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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY
OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

INTERNATIONALES KOMITEE FÜR GESCHICHTE
DER GEOLOGISCHEN WISSENSCHAFTEN



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ROSTOCK (DDR) 1977

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SCIENCES

INTERNATIONALE UNION FÜR GEOLOGISCHE WISSENSCHAFTEN
INTERNATIONALE UNION FÜR GESCHICHTE UND PHILOSOPHIE DER
WISSENSCHAFTEN

International Committee
on the History of Geological
Sciences (INHIGFO)

Internationales Komitee für
Geschichte der Geologischen
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History of Geology at the 25th International
Geological Congress
(Sydney, Australia)

In August 1976 the geologists of Australia had the privilege of welcoming delegates to the 25th International Geological Congress for sessions on the campus of the University of Sydney, Australia's oldest university (incorporated 1850).

Two business meetings of INHIGEO were held during the congress and a record of decisions and recommendations made by the committee was conveyed to the IUGS. Details concerning the INHIGEO panel and other membership matters, as ratified by IUGS, are reported elsewhere in this Newsletter. Opportunity, however, is taken here to note the warm tribute paid to our retiring president. Prof. Dr. V.V. Tikhomirov was present in person to hear the record of his outstanding work for INHIGEO publicly acknowledged.

Of particular interest for historians of geology was a symposium convened by the writer under the auspices of INHIGEO. The topic chosen, The Growth of Geological Knowledge in the Age of Geographical Exploration, reflected the location of the congress in a country practically unknown before the 18th century. That the theme created interest may be seen both in the range of excellent papers from many countries and the large audiences drawn over the two days of the symposium; for several papers there was standing-room only in the lecture room.

Papers contributed to our symposium were as follows (references cited are to the volumes of Abstracts printed for delegates): D.W.F. CORBETT (Australia) South Australia's contribution to the development of Australian geology in the 19th

century (3, p. 921); T.A. DARRAGH (Australia) The first geological maps of the continent of Australia (3, p. 922); T.D. FORD (United Kingdom) Derbyshire and the early history of geology in England (3, p. 923); E.B. JOYCE (Australia) The Quaternary volcanic areas of southeastern Australia and the observations of 19th century explorers, settlers and geologists (3, p. 924); J.M. LOPEZ de AZCONA (Spain) The introduction of the teaching of geology into the Spanish-speaking countries 1748 - 1898 (2, pp. 644-646); U.B. MARVIN (U.S.A.) The impact of Wabar (3, p. 925); R.A. PETTITT (U.S.A.) Geologic observations of the early Spanish explorers in the American southwest (3, p. 926); G. REGNELL (Sweden) Contributions to the knowledge of Arctic geology by Swedish 19th century explorers (3, pp. 926 - 927); C.J. SCHNEER (U.S.A.) Geology and the scientific expeditions of the 18th century (3, p. 928); V.V. TIKHOMIROV (U.S.S.R.) The importance of Russian expeditions of the XVIIIth century for geological science (3, pp. 929 - 930); G.W. WHITE (U.S.A.) The geological work of the explorer John Charles Frémont 1813 - 1890 (3, pp. 930 - 931). Several authors have already taken steps to publish their works in full in national journals; it is hoped the others will do likewise.

In addition, G.Y. GRAIG (United Kingdom) contributed to our symposium a short note on the discovery of the 'lost' drawings for Hutton's Theory of the Earth; this important material is to be published in 1977. A paper by D.F. BRANAGAN (Australia) Geological educations - an historical review (2, p. 643 - 644) read to the section on Geological Education was also of interest to historians of geology.

A popular feature at this congress was a two-day excursion, Aspects of the history of Geology in Eastern Australia, organized and led by D.F. Branagan and the writer. Delegates from Australia, Canada, France, F.R.G., U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. traced the routes of our explorers and pioneer geologists, men from many lands, across the Blue Mountains westward from Sydney to Orange and visited the site of Australia's first goldfields (Ophir, 1851).

Particular attention was given to the differing interpretations offered by these early geologists to problems of Palaeozoic and Mesozoic stratigraphy and the origin of the spectacular valleys carved in the Triassic rocks of the mountains. The excursion seemed to be generally enjoyed and several participants expressed the earnest hope that future international geological congresses will also include an excursion devoted to the history of geology.

