

## PREFACE

The Clay Minerals Committee of the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council sponsors an annual conference on clay mineralogy and clay technology. The major objective of the conference is to provide a meeting whereby persons interested in these subjects from various fields of mineralogy, geology, chemistry, ceramics, agronomy, soil mechanics, etc., can present results of their researches and discuss mutual problems.

The Fourth Annual Conference was held at The Pennsylvania State University on October 10 to 13, as part of the Centennial Celebration of the founding of the University. The Proceedings of this conference are presented herein.

The Clay Minerals Committee desires to express its appreciation to The Pennsylvania State University for providing excellent facilities for the meeting, and to members of its staff, particularly Professor Thomas F. Bates, chairman of the local committee, and to the members of this committee for doing excellently the very large amount of work necessary for the success of such a conference.

The Clay Minerals Committee also desires to express its thanks to the large number of organizations that provided financial aid for the conference. This financial support made it possible to bring to the conference seven distinguished scientists from overseas. The presence of these scientists greatly increased the value of the conference in broadening its base to include activities in clay mineralogy and clay technology outside of the United States as well as in this country.

Finally the Clay Minerals Committee is greatly indebted to Ada Swineford for editing the Proceedings, and to G. W. Brindley, W. F. Bradley, S. B. Hendricks, and Norman Plummer, who have assisted in the editorial task. The State Geological Survey of Kansas has very generously cooperated in granting Dr. Swineford time and facilities for the editorial work.

RALPH E. GRIM, *Chairman*

A. F. FREDERICKSON, *Secretary*

Clay Minerals Committee, National  
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