I. Coblentz Award for 1970

The Coblentz Award is now well-established as recognition for outstanding contributions to the field of molecular spectroscopy applied to the elucidation of chemical problems. In order to continue this fine tradition of recognizing outstanding young (under 36) scientists, the Coblentz Society needs your help. Specifically, your suggestions are needed for possible candidates for the award. Nominations should be sent to Dr. R. W. Hannah, Secretary; The Coblentz Society, c/o The Perkin-Elmer Corporation, 761 Main Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut 06851. The committee will do the work; your letter of nomination is needed to insure that the best candidates are considered. Please send their names to Dr. Hannah before October 6.

II. Nominations to the Board of Management

Two new members are to be elected to the Board of Management in 1970, replacing R. E. Kagarise and S. Krimm, whose terms expire. The nominating committee (Walter Edgell, John Overend, and Jack Mortimer) needs suggestions from the membership for possible candidates. Names should be sent before October 13 to Dr. Walter F. Edgell, Department of Chemistry, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47906; or to Dr. R. W. Hannah, Coblentz Society Secretary. Continuing board members are Charles Angell (1971), E. D. Becker (1972), Jeanette Grasselli (1971), and J. R. Scherer (1972).

III. Discussion Meeting on Reference Spectra

Infrared spectroscopists attending the Pacific Conference on Chemistry and Spectroscopy are cordially invited to attend a discussion meeting to be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, October 8. This symposium is designed to promote exchange of information about current activities in the field of evaluated infrared reference spectra. Discussion leaders will be L. H. Gevantman, Office of Standard Reference Data; Clara D. Smith, Coblentz Society Spectrum Editor; R. M. Sherwood, ASTM; and A. Lee Smith, Chairman, Joint Committee on Atomic and Molecular Physical Data.

IV. Advanced Techniques Clinic

Plans are moving ahead for the first Coblentz Society Advanced Techniques Clinic to be held on Friday, March 6, 1970 in conjunction with the Pittsburgh-Cleveland Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for the spectroscopist to learn to recognize and generate Class II IR spectra by actually working with both spectra and spectrometers. A nominal fee will be charged, and enrollment will be limited to 24 students who are already familiar with the operation of high quality grating spectrometers. Further information is given on the attached flyer.
V. Spectral Quality Categories (by Tomas Hirschfield)

Class I. Absolute physical constant
Class II. Research quality analytical spectra
Class III. Approved analytical data
Class IV. Handle with care
Class V. I hope the journal reviewer doesn't catch it.
Class VI. Perhaps I should have cleaned the cell first.
Class VII. Spectrograde solvents are too expensive.
Class VIII. This proves the compound is an organic chemical.
Class IX. It seems to absorb infrared.
Class X. Job opening available immediately for spectroscopist

VI. Set 6 of Coblentz Society Spectra Available

The world's first volume of 1000 evaluated (by Coblentz Society criteria) infrared reference spectra is now available as part of the Coblentz Spectra series. It may be ordered through Sadtler Research Laboratories, 3316 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104 for $265, including loose-leaf binders. The microfilm edition may be obtained from Mrs. Clara D. Smith, Box 152, R.D. 2, Cranbury, New Jersey 08512. Both Class II and Class III spectra are included in the volume, as well as a limited number (<10%) of useful spectra which fail to meet specifications for one or more technical reasons.

Work on Set 7 is currently underway.

VII. Raman Newsletter

The techniques of Raman spectroscopy have been revolutionized by the advent of the cw laser. The rapid pace of developments in this field made it desirable to provide an informal and rapid medium of communication among Raman spectroscopists. Accordingly, RAMAN NEWSLETTER was started in November 1968 and is issued monthly--founding editors, E. R. Lippincott, Maryland and E. D. Becker NIH.