The 25th International Geological Congress has given important encouragement to historians of geology in Australia who found in discussions with colleagues from many countries how widely their problems and interests are shared.

T.G. Vallance (University of Sydney)
Vice-President INHIGEO

THE PANEL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF
GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES (INHIGEO)
TERM 1976 - 1980
(approved by IUGS Council, August 1976)

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Tegata Gakuencho
Akita City /Japan
5. General Secretary Dr. M. Guntau
Wilhelm-Pieck-Universität
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6. Past President Prof. V.V. Tikhomirov
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Val - de - Marne /France
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14. Prof. G.K. Georgiev 1424 Bul. Chr. Smirnenski, 16
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15. Prof. H. Hölder D - 44 Münster (Westf.)
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16. Prof. W.O. Kupsch Institute for Northern Studies
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(elected at the INHIGEO meeting on 23. August 1976)

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23. Prof. J.B. Waterhouse The University of Queensland
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27. Prof. W.A.S. Sarjeant University of Saskatchewan
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31. Prof. W. von Engelhardt Mineralogisches Institut der
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GDR

32. Prof. R. Daber Humboldt-Universität
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33. Dr. H. Prescher Staatliches Museum für
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35. Mrs. J.M. Eyles The Old Cottage, Great Rissington
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43. Prof. A. Kleczkowski Akademia Gorniczo - Hutnicza
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45. Dr. Z. Wojcik Museum Ziemi PAN
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47. Prof. L.S. Sabaris Universidad de Barcelona
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60. Mrs. Prof. E.A. Radkevich Far Eastern Geological Institute
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Vladivostok 690 022
61. Mrs. Dr. A.I. Ravikovich Geological Institute of the
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Pyzhevsky 7
Moscow 109 017
62. Prof. I.I. Shafranovsky Department of Crystallographie
Leningrad Mining Institute
Vasilevsky Ostrow, 21 Linia
Leningrad 199 026

VIIIth INHIGEO Symposium

The next International Symposium on the History of Geological Sciences will be held in 1978:

"The regional influences on the origin and course of development of geological theories, esp. in the 18th and 19th century".

The Symposium will be held in the FRG, between September 12 and 21, 1978. Professor H. Hölder (University of Münster) is in charge of the Symposium. He will be assisted by Professor W. Langer (University of Bonn).

The preliminary programme includes reports and discussions at Münster and Bonn (September, 12-14), excursions (September, 15-20) and the closing ceremony (September, 21).

A considerable number of applications for reports has been submitted up to now. Therefore, further contributions can only be considered in exceptional cases. Abstracts of the papers (in two languages) should be sent to the organizing committee by March 1, 1978. Correspondence should be forwarded to the following address:

Prof. Dr. H. Hölder
Geologisch-Paläontologisches Institut der Universität
Gievenbeckerweg 61
D - 4400 Münster

The next working session of INHIGEO will be held during the symposium at Münster. All members and corresponding members of the Committee are invited to participate in the session. Invitations including the agenda will be sent off in the summer of 1978.

IIIrd Polish-Soviet Symposium

The IIIrd Polish-Soviet Symposium on "The History of Russian (Soviet) and Polish Polar Research" will be held at Wrocław (Poland), between September 26 and 28, 1978. Geologists and geographers from Poland and the Soviet Union are preparing the symposium.

National Groups on the History of Geology

More groups on the history of geological sciences have been set up in several countries. Their character is different.

In Bulgaria, a working group on the history of geological sciences was elected in the Geological Society on April 22, 1976. Members of the bureau are K. Georgiev (President), Ja. Tenčev (Secretary) and E. Belmustakov. Other members of the working group are Z. Dimitrov, R. Raschkov, V. Velcev, J. Shelev, D. Dimov, S. Menkov, R. Bogdanova, D. Kraev, I. Peev.

In France, a French committee on the history of geology (COFRHIGEO) was set up on November 23, 1976. Members of the bureau of this committee are: F. Ellenberger (President); A. Cailleux, J. Roger and H. Termier (Vice Presidents); J. Gaudant (Secretary); G. Tamain (Treasurer).

In Hungary, a committee on the history of geology (CHG) has been working in the Hungarian Geological Society since 1970. I. Allodiatoris (President) and G. Csiky (Secretary) are in charge of the committee's work. Other members of the committee are J. Bauer, L. Bendefy, G. Bidló, L. Bogsch, I. Dobos, E. Dudich, L. Fejér, J. Jövény, P. Kriván, A. Rónai, T. Szalai, V. Széky-Fux, L. Jugovics, K. Sztrókay, S. Vitalis.

