

BOOK REVIEW

PRAKTIKUM DER EDELSTEINKUNDE. EINE EINFÜHRUNG IN DAS WISSEN VON DEN EDELSTEINEN. GEORG O. WILD, Franckh'sche Verlagshandlung, Stuttgart, Germany. 133 pp. +4 pp. 44 text figures, 6 half tone plates, 4 colored plates. Price, in paper 6 RM.; linen bound 8.60 RM.

The author of this little book is not only Director of the Institut für Edelsteinforschung at Idar a. d. N., but is also one of the prominent lapidists and dealers of this famous gem center. He is, therefore, unusually well fitted to write a book on gems for the jeweler, and the result is a concise, readable, and yet authoritative treatise on this subject.

Forty pages are devoted to a concise presentation of crystallography, crystal-structure and crystal-physics, clearly and logically developed, so that a beginning student should have no difficulty in readily following the text. The diagrams accompanying this section, while unfortunately rather small in some instances, are well presented and supplement the text well.

The larger portion of the book is devoted to the description of 34 gem minerals and their varieties. These descriptions are necessarily brief but include items generally available only to Idar gem dealers.

A feature of the book is the four colored plates of rough and cut gem minerals, in which the reproductions are extraordinarily well done.

Although this book is intended primarily for jewelers and gem-lovers, the mineralogist and professional gemmologist will find not only much of interest, but also a somewhat new style of presentation.

W. F. FOSHAG, *U. S. National Museum*

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB

American Museum of Natural History, New York City, Dec. 16, 1936

With President B. T. Butler presiding, the meeting was called to order with 54 members and guests present. The success of the Election Day field trip to the Paterson quarries was reported and plans made for more extensive trips in the Spring.

The speaker of the evening was E. P. Henderson, of the U. S. National Museum, who addressed the club upon his experiences last summer collecting epidote in Alaska. He was accompanied by A. Montgomery and E. Over.

Two localities on Prince of Wales Island were worked, Copper Mountain and Green Monster Mountain. The occurrence of the epidote at both localities is similar, where it is in seams and pockets in an andradite contact rock, formed where Mesozoic limestone has been intruded by granodiorite. The seams of epidote appear to be later than the garnet, and the ore minerals, molybdenite and chalcopyrite, are still later. The crystals from this locality are marked by a domal-prismatic habit and are frequently twinned. Trenching nearby revealed a pocket of crystals of a slightly different habit, quite large and unetched, doubly terminated and mostly untwinned. The Copper Mountain Mine has been practically exhausted and only the old "glory hole" and a few tunnels remain. Some of the epidote from the mine shows interesting light brown terminations at the ends of the deep green crystals. Some zeolites and very few other minerals were found.

Across the Island and about four miles from Copper Mountain, is the Green Monster Mountain, a locality reached with some difficulty. It has been prospected for copper, but never worked. The mountain is about 2900 to 3000 feet high and heavily covered with

brush. Trenching was necessary to discover the contact zone between the granodiorite and the limestone. The contact rock was then explored and epidote seams were followed until they widened out into crystal lined druses. Epidote of a different, more tabular habit was collected here. Adularia, calcite and quartz were also found in minor quantities. Quartz is surprisingly rare, but a number of small Japanese twins were collected. Much of the quartz contained inclusions of thin green hairs. Uralite and limonite after pyrite pseudomorphs were collected at this locality. The talk was well-illustrated with lantern slides prepared from Mr. Montgomery's photographs.

At the close of the talk, Mr. James F. Morton of the Paterson Museum announced the discovery of yellow to greenish films of greenockite on gray dolomite from the dump of the old Buckwheat Mine, at Franklin, N. J. The dump is now being removed to fill in stopes, and much old material is being uncovered.

Mr. L. N. Yedlin reported on a trip to the vicinity of Spruce Pine and showed fine specimens of blue hyalite and samarskite from the Glen Mine; torbernite from the dump of the Pine Mountain Mine, and good thulite in crystals and crystalline masses from the Putnam Mine.

FREDERICK H. POUGH
Secretary

While this issue was in press, the sad news was received of the sudden death of Dr. Alexander H. Phillips, former Chairman of the Department of Geology, Princeton University, on Jan. 20, 1937, at the age of 70 years. He was a member of the Princeton faculty for 47 years.

Professor Phillips was one of the Charter Fellows and served The Mineralogical Society of America in various capacities: as a member of the Council 1920-1924; as Treasurer 1924-1929; and as President in 1931.

A memorial will be published at a later date.