

## NOTICES

### THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA NORTHEASTERN SECTION

The second annual meeting of the Northeast Section of the Geological Society of America will meet in Boston on March 16-18, 1967 at the Hotel Somerset. Papers of regional interest and on basic geology will be presented and special symposia on Hydrogeology of the Northeast, Pleistocene Geology of the Northern Appalachians, Marine Geology, and Geophysics are planned. For further information write to Martin Prinz, Department of Geology, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts 02155.

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### CONFERENCE ON THE PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY OF ASBESTOS MINERALS

It is proposed to hold a three-day Conference at Oxford University on 19th, 20th and 21st July 1967, with the aim of bringing together recent work on physical, chemical and geochemical aspects of asbestos minerals.

Sections and possible contents of the Conference are:

<i>Physics</i>	<i>Chemistry</i>	<i>Geochemistry</i>
Surface properties	Composition	Synthesis
Mechanical properties	Crystal structure	Phase rule studies
Electrical properties	Solid state reactions—dehydration,	Trace elements
Magnetic properties	oxidation, reduction	Formation
Electron microscopy	Reactions with solutions	

Anyone interested in this Conference should write immediately for further details to:

Dr. J. Zussman,  
University of Oxford,  
Department of Geology & Mineralogy,  
Parks Road,  
Oxford, England

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### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WALTER H. BUCHER MEMORIAL FUND

The American Geophysical Union announces the establishment of the Walter H. Bucher Memorial Fund, for the purpose of executing and awarding a medal, to be presented not oftener than once a year, in memory of its late President, Walter Herman Bucher. One of his former students, Nelson C. Steenland, has accepted the chairmanship of a committee in charge of raising the fund.

Dr. Steenland, in accepting the Chairmanship, noted, "For those who have been intimately associated with Professor Bucher in his capacity as teacher, as a colleague, or as a fellow scientist, words of praise are not necessary. He was my teacher, and from him I drew great inspiration, which I carry with me to this day. His illuminating discourses, his challenging questions, his sympathetic understanding, his buoyant spirit, all these qualities and many others in combination make him truly a great teacher, to which his many students will testify. From his many colleagues, I find that these qualities are confirmed. The breadth of his knowledge, his intelligent curiosity, covering not only the full range of science

but the arts and humanities as well, are among the many qualities for which his colleagues remember him.

"He started his professional life as a paleontologist and subsequently devoted much of his energy to structural geology, which brought him into intimate association with the tectonophysics approach to crustal problems, to which field he contributed generously. He was a strong advocate of cooperation and did much to bridge the gap between solid Earth geophysics and geology and to make geologists aware of the important contributions geophysics could make in the field of the Earth sciences. His success in this regard is attested to by the fact that he was President of both the American Geophysical Union (1948-1953) and of the Geological Society of America (1954-1955)."

In connection with this endeavor, the minimum goal set is \$10,000. Those who would like to contribute to this fund in his honor should make contributions payable to the American Geophysical Union, noting them to be for the Bucher Memorial Fund, and should forward them either to Dr. Steenland, 5 Longbow Lane, Houston, Texas, or to the American Geophysical Union, 1145 19th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Gifts are tax deductible.

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PROFESSOR OTTO BRAITSCH

Professor Otto Braitsch, Director of Mineralogischen Institute, Universität Freiburg i. Br., died on July 25, 1966, several days after an automobile accident during a field trip. Professor Braitsch, who was only 45, had already built a world-wide reputation for his important contributions, particularly in the field of evaporite mineralogy and geochemistry. His book, *Entstehung und Stoffbestand der Salzlagertstätten*, published in 1962 by Springer-Verlag, may well become the classic in its field. In his pleasant personality as well as in his incisive scientific viewpoint, Professor Braitsch provided leadership to his students and fruitful collaboration to his colleagues.