for the use of microspectroscopy in identifying precious stones.

The Geology Department of the School of Mines and Metallurgy, University of Missouri, Rolla, Missouri, would like to announce through *The American Mineralogist* the availability of teaching assistantships and fellowships in the fields of mineralogy and economic geology for the school year, 1949–1950.

Applications may be made either to the Chairman of the Department of Geology and Mineralogy or to the Chairman of the Committee on Graduate Study.

Methyl-ethyl ketone as an index liquid. In published lists of liquids for determining refractive index, acetone is often included, but the advantages of the related methyl-ethyl ketone are usually overlooked. The latter compound, which is now marketed by many chemical manufacturers, is less volatile than acetone, and also has a more agreeable odor. Its refractive index is about 1.375. This happens to match the alpha of magnesium oxalate, so the ketone itself may be used as immersion liquid to distinguish this salt from calcium oxalate, both of these occurring in plant tissues. (Wherry and Keenan, *Jour. Am. Pharmaceutical Assn.*, **12**, 301, 1923.)

(Edgar T. Wherry, University of Pennsylvania.)

Sydney Ball, mining geologist and consulting mineralogist to the U. S. Bureau of Mines, died in New York City on April 8, at the age of 71 years.

The twelfth annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society will be held Sept. 6 and 7, 1949, at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California. Titles and abstracts of papers to be presented should be sent to John A. Russell, Dept. of Astronomy, University of Southern California, Los Angeles 7, California.