Since 1972, one periodical of the "Annals of the History of Hungarian Geology" has been published by this committee each year.

András Tasnádi - Kubacska

András Tasnádi-Kubacska, Corresponding Member of INHIGEO from Hungary, died on March 29, 1977.

Dr. Tasnádi-Kubacska was born on April 20, 1902 in Budapest. After having studied geology, mineralogy and paleontology in Budapest and Vienna he began to work as an assistant at the Department of Zoology (University of Budapest) in 1923. In 1925, he changed over to the Department of Geology of the Budapest College of Economy. For more than twenty years (1929 - 1950) he worked with the Hungarian National Museum, being promoted from Research Fellow of the Geological and Paleontological Department to General Director of the Museum of Natural Sciences in 1945, and Vice President of the Hungarian National Museum.

In 1950, he left the Museum for the Hungarian Geological Institute, where he headed the Collections Department till he retired in 1973. It is one of his merits to have created the valuable collection on the History of Hungarian Geology existing in the Institute.

Most of his paleontological works (totalling to 35 items published over half a century between 1925 and 1976) deal with paleopathology. His monograph on this topic was edited in Hungarian (Budapest 1960) and in German (Jena 1962). In the early years of his scientific activity, he was active in Vertebrate Paleontology and Speleology as well, while later he became one of the pioneers of environment protection in Hungary.

In 1960, he was awarded the Doctor's Degree in Geology and Mineralogy by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Tasnádi-Kubacska has published altogether 46 works on various aspects of the History of the Geological and Biological Sciences. Above all he was attracted by the study and the presentation of the life and activity of prominent Hungarian men of science, such as M. Hantken, S. Jávorka,

P. Kitaibel, L. Lóczy sen., F. Nopcsa, K. Lambrecht, A. Semsey, J. Szabó and V. Vértess, but his interests ranged from Leonardo da Vinci to V. Kovalevsky.

An enthusiastic and in Hungary unmatched popularizer of natural sciences, he wrote 16 books and 185 minor papers for the general public, with particular regard to children. As a master of a fascinating and brilliant style, he has initiated generations into the study, love and protection of Nature, and not only in Hungary. (Several of his works have been edited in French, German, Italian, Latvian and Russian, and some of his minor articles have been published in Czech and Polish).

In addition to what has been mentioned he always found time and energy for social activities, acting as First Secretary, later as Managing President of the Geological Society of Hungary, Managing President of the Society for Natural Sciences and President of the National Council for the Protection of Nature. Moreover, he was member of the Editorial Board of the Hungarian Bulletin on the History of Medicine and, last but not least, corresponding member of INHIGEO.

For his scientific and educational merits, he was awarded several decorations by the Hungarian Government.

His great experience, never-failing memory, unbroken enthusiasm, fine sense of humour and untired helpfulness will be badly missed by all who knew him.

E. Dudich

Information

- A new periodical "Catastrophist Geology, a magazine dedicated to the study of discontinuities in Earth History" (Editor: Dr. J.B. Klossterman, Caixa Postal 41.003, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, US doll. 10.-). The first issue was aptly circulated among the participants of the Lyell Centenary Symposium in London. The periodical aims not only at studying discontinuities and clarifying what catastrophist geology is about, but focuses also on subjects which so far have been neglected by the mainstream of geology. Being an unorthodox periodical, it provides a correction to a glib acceptance of prevalent doctrines (thus, of course, it runs the risk of indulging in a spirit of contradiction). As the topic has played such an important role in the history of geology, historians might profit from data provided now and in the past that were discarded or neglected too easily under the long and practically undisputed reign of Lyellism.
- Bibliography on philosophical questions of Earth Sciences in the GDR (Bibliothek der Bergakademie, DDR - 92 Freiberg, Postschliessfach 47). A bibliography of 213 studies by 100 authors on the philosophy of the Earth Sciences which were published in the GDR between 1945 and 1975. The introduction by Dr. M. Guntau deals with the development of co-operation between geo-scientists and Marxist-Leninist philosophers in the GDR. It is evident that methodological and historical problems play an important role among geologists in the GDR.
- In the Soviet Union, a book on Lyell has been published: A.I. Ravikovich: Charles Lyell 1797-1875. Moscow 1976 (200 pp. - in Russian). The author is one of the founding members of INHIGEO and herself an expert at the problem of uniformitarianism.

