

PREFACE

The anniversary 10th International Kaolin Symposium organized by the Hungarian Working Group of IGCP Project No. 23: Genesis of Kaolins in Budapest on September 3, 1979, was attended by 59 geologists, mineralogists and technologists from 17 countries. The topics of papers presented at the Symposium varied from description of new laboratory methods on investigation, contributions to mineralogy or geology of individual deposits, classification of kaolins and clays, to discussion of genesis and age of kaolins.

In a way this Symposium rounded up not only the first ten meetings of the Group, but also it was a milestone which marked the end of preparatory stage of the Group's Final Report for the first decade-of the monograph Kaolin.

In the prehistory of the IGCP Kaolin Project is the 1st Kaolin Symposium held jointly with the 23rd IGC in Prague (August 1968). Symposia and excursions in Spain (1972), France and England (1974), Mexico (1975), GDR (1975), Australia (1976), Japan (1976), Spain and Italy (1977) and England (1978) were followed, by six volumes of papers published (one is still in print), together with eight field-guides to kaolin and clay deposits. Summary of results of all Symposia was published in *Geological Correlation* (M. Bassett, editor, Special Issue for the General Conference of Unesco in Paris, 1978, p. 112—113), in *Episodes* (1978, No. 4, p. 12—15, Ottawa) and in *Věstník ÚÚG* (1980, 55, No. 3, p. 174—180, Prague).

Presently the Project has 23 members from 16 countries, and 80 corresponding members from 40 countries of all continents. During the next five years the Group plans to apply the theoretical results of all symposia to the conditions of the developing countries. The criteria for prospecting and methods of exploration of kaolin deposits will be defined. Workshops on kaolin utilisation for young specialistst from SE Asia, Africa and Latin America will be organized. Among other items, kaolin consumption is an indication of the cultural and technological standard in any given country. More kaolin means more porcelain — and better boarding, more paper and bookes — and less illiterate people, more wall — tiles — and better housing, more mineral-wool for insulation — and lower energy losses. Thus the IGCP Project No. 23 will try to help to lessen the main antagonism of the next decades — the growing gap between the industrialized and developing countries.

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