

МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ  
КОМИТЕТ ПО ИСТОРИИ  
ГЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ НАУК

INTERNATIONAL  
COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY  
OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

ИНФОРМАЦИОННОЕ ПИСЬМО № 2

МАТЕРИАЛЫ КО ВТОРОМУ ( ОЧЕРЕДНОМУ ) ЗАСЕДАНИЮ КОМИТЕТА  
( XXIII Сессия МГК )

NEWSLETTER No 2

DATA FOR THE SECOND (REGULAR) MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE  
(XXIII Session of the IGC)

1968

1968

СОДЕРЖАНИЕ

Предварительная повестка дня второго /очередного/ заседания  
Комитета ..... 2

Проект изменений в положении о Комитете ..... 3

План работы Комитета ..... 6

Проект программы работ по подготовке коллективного труда "Всеобщая история геологических наук" ..... 7

Предложения по проведению симпозиумов между XXIII и XXIV сессиями  
МГК ..... 9

CONTENTS

Preliminary agenda of the second (regular) meeting of  
the Committee..... 10

Draft of changes in the By-Laws of the Committee..... 11

Plan for the future work of the Committee ..... 14

Draft of a program for the preparation of the collated  
work "General History of Geological Sciences" ..... 15

Suggestions on symposia between the XXIII and XXIV  
Sessions of the IGC ..... 17

PRELIMINARY AGENDA FOR THE MEETINGS OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL  
SCIENCES ON AUGUST 26 and 27, 1968.

1. Report of the Committee on its activities during the period between the 22nd and 23rd Sessions of the IGS.
2. Changes in the By-Laws of the Committee on the history of geological sciences.
3. Election of a Committee member for South America.
4. Election of corresponding members of the Committee.
5. Plan and program for the future activities of the Committee.
6. Symposium of 1970.
7. On the creation of national organizations of historians of geology.
8. Selection of authors for separate chapters and sections of the "General History of Geological Sciences".
9. Report on the activities of the Committee during the XXIIIrd Session of the IGS.

DRAFT OF CHANGES IN THE BY-LAWS  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY  
OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

This is the new version suggested for a number of paragraphs:

- § 1. The International Committee on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO) is organized according to the decision of the XIII Session of the International Geological Congress (Delhi, 1964).
- § 3. In accordance with these tasks the Committee is called to exercise the following functions:
  - a) to coordinate studies on the history of geological sciences carried out in various countries;
  - b) to conduct symposia and discussions on important problems of the history of geological sciences;
  - c) to maintain contacts with international organizations on the history of related sciences, national associations of historians of geology and separate groups engaged in research on the history of geological sciences.
- § 4. The Committee is affiliated with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and the International Union on the History and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS). Annual reports on the work performed are submitted by the Committee by January 1 of each year to both Unions. The Committee submits reports to the Sessions of the International Geological Congress and the Congress on the History of Science on the work performed between the Sessions on an equal basis with other Commissions and Committees of these Unions.
- § 5. a) The President and members of the Committee are elected by the Council of the IUGS on the proposal of the members of the Union from persons conducting studies in the field of history of geological sciences. The number of the Committee members is determined by the Council of the IUGS within the limits from 11 to 16 people. The Bureau and Committee members are elected every four years at the regular meetings of the Committee during the Sessions of the International Geological Congress.

- b) Corresponding members of the Committee are elected for a period of four years among scientists known by their papers on the history of geological sciences. They are nominated by National Committees of Geologists or big scientific organizations of their respective countries.
- c) Six months before the next session of the International Geological Congress the members and corresponding members of the Committee send to the Secretary General of the Committee a brief written report on the work they have done during the four years and inform him about their desire to continue their participation in the activities of the Committee. Such a communication serves as a basis for the discussion of the scientist's re-election for another term.
- d) The President of the Committee, if not re-elected, remains a Committee member for the next term, independent upon the presence on the Committee of another member from the same country.
- § 6. Regular meetings of the Committee are held once in four years at the time of the sessions of the International Geological Congress. On these meetings the Committee:
- a) Hears and discusses reports concerning the work accomplished by the Committee and national organizations during the period between the sessions; considers and approves plans and programs of activity for the forthcoming period;
  - b) discusses the new membership of the Committee and submits its list for ratification to the Council of the IUGS;
  - c) elects corresponding members of the Committee and informs the Executive Committee of the IUGS about the results of the elections;
  - d) participating in the meetings of the Committee, all members have a casting vote and the corresponding members - a consulting vote. In case a member of the Bureau or of the Committee is not present at the meeting, his vote can be made by proxy transferred to another participant from the same country. All persons interested in the work of the Committee are welcome at its meetings.

