

A large pallasite was found in 1937 near Huckitta station, 135 miles N.E. of Alice Springs. The mass of 1415 kg. (3112 lb.) and 927 kg. of weathered iron-shale have been transported to Adelaide. Slices, one nearly four feet long, show fragments of olivine embedded in a ground of granular kamacite, with some plessite areas and little troilite and schreibersite. Olivine, with $MgO:FeO=6.8$, forms 58% by volume (40.1% by weight), and the metal has a ratio $Fe:Ni=9.95$. The Alice Springs pallasite, described in 1932, is no doubt a transported fragment of this mass.

(7) *Sapphirine crystals from Blinkwater, Transvaal*. By PROFESSOR E. D. MOUNTAIN.

Crystals up to 2 inches across are tabular parallel to the clinopinacoid and show a characteristic habit with interfacial angles measurable only to the nearest degree. The elements $a:b:c=0.6889:1:1.4056$, $\beta=68^{\circ}33'$, based on previous work, are consistent with the results obtained. Optic axial plane parallel to (010) with $\gamma:c=6^{\circ}$ in the obtuse axial angle. A chemical analysis agrees approximately with the accepted formula.

G. F. CLARINGBULL, *General Secretary*

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB, INC.,

The American Museum of Natural History,
New York City

Meeting of February 15, 1939.

The meeting was called to order by first Vice-President Lee at 8:10 P.M., with about 45 members and guests present. After the election of a Nominating Committee for the officers of the next year, the speaker, Mr. James F. Morton, was introduced.

Mr. Morton addressed the Club upon "Zeolite Collecting in Nova Scotia." He described the country as being wild and rugged, an ideal resort country. Nova Scotia is famous for the zeolites which are to be picked up along the shore at the foot of the cliffs during the time the tide is out. Cape Blomidon and Cape Split, on the south side of the Minas Basin and Wasson's Bluff, Partridge Island and Cape Sharp on the north side, were described, and the minerals distinctive of each region were mentioned and shown. Mr. Morton called attention especially to the tides, and cautioned the members against letting their enthusiasm get the better of their judgment. He said it was best to start just after the tide was full, as soon as a little beach was exposed and work for four hours in safety, collecting the zeolites along the shore, like so many shells on the beach. The winter storms guarantee a perpetually renewed supply and one can be certain of finding some good specimens.

F. H. POUGH, *Secretary*

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Weberite

RICHARD BØGVAD: Weberite, a new mineral from Ivigtut. *Meddelelser om Grønland*, 119, No. 7, 1-11 (1938), 2 figs., 1 plate.

NAME: In honor of Theobald Weber, who was active in the early development of the Greenland cryolite deposits.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A sodium, magnesium, aluminum fluoride: Na_2MgAlF_7 . Analysis (by H. Buchwald): Al 11.65; Fe 0.37; Ca 0.08; Mg 10.43; Na 19.08; K 1.19; F 57.58, remainder 0.16. Sum 100.54. Slightly soluble in water (0.02 gm./100 c.c. H_2O); soluble in an aqueous solution of $AlCl_3 \cdot 6H_2O$. B.B. turns white and swells up, but does not fuse to a drop. After ignition shows an alkaline reaction and with cobalt nitrate an Al re-

action. On heating in a closed tube yields a small quantity of white solid sublimate, gives off acid vapors and corrodes the glass.

CRYSTALLOGRAPHICAL PROPERTIES: No crystals found. Probably monoclinic.

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color light gray, streak white. Translucent. Luster vitreous. $G = 2.96$, $H = 3.5$. Fracture uneven.

Biaxial, positive. $2V = 83^\circ \pm 3^\circ$. $\alpha = 1.346$, $\beta = 1.348$, $\gamma = 1.350$. $\gamma - \alpha = 0.004$. Two conspicuous cleavages perpendicular to the axial plane making angles of 33° and 39° with the $\beta - \gamma$ plane, a poor cleavage parallel to the optic axial plane.

OCCURRENCE: Sporadically present in the cryolite of Ivigtut, Greenland. Often surrounded by fluorite and associated with topaz, quartz, feldspar, siderite, other fluorides, etc.

W. F. FOSHAG

Khoharite

LEWIS LEIGH FERMOR: On khoharite, a new garnet, and on the nomenclature of garnets. *Rec. Geol. Surv. India*, **73**, pt. 1, 145-156 (1938), 1 fig.

