Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. The notes (in duplicate) should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the International Union of Crystallography (J. N. King, International Union of Crystallography, 13 White Friars, Chester CH1 1NZ, England).

Professor A.V.Shubnikov 1887–1970

Professor Alexey Vasilyevich Shubnikov died on 27 April, 1970. Professor Shubnikov was Head of the Laboratory at the Institute of Crystallography, Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. He was best known internationally as the first editor of *Kristallographica*, by his participation in the founding of the International Union of Crystallography and by his discussion of the rôle of antisymmetry elements in structure theory ('Shubnikov Groups').

A full obituary will be published in *Journal of Applied Crystallography* in due course.

International Union of Crystallography Commission on Electron Diffraction

In accordance with a decision of the Commission on Electron Diffraction a directory of persons working in the field of low-energy electron diffraction (LEED) is to be established. Please write to: Pr. S. Goldsztaub, Laboratoire de Minéralogie, 1, rue Blessig, 67 Strasbourg, France.

ICSU Abstracting Board: Publications

The 1969 issues of two annual publications detailing the activities of those Scientific Unions (including the International Union of Crystallography) which are members of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and the activities of the Committees and Commissions of ICSU have been published recently by the ICSU Abstracting Board and may be purchased from the ICSU AB Secretariat, 17 rue Mirabeau, Paris 16e, France. The title of one publication, Tentative List of Publications of ICSU Scientific Unions, Special and Scientific Committees and Commissions of ICSU, Year 1969, and Corrections and Additions to the 1968 List, is self-explanatory. The other publication, Unions, Special and Scientific Committees and Commissions of ICSU in the Field of Scientific Information during the Year 1969, presents information under the following headings: Name of union, commission, committee, or working group; President/Chairman (name and address); Secretary (name and address); Members (names and countries); Date of creation; Periodicity of meetings; and Publication of minutes of meetings. A general description is given of the activities and a listing of 1969 publications. Particular attention is given to those bodies dealing with the following topics: notations, symbols, units, nomenclature, terminology, standards, bibliographies, abstracts, review articles, classification, and publication of data.

The purpose of the ICSU AB surveys is to make the activities of the Scientific Unions and ICSU bodies in the field of scientific information more widely known in the scientific community, and to strengthen co-operation between those bodies working in similar fields.

International Clay Conference Madrid, Spain, 25–30 June 1972

This meeting is being organized by the Spanish Clay Society, under the auspices of Association Internationale pour l'Etude des Argiles and in cooperation with the University of Madrid, the National Research Council of Spain and the Spanish Institute of Geology and Mining. The scientific meetings will be held 25–30 June 1972 and field trips will be arranged for approximately five days, beginning on 1 July 1972. The programme will include sessions on crystal chemistry of clay minerals (including structures); genesis and synthesis of clay minerals; colloidal properties, surface chemistry and other technical properties and applications of clays and clay minerals. Further information and preliminary registration forms may be obtained from:

> The Organizing Committee 1972 International Clay Conference c/o Departmento de Cristalografía y Mineralogía Facultad de Ciencias Sección de Geología Ciudad Universitaria Madrid-3 Spain

International Union of Crystallography Ninth General Assembly and International Congress of Crystallography

Preliminary Announcement

The Ninth General Assembly and International Congress of Crystallography of the International Union of Crystallography will be held in Japan in 1972. The date and place are provisionally planned as follows: The General Assembly and Congress, lasting about 10 days, will be held within the period from 27 August to 8 September, 1972, at the Kyoto International Conference Hall, Kyoto, Japan.

The first formal announcement will appear in *Acta Crystallographica* at the end of 1970 or early in 1971 and will give the address from which the First Circular can be obtained. This First Circular will be available about September 1971 and copies will be sent to all National Committees for Crystallography.