

# GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Brauner, Bohuslav

1855 - 1935

DEGREE: PhD

DATE: 1880

PLACE: Prague

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Linnemann

first to propose that the rare earth elements constitute a separate "inner" transition series; carried out careful studies of the atomic weights of the rare earths; discovered  $\text{CeF}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ , the first salt of Ce(IV); established that beryllium is divalent and not trivalent as previously thought; established correct atomic weights for Te, La, Pr, Nd, Sm, Sn, and Th; champion of O=16 atomic weight standard; first to obtain free fluorine by purely chemical means (from  $\text{CeF}_4$  or  $\text{PbF}_4$ ), ten years before Moissan's isolation of  $\text{F}_2$ ; devised method for the large scale production of argon.

FOOTNOTE: After beginning research with Linnemann on organic chemistry in Prague, but before obtaining his PhD degree, Brauner went to Heidelberg and worked in Bunsen's laboratories in 1878-79 to learn inorganic chemistry. Brauner's life-long studies of the rare earths began in Heidelberg.

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5. *Coll. Czech. Chem. Comm.* **1935**, 7, 51-56.
6. *Mem. Lect. Chem. Soc.* **1933-1942**, 4, 55-69.
7. Druce, G. *Two Czech Chemists*; New Europe Publ. Co. Ltd.: 1944.