

Inorganic Chemistry in the University of Leiden. Many of the results of his work on colloids are only now being appreciated by chemists and mineralogists. He also discussed the accumulation of iron and the origin of chalybite and vivianite in peat-bogs; and quite recently, at the age of eighty, he gave (*Zeits. Anorg. Chem.*, 1910, vol. lxvi, pp. 322-357) a detailed account of the various modes of weathering of silicate-rocks. (See H. E. Boeke, *Centralblatt Min.*, 1911, pp. 225-226.)

JACOBUS HENRICUS VAN 'T HOFF (1852-1911).

The celebrated Dutch chemist, J. H. van 't Hoff, was in 1878 appointed Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy, and Geology in the University of Amsterdam, a post held by him until his call to Berlin in 1896, as director of a research laboratory under the Prussian Academy of Sciences and as Honorary Professor of Physical Chemistry in the University. It was since he went to Berlin that he applied himself and directed his pupils in the systematic study of the formation of oceanic salt-deposits, with special reference to those of the Stassfurt area. The important results of this work were given in a series of fifty-two papers between the years 1897 and 1908, and a collected account has been published under the title '*Zur Bildung der ozeanischen Salzablagerungen*' (2 parts, 1905 and 1909). The problem dealt with the equilibrium between different salts present in solution, and the determination of the limits of stability of the various double salts. A large number of minerals were so prepared artificially, and a new species (vanthoffite) discovered, but unfortunately the accounts of the experiments were unaccompanied by crystallographic descriptions of the materials obtained.

HENRY WURTZ (1828-1910).

Dr. Henry Wurtz was a contemporary of W. P. Blake (see above, p. 157) at the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, where in 1851 he was teacher of chemistry. The mineral wurtzilite was named after him by Blake. In 1853 he was chemist and mineralogist on the New Jersey Geological Survey, and in 1858 Professor of Chemistry in the National Medical College at Washington. The minerals animikite, grahamite, huntlite, and melanolite were described by him.

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