

DEPT. OF MINERALOGY AND PETROLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Tel. 3193

Downing Street
Cambridge

8 Feb. 1957

Dear Monsieur ~~C~~/ Guillemain,

I am enclosing a copy of a Memo. which I have sent to Professor Buerger and to the three corresponding members of his committee.

I shall be in Paris in the early part of April and I hope to have discussions with Professor Wyart and yourself, along with any other people concerned, about co-operation in the field of mineralogical abstracts. I feel that we could save ourselves a lot of time by working together on certain matters.

Yours sincerely,

N. F. M. Henry
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Monsieur C. Guillemain,
c/o Laboratoire de Minéralogie,
1, rue Victor-Cousin,
Paris 5e.

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Memo. sent to Prof. M. J. Buerger

MEMORANDUM ON AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

IN MINERALOGY.

Having recently had the opportunity of talks with colleagues in different countries, I offer the following suggestions for the consideration of members of the committee which has just been set up by the Mineralogical Society in America.

28th January 1957.

N.F.L. Henry.

1. There is general satisfaction that our American colleagues have decided to join in the work which has been going on in Europe with a view to achieving some such organization. The British Society sent out a preliminary letter to various countries in the summer of 1956 and a number of replies to this were received.
2. It does appear, however, that there may be a more suitable form of organization than a Union. The reasons for this are that we do not wish to separate ourselves too sharply from the Geological Congress on the one hand nor from the Union of Crystallography on the other. Also there would be strong opposition from existing Unions to the formation of a new one for financial reasons, as its share of Unesco subsidies would be subtracted from their own shares. Again, the holding of separate Congresses, if a new Union were formed, would require a large amount of time and energy, probably from the same kind of people who at present gave so much work to the two other Organizations just mentioned.
3. There are undoubtedly activities which would benefit from some kind of international organization in the field of Mineralogy, but we suggest that this should be something less formal than a Union, at least to begin with. One suggestion is that it may be possible to enlarge somewhat the scope of the recently-formed International Society for Geochemistry to include mineralogists. Such a step would give us the opportunity of seeing how this International Organization worked out in practice before taking the much larger step towards the formal foundation of a new Union.