NOTES

[This Editorial which appeared in the Special Issue of "EPISODES" devoted to the Geology of China (Vol.18, Nos.1&2, March and June 1995, p.2), is reproduced below with the kind permission of Prof. W.S. Fyfe, President, International Union of Geological Sciences].

BEIJING 1996

Earth scientists from around the world are now preparing for the 30th International Geological Congress, to be held in Beijing, China, 4-14 August, 1996. The conference is also under the sponsorship of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), and is co-hosted by the Geological Society of China, and the Chinese Ministries of Geology and Mineral Resources.

This special issue of *Episodes* is devoted entirely to the geology of China and is being distributed to all participants in the Congress as well as to be the regular *Episodes* subscribers. The 21 articles cover all aspects of the geology of a country with a rich, varied and complex geological history and a considerable mineral resources endowment. Written by leading Chinese Geoscientists, the articles reflect the extraordinary geological diversity, and the issue as a whole will provide a valuable introduction and overview not only for Congress participants but for all who are new to the geology of China.

Turning to the Congress itself, while the programme will cover most aspects of modern earth science, special symposia will be concerned with:

- The origin and history of the Earth
- Geoscience and human survival, environment and natural hazards
- Global change and the future environment
- Structure of the lithosphere and contemporary lithosphere motions
- Global tectonic zones-orogenic belts
- Basin analysis
- Energy and mineral resource for the 21st century
- New technology for geoscience
- International geoscience projects

An extensive programme of field trips which cover most of the nation is planned, both pre- and post-congress. Many local tours are also available for accompanying members. Altogether, it will be a unique opportunity to learn a little about this vast and rapidly developing nation. We congratulate all those who have been concerned with organising the Congress. We are living at a critical time for the earth sciences. As human population continues to expand, and moves to over ten billion in the next century, there will be vast new stresses placed on our planetary support systems. How do we produce the needed mineral resources of all types, the energy resources, and conserve the soil and water needed for reliable food production? How do we deal with the vast range of waste products, particularly in a world dominated by urban development, and how do we avoid social-economic catastrophes from natural hazards on this planet?

I am very pleased to see that attention is being drawn to the problems of new technologies. We can imporve the way we extract materials from the earth, and we can improve the ways we deal with waste products, from plutonium to carbon dioxide. We cannot continue to degrade our environment, our atmosphere and water resources. I am sure that many new ideas will be produced by those present at Beijing.

Never before in human history has the wise use of the Earth been so needed at the centre of the planning process. We must learn to communicate with all sectors of society and, particularly, with the economists and engineers. This Congress must play a major role in moving us towards truly intelligent development of the resources needed for the future generations.

The scale of changes that have occurred since 1900, and that will continue at least to 2100, have never before been faced by society, and we all must be involved in the new opportunities and challenges. Earth scientists from all nations deeply appreciate the efforts of our Chinese hosts in making this opportunity for cooperation in the geosciences possible. We must prepare now for the next century, a century with respect for this planet.

W S FYFE
President, IUGS

[We have pleasure in reproducing below the "Code of Ethics in Scientific Work" from the "Canadian Mineralogist" (vol.33, part 2, April 1995, Inner Cover), with the kind permission of Professor Robert F. Martin, Editor, for the benefit of our readers.]

VERITAS VOS LIBERABIT: CODE OF ETHICS IN SCIENTIFIC WORK

JOSEPH D.H. DONNAY*

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1. Observe conscientiously. Record faithfully. Reason coldly. Infer prudently. State your conclusions courageously.
2. When the investigation is finished, be brave and write it up. Do not "rush into print", but know when the job is done.
3. Write clearly, with the determination of making yourself understood, not in the hope of impressing people! Look for elegance in simplicity: shun verbiage and pomposity.
4. Be honest in every statement you make. Avoid double talk!
5. Do not bluff your way out of difficulties. Keep your scientific integrity at all times.
6. Do not stop reworking your manuscript until you are sure you can no longer improve it. Watch details too: anything worth doing is worth doing well. Above all: do not expect the referee to clear up your mess for you!
7. Give credit where credit is due. Aknowledge *all* help you received. Give thanks with dignity. The important point is to say what the person did do for you. (A perfect example: "Miss Ann Pletinger took all the X-ray photographs." Bad form would be: "I am immensely grateful to the gracious and distinguished Miss So-and-so for the invaluable help she gave me in the course of this investigation.")
8. Do not hesitate to ask your professional friends for criticism and advice, as you yourself should be willing to help them at any time. Scientific research is a beautiful co-operative adventure, not a cut-throat business. Professions in which people help one another rate high in the community, in the Nation, and in the world.
9. If you sign a joint paper, you must check the whole paper (repeat every calculation, etc.). If you are not willing or able to go through this checking, then you should refuse coauthorship, and you should sign only that section of the paper for which you are willing to be responsible.