

Introductory Remarks

Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg

I think we might get started. Welcome to the Symposium honoring the 25th Anniversary of the discovery of mendelevium. I think you are going to find it to be an interesting occasion. I might say to the speakers that we are going to record what you say and later issue, as we have on the occasion of the other 25th anniversaries, a kind of commemorative report. However, perhaps you should regard this as just a sort of hint that we would rather have a manuscript later to cover your remarks put together in a more considered fashion.

I think it is appropriate to observe an occasion like the 25th Anniversary of the discovery of a chemical element. I certainly think from a standpoint of history this is worth doing, but also, as has been the case for the other 25th Anniversaries, it has resulted in a rather useful summarization of the information on the element as of the dates of the symposia. Mendelevium, I believe, is an interesting element as you will learn from what you are going to hear today.

We have more information concerning the discoverers in this case; more on the record than we have had with any of the other elements. And I think you are going to be a little surprised in a few moments as to what we have available to show you. It is very pleasant to have this reunion of the discoverers and their friends. A sad note, of course, is that Stan Thompson is not here. We certainly miss him and he was one of the key contributors to the discovery of this element. As you know, as I have stated on a number of occasions, Stan