Virtually no editorial functions are performed; the purpose is to disseminate rapidly whatever correspondents believe to be of immediate interest to their colleagues. (Letters received by the first of the month are in the readers' hands before the month is out.) Suitable contributions include: unusual experimental techniques; complete or partial mysteries; really interesting spectra; requests for help in locating materials, compounds, or people (the latter only if included with other matter); brief discussions of theoretical or experimental work; previews of work to be published later. RAMAN NEWSLETTER announces meetings and courses, lists new books, instruments, etc., and includes a bibliography of Raman papers (compiled by R. O. Kagel Dow and a team of volunteer scanners) that will serve as a basis for a yearly classified bibliography. Reference to RAMAN NEWSLETTER by name in the scientific literature is not permitted.
RAMAN NEWSLETTER is not backed by any professional society, so it was necessary to obtain financial backing for this project from the organizations intimately involved in the field. We are particularly grateful to our founder sponsors—Cary Instruments, Jarrell-Ash, National Bureau of Standards, Perkin-Elmer, and Dunn Associates (Block Engineering)—for making the first few issues possible. To keep going we need money, i.e., more sponsors (there is no charge to the reader).

All those who have been receiving RAMAN NEWSLETTER are reminded of the terms of subscription: TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE IT A READER MUST OCCASIONALLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONTENTS; and "occasionally" means AT LEAST ONCE EVERY EIGHT MONTHS. If you do not send a written contribution your name is taken off the mailing list. (It is reinstated immediately if you send us a short communication for publication, and then your subscription will be considered paid up for another eight months.)

Address your written contributions to P. R. Wakeling, Coordinating Editor, RAMAN NEWSLETTER, 1613 Nineteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

VIII. What's Wrong with This Spectrum?

A. Problem from Mailing No. 42

No one submitted the correct answer, which is: gain set too low. One tip-off is the lack of noise or pen jitter. A small amount of visible noise (<1/2%) is desirable—its presence does not necessarily indicate servo fidelity, but its lack makes one suspicious that the servo system is overdamped or underpowered. Also, note the abnormalities between bands at 1190, 1140, and 1050 cm\(^{-1}\), and the distorted bands at 1260, 1174, and 1030 cm\(^{-1}\). The pen excursion at 890 cm\(^{-1}\) is caused by failure to adjust the I\(_0\) (100% line) properly.

B. This month's problem:

The spectrum of toluene shown on p. 4 was run as a compensated CS\(_2\) solution, approximately 10% in a 0.1-mm. cell. This problem is tricky, so look sharp! Hint: more than one thing may be wrong. If you come up with the answer, drop a note to the Editor: A. Lee Smith, Dow Corning Corporation, Midland, Michigan 48640.
THE COBLENTZ SOCIETY

announces an
ADVANCED INFRARED TECHNIQUES CLINIC
Cleveland, Ohio
Friday, March 6, 1970
in conjunction with the
Pittsburgh Conference

PURPOSE: To provide a workshop experience in which the advanced spectroscopist can optimize his techniques for obtaining high quality (Class II) infrared spectra.

PARTICIPANTS: Those participating in the clinic will be spectroscopists familiar with the operation of high quality grating spectrometers (Beckman IR-9, IR-12; Perkin-Elmer 521, 621, etc.). Prior registration and acceptance will be required. A maximum of 24 participants can be accommodated.

GOALS: After the clinic, the participant should be able to
(1) recognize and diagnose substandard spectrometer performance
(2) produce spectra of Class II quality in his own laboratory.

COST: Fifty dollars ($50) per student, payable before Feb. 1, 1970.

FORMAT: Lecture, laboratory, and supervised interpretation sessions.

MATERIALS: Course materials, including reprints, sample spectra, and Class II specifications, will be furnished. A Perkin-Elmer 521 and a Beckman IR-9 will be available for use.

FACULTY: Dr. R. N. Jones, National Research Council of Canada
Dr. R. W. Hannah, Perkin-Elmer Corporation
Dr. W. J. Potts, The Dow Chemical
Dr. A. L. Smith, Dow Corning Corporation
Dr. K. E. Stine, Beckman Instruments

APPLICATION

I would like to attend the clinic on advanced infrared techniques.

Name

Firm

Address

Type(s) of spectrometer used

This application is ☐ tentative ☐ firm.

Mail to: Dr. R. W. Hannah, Secretary; The Coblentz Society, Inc.
% The Perkin-Elmer Corporation, 761 Main Avenue
Norwalk, Connecticut 06852.