

CHEMISTRY

Chairman: ED. F. DEGERING, Purdue University

Dr. Alvin Strickler, Evansville College, was elected chairman of the section for 1947.

ABSTRACTS

Sidelights on research. F. J. ALLEN, Purdue University.—The intent of this paper was to set forth some of the personal items met with in research which seldom get into the actual research report and which might be hinted at under such captions as: discouraging remarks by colleagues, encouragement from industry, interesting people encountered, experiments which failed, etc. The paper was based on the author's research on Krypton and Xenon.

Stabilization of the color of turquoise. FRANK B. WADE, Shortridge High School.—Making use of the fact that the cuprammonia complex ion $\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_2$, adsorbs strongly to silica gel, the porous types of turquoise which tend to fade or turn green may be treated with sodium silicate (water glass) for a greater or lesser period depending on the degree of porosity. The stones may then be treated with hydrochloric acid to precipitate silica gel within the pores of the stone and finally soaked in a concentrated solution of cuprammonia sulphate which causes the gel to adsorb the complex ion and give the stone a color which closely resembles the choicer colors in fine turquoise.

The rough material should be cut to the finished shape, "sanded", ready for the polishing operation, then treated as above and finally dried and polished. The product will wear fairly well for a year or more.