

PREFACE

THIS volume contains the proceedings of the Ninth Conference of the Clay Minerals Committee of the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council. These papers and an excellent field trip were presented at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, from October 5–8, 1960.

The Conference featured two symposia; the first was on the “Engineering Aspects of Physico-Chemical Properties of Clays” and the other one reviewed “Clay–Organic Complexes.” Inasmuch as the primary objective of the Committee is to provide a forum for the discussion of problems involving clays, these symposia provided an ideal method for meeting this objective and bringing together many people interested in different aspects of this field to review the status of our knowledge on specific topics and to formulate the problems remaining to be solved. This conference was handled by a local committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Joseph L. White. He was assisted by a large number of co-operating personnel from the Agronomy, Geology and Soil Mechanics Departments of Purdue University.

Financial assistance for the support of this program was obtained from individual companies, and travel funds for some of the participants from abroad were provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

The arduous job of editing the manuscripts was handled by Dr. Ada Swineford and the Board of Editors. They were assisted by Drs. Katharine Mather and T. F. McMahon who helped review some of the manuscripts. The State Geological Survey of Kansas generously provided office space and the time required by Dr. Swineford to prepare this volume. To Dr. Earl Ingerson who serves as Editor-in-Chief and to the staff of Pergamon Press we are grateful for many courtesies and much assistance.

We are confident that the financial and large personal time commitments devoted to this Conference and to this volume will promote technical and scientific interest in the problems related to clays.

The next conference will be held at the University of Texas, Austin, Texas, on October 16–18, 1961 under the local chairmanship of Dr. Earl Ingerson.

A. F. FREDERICKSON, *Chairman* M. L. JACKSON, *Secretary*

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June 11, 1961

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