- In the United States, 37 volumes on the History of Geology will be issued by Arno Press, New York. Professor C.C. Albritton serves as Advisory Editor for the project. Members of the Editorial Board are Professor P.W. Pretsky, C.J. Schneer, H.C. Skinner, and E.W. White.

The books in this collection fall into three categories: bibliographies, histories, and classic scientific works. Most of the books are facsimile reprints of texts long out of print, but there are also several original items.

Original works include an 8-volume bibliography for the history of geology compiled by Dr. William A.S. Sarjeant. Further original works are: an anthology of Charles Lyell's journal articles on North American geology, edited by Dr. Hubert C. Skinner; an anthology of Jules Marcou's writings on the Taconic System in North America, also edited by Dr. Skinner; and a collection of Dr. George White's papers on the history of geology.

Reprinted volumes include works by Robert Bakewell, William Buckland, John Mason Clarke, Parker Cleveland, DeWitt Clinton, W.D. Conybeare, Georges Cuvier, Charles Davison, Grove Karl Gilbert, George B. Greenough, Robert Hooke, Richard Kirwan, K. Lambrecht, Charles Lyell, Edmé Mariotte, George Merrill, Hugh Miller, Nathaniel Moore, John Murray, James Parkinson, John Philips, William Phillips, John Ray, George P. Scrope, Thomas Sherley, Marie Joseph Thomassy, Erasmus Warren, John Webster, William Whiston, John Whitehurst, Horace B. Woodward, and John Woodward. All reprinted volumes are issued in facsimile format, from the original printings.

Except for the Sarjeant bibliography, which will be issued in the spring of 1978, the volumes in the collection will be placed on sale in December of 1977.

- In 1975-76 and 1976-77 bi-monthly meetings were held by the "Commission on the History of Geological Sciences" of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Science (chairman: R.Hooykaas;

secretary: F.H.G. Engelen). The acquisition of data (bibliographies, biographies, archival materials) was discussed and collaborators were named for a history of geological sciences in the Netherlands and in their former overseas territories in the East and West Indies. The subject is supposed to be treated up till the dates of independence of Indonesia and Surinam; as to the Antilles, the work by Hollanders in other parts of the Caribbean area is supposed to be included. Two meetings - one with the collaborators of the Netherlands project and one with those of the overseas project - were held to distribute the subjects and to confirm the plan of the work. First contributions have already been delivered.

- Von der "Kommission zur Geschichte der geologischen Wissenschaften" der Königlichen Niederländischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (Vorsitzender: R. Hooykaas; Sekretär: F.H.G. Engelen) wurden in den Jahren 1975/76 und 1976/77 alle 2 Monate Treffen durchgeführt. Die Erarbeitung der Fakten (Bibliographien, Biographien, Archivmaterialien) wurde diskutiert, und es wurden die Mitarbeiter für die Geschichte der geologischen Wissenschaften in den Niederlanden und in ihren ehemaligen überseeischen Territorien in den ostindischen und westindischen Gebieten festgelegt. Die Thematik umfaßt den Zeitraum bis zum Zeitpunkt der Unabhängigkeit Indonesiens und Surinams; so weit es die Antillen betrifft, soll auch die Arbeit von Holländern in anderen Teilen des Karibischen Raumes einbezogen werden. Es wurden zwei Treffen durchgeführt - ein Treffen mit den Mitarbeitern für die Niederlande und ein weiteres mit jenen für die überseeischen Gebiete. Sie dienten der Verteilung der Themen und der Bestätigung des Arbeitsplanes. Erste Beiträge sind bereits geleistet worden.

Mr R. Cheevley,
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Cromwell Road,
London SW7 5BD.

			Publication
<u>I.</u>	Jar van	1962	+
<u>II.</u>	Bray	1968	
<u>III.</u>	Frederick	1970	+
<u>IV.</u>	Meinel	1972	+
<u>V.</u>			
<u>VI.</u>	Medved	1974	+
<u>VII.</u>	London	1975	+
<u>VIII.</u>	Sydney	1976	
<u>IX.</u>	Hamburg	1978	
<u>X.</u>	Paris	1980	
	Bidgley	1982	