



МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ КОМИТЕТ ПО ИСТОРИИ  
ГЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ НАУК  
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE  
ON THE HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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ИНФОРМАЦИОННОЕ ПИСЬМО № 5  
NEWSLETTER № 5

1971

## О ЗАСЕДАНИИ ИНИГЕО

В дни работы 13-го Конгресса по истории науки в Москве состоится неофициальное заседание Международного Комитета по истории геологических наук (ИНИГЕО) с участием членов Комитета и его членов-корреспондентов, прибывших на конгресс. Состоится обмен мнениями по текущим вопросам деятельности ИНИГЕО

О месте и времени встречи приехавшие будут извещены дополнительно.

Report  
on the work of the International Committee on the History  
of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO) in 1970

1. The most important item during the year under question was the preparation and organization of a symposium on the subject "History of concepts on mineral deposits" (Freiberg, GDR, 14-20 Sept. 1970). It has been prepared by the Freiberg Mining Academy with the participation of the German Academy of Sciences in Berlin and the National Committee of Geological Sciences of the GDR.

The symposium attracted a great attention on the part of geologists in many countries. As result applications have been received from 25 countries. Actually, the symposium has been attended by nearly 120 scientists from 22 countries. The participants included a number of officials: Secretary General of the IUGS Dr. S. van der Heide, Associate Secretary General Dr. J. Petranek, Secretary General of the German Academy of Sciences in Berlin Prof. Stiller, Rector of the Freiberg Mining Academy Prof. D. Rotter a. oth.

For the opening of the symposium a book of abstracts (of 68 papers) and a guidebook of excursions have been published in German, Russian and English.

The papers read have been devoted to a wide range of problems: 1) general questions in the history of geological sciences; 2) history of geological and mineralogical research in studying mineral deposits; 3) development of genetic concepts on the origin of ores and fuels; 4) study of non-metallic minerals; 5) early stages in the accumulation of geological knowledge; 6) Personalia; 7) importance of concepts on mineral deposits in the development of society.

Some papers were accompanied by the demonstration of slides and special films.

Of greatest theoretical and applied importance were papers, in which the historical analysis has been brought to present days, which provided a more confident approach

to an evaluation of modern concepts, ideas and research methods. Many papers became a subject for lively discussions. A synchronous translation of all communications and discussions greatly contributed to the success of the symposium enabling the participants to choose the language they preferred from three available. Papers submitted to the symposium are being published in the Geological magazine of the GDR.

Well organized excursions acquainted the participants of the symposium with the history of mining and geology in Saxony and Thuringia, as well as with the valuable exhibits of culture in the museums of Dresden and Weimar.

2. On September 14-th and 17-th 1970 two meetings of INHIGEO took place in Freiberg attended by 10 members (including two persons officially representing two absent members), 10 corresponding members and 12 guests. The following questions were on the agenda: report on the activities of INHIGEO for 1967-1970, the preparation of the collated monograph "General History of Geological Sciences", the creation of national groups of historians of geology in different countries, the preparation of the symposium "History of concepts on Precambrian geology" during the 24-th Session of the International Geological Congress, elections of new corresponding members of INHIGEO, organization of a joint session of the section for teaching mineralogy of the International Mineralogical Association and INHIGEO during the 24-th Session of the IGC, invitation of Spanish organizations to hold an INHIGEO symposium in Madrid.

The participants of the meetings approved the work of INHIGEO during the past years, recommended to begin the preparation for the work on the collated monograph "General History of Geological Sciences" with the collection of auxiliary material like bibliographies, biographic sket-

ches and reviews on separate lines of geology or on individual countries. It has been decided to start the creation of national groups of geologists. Noting the great interest that has been displayed in the INHIGEO symposium during the Montreal Congress (36 applications have come in for papers) it has been found necessary to select only the most valuable papers dealing with topics of a wide interest.

By secret ballot 11 new corresponding members of INHIGEO have been elected (see list on p. 18).

Owing to a suggestion of the International Mineralogical Association, it has been decided to ask Prof. J. B. Waterhouse and Prof. C. J. Schneer to discuss the possibility of holding a joint meeting of the Commission on Teaching Mineralogy and of INHIGEO during the 24-th Session of the IGC. Having discussed the letter of the Spanish National Committee of Geologists, the meeting had provisionally agreed to hold a symposium on the history of teaching geology in Madrid in 1974.

