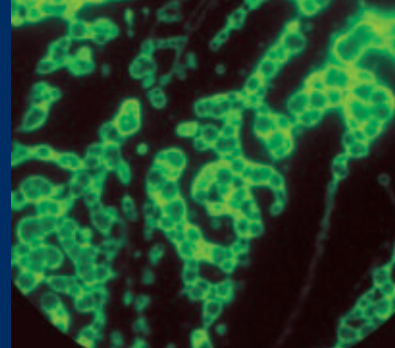


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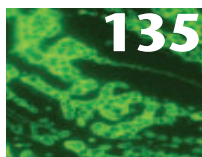
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135

Genesis: Rocks, Minerals, and the Geochemical Origin of Life

Robert M. Hazen Guest Editor



139

Geochemical Connections to Primitive Metabolism

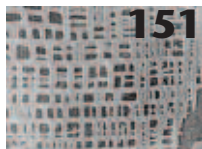
George D. Cody



145

Mineral Catalysis and Prebiotic Synthesis: Montmorillonite-Catalyzed Formation of RNA

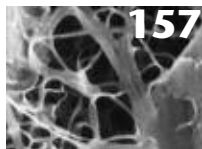
James P. Ferris



151

Geochemical Influences on Life's Origins and Evolution

Joseph V. Smith



157

Sketches for a Mineral Genetic Material

A. Graham Cairns-Smith

ABOUT THE COVER:
A key step in life's origin must have been the self-assembly of membrane-forming molecules into cell-shaped hollow spheres, called vesicles. These green-fluorescing vesicles, which range from 10 to 50 microns in diameter, form spontaneously in water. Recent studies show that fine-grained clay particles enhance the formation of these structures.

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ROBERT HAZEN

Departments

Editorial	131
Letters to the Editors	132
Triple Point	133
Meet the Authors	138
People in the News	162
Reviews	163
Society News	164
Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland	164
International Association of GeoChemistry	166
Mineralogical Association of Canada	168
Mineralogical Society of America	170
The Clay Minerals Society	172
Geochemical Society	174
European Association for Geochemistry	176
International News	178
Conference Reports	179
Mineral Matters	180
Calendar	181
Advertisers in this Issue	182
Voilà	183
Parting shot	184