Powder Diffraction International Report

A word from the editor . . .

One of the interesting things about this part of Powder Diffraction is hearing from diffractionists around the world. As many of you know, communicating with those whose native language is different from your own can be quite difficult sometimes. As editor, I deal far more with written material, so I don't have to sort out differences in accents. The problems with written work generally arise from the use of words which have similar meanings but different connotations, different word orders in sentences, etc. That was not the case with one of the items submitted by our correspondent from Czechoslovakia for this issue.

The review of the Russian book on Accuracy Aspects in Powder Diffraction sent me to the dictionary. While I had no difficulty understanding what Dr. Fiala meant when he referred to the Proceedings of a symposium on Accuracy in Powder Diffraction as "the very bible" (authoritative book) "for powder diffractionists," his statement that "Lisoivan and Gromilov's monograph might be their breviary" was a mystery. When I looked up the meaning of "breviary," I found that it is an ecclesiastical book containing the daily prayers for the canonical hours, or a brief account or summary. Now I understood that this Russian book is regarded as a concise, authoritative "how-to-do-it" for powder diffraction.

Thank you, Dr. Fiala. You have increased our vocabulary.

Helein D. Hitchcock, Editor

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General Announcements

J. D. Hanawalt Powder Diffraction Award Announced

The JCPDS-International Centre for Diffraction Data is seeking candidates for the J. D. Hanawalt Powder Diffraction Award. The award is presented every three years for an important, recent contribution to the field of powder diffraction. The award consists of a certificate and \$1,000. The awardee is expected to submit an abstract and present a paper on the work being recognized at a forthcoming Powder Diffraction/Crystallographic Meeting. Recipient's travel expenses to the meeting will be provided. Work eligible for consideration must have been published between August 1984 and August 1989. The selection committee welcomes suggestions, nominations, and documentation of accomplishments for possible recipients through 10 January 1990. Contact: Benjamin Post, 108 Church Street, W. Roxbury, MA 02132, U.S.A.