- § 7. Special meetings of the Committee are held at the time of work of the International Congresses on the History of Science and, if expedient, at another time and in different countries upon consultation and agreement. Scientific symposia on separate problems of the history of geological sciences and excursions to historical places and ancient centres of development of mining, science and culture are held at the same time as the meetings of the Committee.
- § 8. a) The Bureau directs the activities of the Committee and consists of the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Secretary General. The President convenes the meetings of the Bureau to consider questions, which cannot be solved by correspondence. If necessary, the President can delegate his functions to one of the Vice-Presidents upon his agreement.
- b) The Secretary General carries out the decisions of the Committee and of its Bureau and, upon agreement with the President, maintains contacts with international and national organizations and exercises control over the finances of the Committee.
- c) The members and corresponding members of the Committee in every possible way promote the development of research on the history of geological sciences in their countries and unite scientists engaged in such investigations into national groups.
- § 9. is omitted.
- § 10 and § 11 correspondingly become § 9 and § 10.

PLAN  
FOR THE FUTURE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE  
ON THE HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

I. Organization of scientific symposia on various problems in the history of geological sciences:

- a) history of theoretical concepts on mineral deposits;
- b) history of neptunism, volcanism and catastrophism;
- c) history of mineralogical, petrographic and other classifications;
- d) development of experimental research in geology;
- e) periodisation problem in the history of geological sciences;
- f) development of the actualistic method;
- g) history of the uniformitarian concept, etc.

II. Formation of national groups of historians of geology in various countries and coordination of their activity.

III. Preparation of a collated work "General History of Geological Sciences".

DRAFT OF A PROGRAM  
FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE COLLATED WORK  
"GENERAL HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES"

1. A i m. Realization of scientific research profoundly studying the history of geological sciences and the specific features of their development; an analysis of the progress of geology in different countries; the establishment of important aspects in the history of geology that are forgotten or, virtually, unknown.

2. T a s k s. To stimulate an interest in the study of the history of geological sciences and to involve into these researches the widest possible circle of geologists, which will enable present applied and theoretical investigations to make full use of past experience. Preparation and publication of reviews on the development of geology in different countries and monographs on the world history of certain branches of geology. This material will serve as a basis for the preparation of a summarising monograph "General History of Geological Sciences".

3. S c o p e o f t h e w o r k "General History of Geological Sciences". The monograph will describe the development process of geological sciences, and, especially, the history of the most important branches of geology, its trends, ideas and methods of research, as well as the relations between geology and allied sciences.

4. O r i g i n a l m a t e r i a l. Available reviews on the general history of geological sciences or on the history of a certain branch of geology are characterized, as a rule, by a rather one-sided approach to the subject. For this reason, a profound investigation of separate problems and the preparation of detailed papers on different large areas or on a wide complex of questions is needed before the compilation of a summarising work on the general history of geology is possible.

5. O r d e r o f r e s e a r c h. The work is divided into stages:

- a) Compilation of bibliographies for different countries, branches of geology, outstanding scientists and a review of

data in archives.

b) Study of primary material and publication of papers devoted to personalia and certain individual problems in the history of geological sciences.

c) Preparation and publication of papers analyzing the development of fundamental ideas, trends and methods in geology; study of periodization and classification problems in the history of geological sciences.

d) Preparation and publication of papers on the history of geology in one country and on the general history of some specific branch of geology.

e) Preparation of a summary work "General History of Geological Sciences".

6. **M e t h o d s o f r e s e a r c h.** Study of primary sources (both published and in archives) and utilization of existing reviews on the history of separate problems.

7. **O r g a n i s a t i o n o f w o r k.** To participate in the work on the problem of the history of geology are invited scientists of different countries interested in this subject.

The preparation of the summarizing monograph is a collated work carried out under the auspices of the International Committee on the History of Geological Sciences.

SUGGESTIONS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF SYMPOSIA  
BETWEEN THE XXIII AND XXIV SESSIONS  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

I. Symposium of 1970

- a) Subject of symposium - History of theoretical concepts on mineral deposits.
- b) Place of symposium - Freiberg, German Democratic Republic
- c) Time of symposium - summer-autumn of 1970.
- d) Excursions - 1) inspection of old mining centres in Saxony, Thuringia a.oth.;  
2) visits to mining and geological museums.
- e) Organizers - National Committee of Geologists of the USSR, Freiberg Mining Academy, International Committee on the History of Geological Sciences; Vice President for Europe Prof. R. Hooykaas, Secretary General Prof. E. Maślankiewicz, corresponding members of the Committee Dr. M. Guntau.

II. Symposium of 1971

- a) Subject of symposium - Periodisation problem in the history of geological sciences; development of the actualistic method and the uniformitarian doctrine in natural sciences.
- b) Time of the symposium - during the session of the XIII Congress on the history of science.

III. Symposium of 1972

- a) Subject of symposium - 1) History of experiment in geology.  
2) History of mineralogical, petrographic and other geological classifications.
- b) Time of symposium - during the XXIV Session of the International Geological Congress.

**NOTE:** The time and place of the II and III symposia, just as their excursions, will correspond to the dates and places of the XIII Congress on the history of science and the XXIV Session of the IGC.

The persons responsible for the organization of symposia II and III will be regional Vice-President and corresponding member, as well as the Secretary General of the Committee.