

*Citation:*

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known, or at least until we know how long the increase, which began a few years ago, will last.

The accompanying diagram shows for the years 1847 to 1912 the excess of the observed longitude of the moon over NEWCOMB'S great fluctuation, i. e. the number contained in the fourth column of Table VII. Ross's curve is also given, (including the constant term  $-0''.18$ ). The broken line is the smooth curve mentioned in Part I from which the values given in Table III were read off. The diagram also contains the purely periodic part  $\lambda$ , and  $\lambda'$ , of the perturbation in longitude produced by the absorption of gravitation on the two hypotheses regarding the distribution of density within the earth.

**Chemistry.** — "*The equilibrium Tetragonal Tin  $\rightleftharpoons$  Rhombic Tin.*"

By Prof. ERNST COHEN. (Communicated by Prof. VAN ROMBURGH).

(Communicated in the meeting of November 30, 1912).

It has struck me, and from several quarters my attention has been called to it, that in a communication from Messrs SMITS and DE LEEUW <sup>1)</sup> "On the system Tin" there occur a number of mistakes which require rectification.

1. The relation between the existence of a transitionpoint tetragonal tin  $\rightleftharpoons$  rhombic tin at  $200^\circ$  and the method of preparation of the so-called *corn-tin* or *grain-tin* has been first pointed out in the paper which I have published in 1904 with Dr. E. GOLDSCHMIDT <sup>2)</sup>. From the communication of Messrs SMITS and DE LEEUW the reader might conclude that they (or SCHAUM) have first noticed this connection.

2. In the paper which I published in 1904 with Dr. E. GOLDSCHMIDT, a conclusion was drawn, from the experiments of WERIGIN, LEWKOJEFF, and TAMMANN <sup>3)</sup> as to the situation of the said transition point, which proved to be erroneous. Dr. DEGENS has pointed this out <sup>4)</sup> and as in my opinion he was quite right. I have hastened to rectify my error in the section of ABEGG'S Handbuch der anorganischen Chemie [Vol. 3, (2) 532 (1909), special p. 552] edited by myself. Evidently, the recent literature on this subject has not been known to Messrs SMITS and DE LEEUW, for they still base their communication on my paper that appeared five years previously.

<sup>1)</sup> These Proc. XV, p. 676.

<sup>2)</sup> Chem. Weekblad 1, 437 (1904), special p. 446. Zeitschr. f. physikal. Chem. 50, 225 (1904), special p. 234.

<sup>3)</sup> Drud Ann. 10, 647 (1903).

<sup>4)</sup> Dissertation, Delft 1908, p. 33.

3. Messrs SMITS and DE LEEUW write:<sup>1)</sup> "Why in reference to these experiments COHEN and GOLDSCHMIDT give  $195^{\circ}$  for the point of transition in the "*Chemisch Weekblad*", and  $170^{\circ}$  in the "*Zeitschrift für physikal. Chemie*" is quite unaccountable." The difficulty disappears immediately when one refers to the said paper<sup>2)</sup>; it then appears that the following sentence has escaped Messrs SMITS and DE LEEUW's notice. "Wir setzen hier vorläufig  $170^{\circ}$ , doch beabsichtigen wir auf die genaue Bestimmung dieser Temperatur noch später zurückzukommen. In der Figur steht irrtümlich  $195^{\circ}$ ."<sup>3)</sup>

I will refer again to the transition: tetragonal tin  $\rightleftharpoons$  rhombic tin as soon as the investigations announced in my above paper shall be concluded.

Utrecht, November 1912.

VAN 'T HOFF-Laboratory.

**Physiology.** — "*On localised atrophy in the lateral geniculate body causing quadrant hemianopsia of both the right lower fields of vision*". By Prof. C. WINKLER.

(Communicated in the meeting of November 30, 1912).

In 1904 BEEVOR and COLLIER<sup>4)</sup> observed blindness in the upper quadrants of both the left fields of vision by an invalid, who after death proved to be the bearer of a focus in the right hemisphere, through which the surroundings of the calcarine fissure, from the occipital pole to the confluence with the parieto-occipital fissure were destroyed.

This observation is one of the few, in which quadrant-hemianopsia responded to a focus, which chiefly destroyed the cortex, although the optic radiation, as shown in the drawings of BEEVOR and COLLIER, here too was not spared in the least, on the contrary it was destroyed to an important extent (especially the medio-ventral part).

BEEVOR and COLLIER pointed out, that already at that time in the literature there was sufficient ground to suggest, that foci in the dorso-lateral division of the strata sagittalia of the occipital lobe can cause blindness in the lower quadrants of the crossed optic fields. On the other hand foci in the ventro-medial division of these strata

<sup>1)</sup> These Proc. XV, p. 677.

<sup>2)</sup> Chem. Weekblad 1, 437 (1904), special p. 449.

<sup>3)</sup> Zeitschr. für physikal. Chemie 50, 225 (1904), special p. 236, note 2.

<sup>4)</sup> G. E. BEEVOR AND JAMES COLLIER. A contribution to the study of the cortical localisation. A case of quadrant hemianopsia with pathological examination. Brain. 1904. XXVI p. 153.