3. In 1970 INHIGEO Newsletter No 4 has been published in Russian and English with a circulation of 650 copies. It has been sent to all members and corresponding members of INHIGEO, to largest geological organizations of the world and to leading scientists - geologists and historians of science. A volume containing material on the Constituent Assembly of INHIGEO in 1967 and of the simultaneous Yerevan symposium on the history of geological concepts came out of print in 1970. The book contained Russian texts of papers with English summaries and a number of illustrations.

Preparations were also proceeding on the publication of a volume with papers read at a symposium "History of Polish-Russian Contacts in Geology and Geography" held in Warsaw in September-October 1969.

4. In the process of a preparation for the 1972 symposium INHIGEO has been in correspondence with the Organizing Committee of the Congress establishing the days and hours for the scientific sessions of Symposium No 106

(three sessions of three hours each in the afternoon) and for two business meetings of INHIGEO in its old and new panel (appointed by the Council of the IUGS).

5. For the purpose of establishing direct contacts between INHIGEO and the International Commission on the History of Geographical Thought, the President of INHIGEO took part in the meetings of this Commission in Paris on November 28-30, 1970. The Commission discussed the plan of its work for the period up to the 22nd International Geographical Congress in Montreal (August, 1972). The meeting has approved the theme of a colloquium scheduled to take place on August 7-8, 1971, the program of a special publication devoted to the 100th anniversary of geographical congresses and the contents of a pamphlet "Introduction into the History of Geographical Thought". Decisions were passed on a number of organizational problems; election of honorary members of the Commission and of its corresponding members.

It became clear that the Commission on the History of Geographical Thought consisting of 6 members and 28 corresponding members is formed virtually entirely of economic geographers, which means that the problems of physical geography remain outside the scope of the activities of this Commission. Consequently, for the time being, it proved to be impossible to find any topics that could be worked at together by INHIGEO and the Commission. As result of an exchange of opinions, it has been decided that at this stage it would be advisable to arrange for a mutual exchange of information and data in bibliography, photographs and copies of documents of an historical interest.

6. During 1970 INHIGEO has received an appropriation of Am. \$2300.00 from the Executive Committee of IUGS and Am. \$100 from the Executive Committee of the International Union on the History and Philosophy of Science. These sums have been used to finance the trips of INHIGEO members to the Freiberg symposium (\$2000) and to the meeting of the International Commission on the History of Geographical Thought (\$400).

L i s t

of corresponding members elected at INHIGEO meeting on  
September 14, 1970 in Freiberg.

D.A.Basset	- Great Britain	- National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1, 3NP.
T.G.Castellanos	- Argentine	- Academia Nacional de Ciencias, Casilla de Correo 36, Cordoba.
W.v.Engelhardt	- G F R	- Mineralog.Inst.Univers., Wilhelmstrasse 56, 74 Tbingen.
T.D.Ford	- Great Britain	- University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester.
A. La Rocque	- U S A	- Department of Geology, Ohio State University, 190 North Oval Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43210.
A.M.Ospovat	- U S A	- Oklahoma State University, Whitehurst Hall, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074.
Ph.Pinchemel	- France	- Commission d'Histoire de la Pensée Géographique, 191, rue St.Jacques, 75 - Paris, 5e.
P.Routhier	- France	- 74 rue de la Fédération, 75 - Paris (15e).
M.S.Rudwick	- Great Britain	- Sedgwick Museum, Downing Street, Cambridge.
I.I.Shafranovsky	- USSR	- Chair of crystallography, Leningrad Mining Institute, Vas.Ostrov, 21 Linia, 2, Leningrad B - 26.
A.Tasnadi- Kubacska	- Hungary	- Hungarian Geological Institute, Vorosilov-utca, 14, Budapest - XIV.



XIII-th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE  
(Information)

The work of the Congress will take place in the building of Moscow State University on Lenin Hills. Morning meetings will be held from 9.30 to 13.00; evening meetings - from 15.00 to 18.00.

