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Researches on Phosphate Rock

Fathi Habashi

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Researches on phosphate rock was started by the author in September 1956 at the Technische Hochschule in Vienna immediately after the Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy that was held in Geneva in September 1955. At this conference it became known for the first time that uranium was recovered from Florida phosphate in USA. Interest in this topic was renewed when the author was invited by the Institut Mondial du Phosphate in Paris to take part at the 2nd International Congress on Phosphorus Compounds that was held in Boston, Massachusetts in April 1980. The author then at Laval University in Quebec City engaged graduate students to work on the different aspects of this problem. The main emphasis was on the use of nitric acid to avoid the formation of radioactive gypsum, the recovery of uranium and rare earths, and the application of hydrometallurgical methods to phosphate rock. The present book summarises this research.

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