

Foreword

Since the time when the Second Symposium on Yamato Meteorites was held in 1977 at the National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR), Tokyo, the NIPR symposium on Antarctic meteorites has been annually held and the Proceeding of each symposium has been published as a Special Issue of Memoirs of National Institute of Polar Research. This volume is the Proceedings of the Eighth Symposium on Antarctic Meteorites which was held on February 17 through 19, 1983 at NIPR. Thirty-five scientific papers compiled in this volume cover various subjects related to Antarctic meteorites, such as field works for Antarctic meteorite search, petrological, mineralogical, chemical, physical and metallographical studies of Antarctic meteorites and planetological discussions based on the results of meteoritic research.

Some of the papers describe new significant results of meteorite studies and propose new ideas for interpretation of meteoritic data, while some others simply deal with the results of preliminary analyses of new meteorites. In principle, the editorial committee for this proceedings volume intended to accept submitted scientific papers provided that some new knowledge is included and no clear mistake nor misunderstanding is pointed out in them. Since the researches on Antarctic meteorites which have extreme variety started only about 10 years ago and tremendous effort to collect new Antarctic meteorites is still going on in both Japan and the United States, the editorial principle to collectively compile, from time to time, all available scientific results of new meteorites would be reasonably agreed upon at the present stage, at least for the time being.

A noticeable point to be remarked with regard to the NIPR symposia on Antarctic meteorites and their Proceedings would be that quality and number of overseas contributions are considerably increasing with time. This volume contains 8 papers contributed by overseas scientists. It is sincerely hoped that this volume also could be another milestone in the course of progress in meteorite research and science of the solar system evolution.

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