The opening of the Congress will be in the Assembly Hall of Moscow State University on August 18th, Wednesday at 10.00.

Papers :

Ways and "mechanisms" in the development of science.

B.M.Kedrov (USSR).

History of sciences on life beginning with Darwin.

G.Canguilhem (France).

The History of the Transuranium Elements and an Outlook for their future. G.T.Seaborg (USA).

Sessions of the Sections will be held from August 19th to August 23rd.

The final Plenary Meeting will be held in the Assembly Hall of Moscow State University on August 24th Tuesday at 15.00.

P a p e r s:

The new look at the historical analysis of modern physics. G.Holton (USA).

The role of the history of science in the evolution of the science of science. J.Malecki (Poland).

A complete list of the colloquium and Congress sections is given in Bulletin No 2 of the Organizing Committee of the Congress. There will be an additional colloquium: The role of logic and methodology of science in historical-scientific research.

WORK OF THE SUBSECTION ON THE HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL  
SCIENCES (Preliminary program)

1st Meeting

1. J.B. Waterhouse (Canada) - How to quantify our qualitative assessment of the giants of the past.
2. K.L. Taylor (USA) - Natural Law in Eighteenth-Century Geology. The case of Louis Bourguet.
3. Z. Wójcik (PPR) - Neptunism and evolutionism in Wilnus university at the end of the 18-th and the beginning of the 19-th centuries.
4. D.I. Gordeev (USSR) - History of concepts on the role of the biosphere in the development of the crust.
5. G.F. Krasheninnikov (USSR) - The development of the concept "facies".

2nd Meeting

1. M. Haschmi (Syria) - Geological observations of the Arabian "Brothers of Purity" from Basra.
2. O.I. Islamov (USSR) - Characteristic of the medieval period in the development of geological sciences.
3. K. Sležka (PPR) - Methodological Premises of the Lyellian Geological Theory.
4. A.I. Ravikovich (USSR) - Some Problems of the Development of Theoretical Thought in Geology.
5. I.V. Krut (USSR) - Space and Time of Classical Geology.

3rd Meeting

1. J.G. Burke (USA) - The Earth's Central Heat: From Fourier to Kelvin.
2. J.D. Burchfield (USA) - Presuppositions and Results: the Age of the Earth in Late Victorian England.

3. M. Guntau (GDR) - The System of geological and mineralogical Sciences in Germany at the end of the 19-th century.
4. B.P. Vysotsky (USSR) - Periodization of the History of Geology (attempt of a system-structural analysis).

4-th Meeting

1. A.M. Osipov (USA) - The Work and Influence of Abraham Gottlob Werner: a reevaluation.
2. H. Pacowska (PPR) - Study of 18-th century mines in Poland.
3. K. Maślankiewicz (PPR) - The Development of Polish Geological Sciences in the 19-th century.
4. M.A. Kashkai (USSR) - To the History of Geology and Mineral Deposits from Ancient Times to our Days.
5. Yu. A. Anisimov (USSR) - The Development of Concepts on the Genesis of Precambrian Iron Ores (on the example of studies in Krivoy Rog Basin).
6. E.G. Malkhasian (USSR) - Development History of Geological Knowledge in Armenia in the 19-th century.

5-th Meeting

1. A. Laszkiewicz (PPR) - Evolution of the Concept "Crystal".
2. T.D. Il'ina (USSR) - From the History of the Penetration of Nuclear Physics Ideas in Oil Geology in the USSR.
3. L.N. Lordkipanidze (USSR) - History of Concepts on Platforms.

4. C.J.Schneer (USA) - The Taconic Controversy.
5. M.P.Dzvelaia (USSR) - The evolution of concepts on the geological structure of the Caucasus.
6. H.Pacowska (PPR) - Graphical method of evaluating the scientific investment of the authors of old manuscripts (on the example of the work of Guettard).

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#### ON A MEETING OF INHIGEO

During the period of the work of the XIII-th International Congress on the History of Science in Moscow an unofficial meeting of the International Committee on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO) is going to take place with the participation of its members and corresponding members, who arrived to attend the Congress. It is planned to have an exchange of opinions regarding current problems in the work of INHIGEO.

The time and place of the meeting will be announced later.

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