

GENERAL ACCOUNT OF THE SIXTH MEETING

THE sixth meeting of C.I.T.C.E., which was held in France from 1 to 12 September, 1954, was distinguished by a rare brilliance: fifty participants represented fifteen nations and forty government or industrial organizations, among which were the French Institute, the Academy of Sciences of Helsinki, the National Centre for Scientific Research (France), the Faraday Society (Great Britain) and five French, three American, three British, two German, two Dutch and two Swedish universities or colleges. We regret four last-minute absences: those of Professor Eugene Darmois, by reason of the ill-health of Madame Darmois; Professor Georges Chaudron, delayed at Münster by an I.U.P.A.C. meeting; Professor Roberto Piontelli, detained at Milan by administrative duties and Professor Wendell M. Latimer who has our best wishes for a speedy recovery from illness.

Meetings took place in Paris from 1 to 4 September, 1954. Three commissions (Electrochemical diagrams, C1; Nomenclature, C2; Experimental methods, C3) and two study groups (Corrosion, G1; Batteries and Accumulators, G2) simultaneously collated their reports and prepared the agenda for their full sessions at the Abbaye de Royaumont (Seine et Oise). On the morning of Saturday, 4 September, the delegates were welcomed by the French Institute at the Château de Chantilly; in the afternoon, they were able to meet the French groups studying corrosion, by invitation of the Société de Chimie Industrielle, at la Maison de la Chimie, Paris. During Sunday and Monday, 5 and 6 September, the delegates toured the Beauce and Touraine regions in a chartered motor-coach, and were most hospitably received by local authorities in the course of their visits to Chartres, Châteaudun, Blois, Chenonceaux, Tours, Loches and la Haye-Descartes.

On Tuesday, 7 September, in the presence of M. le Préfet de la Vienne, the Sixth Congress was officially opened by the Rector of the Academy of Poitiers, who recalled the history of Poitou, its University and Faculty of Sciences and the recent celebration of the centenary of this with which C.I.T.C.E. has thus been associated. The great Descartes, whom the citizens of Poitou are proud to number among the famous men of their province, was then proposed as the symbol of its work. After a speech of thanks by the President, Professor Paul Van Rysselberghe, enthusiastic in his acceptance of such an illustrious patron, a lecture on the present importance of electrochemistry was given by Professor W. F. K. Wynne-Jones, delegate of the Faraday Society. Work presented and discussed during ten sessions until the evening of Friday, 10 September, comprised fifty-five papers in nine sections or sub-sections: fundamental bases, experimental methods, electrochemical equilibria, kinetics of electrode processes, corrosion, batteries and accumulators, analytical applications, polarography, which was the selected subject for 1954 and various other topics. Besides the important collective reports read by the chairmen of the commissions and study groups, the general papers of P. Delahay on the evolution of polarography, P. Souchay on the

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application of polarography to analytical chemistry and M. Haissinsky on the use of radioactive techniques in electrochemistry, were particularly welcomed.

The hours when the conference was not in session were agreeably occupied with visits, receptions and tours. The university laboratories visited included those of the magnificent National High School of Mechanics and Aerotechnique and the Leclanché establishment. A reception was held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, 8 September, followed that evening by a banquet given by the University at the Cité Universitaire (where most of the conference members were accommodated and enjoyed true French gastronomy). Guided tours on Thursday and Saturday provided interesting visits to historical sites and the Roman treasures of Poitou. A reception on the Friday by the Prefecture of Vienne pleasantly rounded off the social aspect of our meeting. A special programme was also provided for the ladies.

The success of the sixth meeting was largely due to the generous co-operation of the authorities who were approached. We wish, in particular, to convey our warmest thanks to*

The Director of the International Cultural Circle of Royaumont

The President of the Société de chimie industrielle

M. le Maire de Blois

M. le Préfet d'Indre et Loire†

M. le Maire de Tours

M. le Maire de la Haye-Descartes

M. le Recteur de l'Académie de Poitiers

M. le Préfet de la Vienne

The President of the Poitou section of the Alliance Française.

G.V.

* In the order of the programme development.

† Special mention must be made of M. Rose, engineer, délégué général au Tourisme, appointed by M. le Préfet d'Indre et Loire as official host for his province. On the night of 5 September, after the illuminated display at the Château de Chenonceaux, we were shown the control room and M. Rose gave a detailed explanation of the electronic equipment. With no less competence, during a wine-tasting party organized by the Mayor after our conducted visit of Tours on 6 September, he analysed the virtues of the wines of Touraine in a discourse, from which we take the liberty of quoting an amusing anecdote by J. M. Rougé: "A vineyard which St. Martin had planted on the slopes of Vouvray was ripe for pruning. The monks did not know how to do this. The Saint was told and, mounted on his ass, visited the vinegroves. Dismounting, he turned the ass loose to go its way. Then, on one side of the vineyard, the ass ate the shoots of the vines. Thus the pruning was done and the lesson taught: at the wine harvest, the cropped vines bore the best grapes. Since then, all asses in France have been called Martin."

ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTED

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| <i>a</i> French Commissariat of Atomic Energy | <i>w</i> Central Technical Institute of The Hague, Holland |
| <i>b</i> French National Science Research Centre | <i>x</i> Technical High School, Zürich, Switzerland |
| <i>c</i> Academy of Sciences, Paris | <i>y</i> Central Research Institute, Karai-kudi, India |
| <i>d</i> Academy of Sciences, Helsinki | <i>z</i> Faraday Society, London, Great Britain |
| <i>e</i> University of Paris | <i>A</i> The Uguine Society of Electrochemistry, Electrometallurgy and Steelworks, France |
| <i>f</i> University of Dijon, France | <i>B</i> Gaz de France, Paris, France |
| <i>g</i> University of Grenoble, France | <i>C</i> Wonder Batteries (Établissement les Piles Wonder), Paris, France |
| <i>h</i> University of Poitiers, France | <i>D</i> Ciba Laboratories, Summit, New Jersey, U.S.A. |
| <i>i</i> University of Louisiana, U.S.A. | <i>E</i> Siemens and Halske, Karlsruhe, Germany |
| <i>j</i> University of Oregon, U.S.A. | <i>F</i> Degussa, Frankfurt, Germany |
| <i>k</i> University of Illinois, U.S.A. | <i>G</i> Sovay and Co., Brussels, Belgium |
| <i>ψ</i> University of Cambridge, Great Britain | <i>H</i> Cebelcor, Brussels, Belgium |
| <i>l</i> University of Durham, Great Britain | <i>I</i> Shell, Amsterdam, Holland |
| <i>m</i> University of Erlangen, Germany | <i>J</i> Central Laboratory, Staatsmijnen, Holland |
| <i>n</i> Free University of Brussels, Belgium | <i>K</i> AB Silvercell, Uppsala, Sweden |
| <i>o</i> University of Vienna, Austria | |
| <i>p</i> University of Utrecht, Holland | |
| <i>q</i> University of Uppsala, Sweden | |
| <i>r</i> University of Berne, Switzerland | |
| <i>s</i> University of Madrid, Spain | |
| <i>t</i> École Nationale Supérieure de Physique et de Chimie de Paris, France | |
| <i>u</i> Imperial College, London | |
| <i>v</i> Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden | |

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

a, A, etc. indicates a delegate from one of the organizations indicated on p. xv.

* Indicates presence at the meeting.

† Indicates the presentation of one or more papers.

Belgium

- *Mme C. Capel (Dr.), Brussels
- n**R. Defay (Prof. Dr. Ir.), Brussels
- *†E. Deltombe (Dr. Ir.), Brussels
- *†L. Gierst (Dr.), Brussels
- *†J. Massart (Ir.), Brussels
- *†M. Pourbaix (Prof. Dr. Ir.), Brussels
- †J. Van Muylder (Dr. Ir.), Brussels

Egypt

- *†M. El Guebely (Dr.), Cairo

France

- b**†M. Bonnemay (Dr.), Paris
- C**†J. P. Brenet (Dr. Ir.), Paris
- †M. Billy, Poitiers
- B**J. Changannier (Ir.), Paris
- t**G. Charlot (Prof. Dr. Ir.), Paris
- a**†H. Coriou (Dr.), Paris
- a*†E. Darmois (Prof. Dr. Ir.), Paris
- †Mme G. Darmois (Dr.), Paris
- *G. Delaunay (Ir.), Paris
- g**†M. Dodero (Prof. Dr.), Grenoble
- f**†Y. Doucet (Prof. Dr.), Dijon
- *†I. Epelboin (Dr.), Paris
- *†R. Gauguin (Dr. Ir.), Paris
- e**†M. Geloso (Prof. Dr.), Paris
- *†M. Haissinsky (Dr.), Paris
- a**†J. Hure (Dr.), Paris
- C**†F. Jolas (Ir.), Paris
- A**H. de Lacheisserie (Ir.), Paris
- †Y. Le Corff, Poitiers
- *†G. Maronny, Poitiers
- *G. Rodier, Paris
- e**†P. Souchay (Prof. Dr. Ir.), Paris
- h**†F. Taboury (Prof. Dr.), Poitiers
- h**†G. Valensi (Prof. Dr. Ir.), Poitiers

Finland

- h**E. Tommila (Prof. Dr.), Helsinki

Germany

- E**†H. Fischer (Prof. Dr.), Ettlingen
- m**†E. Lange (Prof. Dr.), Erlangen
- F**G. Untermann (Dr.), Frankfurt/Main

Great Britain

- u**†J. O'M. Bockris (Dr.), London
- *†B. E. Conway (Dr.), London
- ψ**†T. P. Hoar (Dr.), Cambridge
- †M. Thirsk (Dr.), Newcastle upon Tyne
- lz**W. F. K. Wynne-Jones (Prof.), Newcastle upon Tyne

Holland

- p**†F. Gutmann (Prof. Dr.), Utrecht
- w**W. Kooistra (Dr.), The Hague
- I**K. W. Leu (Dr. Ir.), Amsterdam
- J**†R. Olivier (Dr.), Geleen
- *D. W. Van Gelder (Dr.), Massniel

India

- y**M. Jogarao (Dr.), Karaikudi

Italy

- *†J. Maraghini (Dr.), Rome

Spain

- *†S. Feliu (Dr.), Madrid
- s**†J. Llopis (Dr.), Madrid
- *†M. Serra (Dr.), Madrid

Sweden

- q**E. Blomgren (Prof. Dr.), Uppsala
- K**B. Forsen (Ir.), Uppsala
- v**†E. Mattsson (Dr.), Stockholm
- v**A. U. Trägårdh (Prof. Dr.), Stockholm

Switzerland

- r**K. Huber (Prof. Dr.), Berne

United States of America

- D*†M. J. Allen (Dr.), Summit, New Jersey
- i**†P. Delahay (Dr.), Baton Rouge, Louisiana
- k**S. Swann (Prof. Dr.), Urbana, Illinois
- j**†P. Van Rysselberghe (Prof.), Eugene, Oregon