A hypothetical garnet molecule, $3MgO \cdot Fe_2O_3 \cdot 3SiO_2$, believed to be present in a garnet from Jagersfontein Mine, S. Africa. Analysis (by Percy A. Wagner): SiO_2 40.79, Al_2O_3 12.81, Fe_2O_3 14.35, Cr_2O_3 1.03, FeO 7.39, CaO 5.46, MgO 17.89; sum 99.72. The calculated content of $3MgO \cdot Fe_2O_3 \cdot 3SiO_2$ equals 10.36 per cent.

The name, khoharite, is derived from the Khohar meteorite, since Fermor believes that meteoric chondrules, like those of the Khohar meteorite have an origin from a garnet, $3(Mg, Fe)O \cdot Fe_2O_3 \cdot 3SiO_2$. The molecule $3FeO \cdot Fe_2O_3 \cdot 3SiO_2$ he has already named skiagite (*Cf. Am. Mineral.*, **13**, 33, 1928).

The nomenclature of the garnets is further expanded to include gralmandite (grossularite-andradite). Where the molecular percentage is less than 10% the garnet names may be modified by chemical prefixes: calc-pyralmandite, ferro-spessartite, magnesia-gralmandite, manganese-gralmandite.

W.F.F.

Fluorine oxyapatite Alkaline oxyapatite

V. I. VLODAVETZ: On two apatites of the Kukisvumchorr deposits in the Khibin Tundra. *Trans. Arctic Inst. U.S.S.R.*, **12**, 71-100, 1933. (English summary.)

Vlodavetz notes a change in the character of the apatite from the top to the bottom of the apatite ore body. The upper part is a *fluorine oxyapatite*: SiO_2 0.04, Al_2O_3 0.33, Ti_2O_3 0.68, Fe_2O_3 0.20, MgO 0.10, CaO 54.28, SrO 1.60, BaO tr., Na_2O 0.15, K_2O 0.04, H_2O 0.13, P_2O_5 40.67, V_2O_5 0.15, F_2 2.79, Cl_2 tr. $G = 3.265$. $\omega = 1.6339$, $\epsilon = 1.6311$. Birefringence = .0028. The lower part is an *alkaline oxyapatite*: SiO_2 0.04, Al_2O_3 0.67, Ti_2O_3 0.73, Fe_2O_3 0.03, MgO 0.13, CaO 53.54, SrO 2.12, BaO 0.08, Na_2O 1.40, K_2O 0.09, H_2O 0.28, P_2O_5 40.42, V_2O_5 0.05, F_2 1.97, Cl_2 0.09. Sum 101.64. $G = 3.299$. $\omega = 1.6348$, $\epsilon = 1.6308$. Birefringence = .0040.

W.F.F.

Monothermite Endothermite

D. S. BELIANKIN: On the characteristics of the mineral monothermite. *Compt. Rend. Acad. Sci., U.S.S.R.*, **18**, No. 9, 673-676, 1938 (in English).

Monothermite is a clay mineral similar to kaolin but differing from it in its thermal behavior. Its formula is $0.2 RO \cdot Al_2O_3 \cdot 3SiO_2 \cdot 1.5H_2O \cdot 0.5 aq$. Analysis: (average of several)

SiO₂ 54.15, TiO₂ 1.16, Al₂O₃ 30.72, Fe₂O₃ 1.07, MgO 0.48, CaO 0.67, Na₂O 0.58, K₂O 2.74, SO₃ 0.13, ign. loss 8.43. At 100°C. loses 0.5 H₂O, at 550° 1.5 H₂O, whereas kaolin does not lose water even up to 300°-400°. Monothermite has one endothermic effect at 550° (hence the names, monothermite or endothermite) whereas kaolin has two, at 550°C. and 900°-950°C.

Index of refraction = 1.55-1.57.

Birefringence, $\gamma - \alpha = 0.02-0.03$.

Occurs in the clays of Chassov-Jar and common in Russian clays.

W.F.F.

DISCREDITED SPECIES

Cliftonite

MAX H. HEY: A re-examination of cliftonite. *Mineral. Mag.*, **25**, 81, 1938, 1 fig.

An x -ray examination of one of the type cliftonite crystals showed its identity with graphite. Cliftonite is therefore a pseudomorph after some unknown cubic mineral. The graphite crystals are arranged with their c axes parallel to the three (001) axes of the cube.

W.F.F.

OBITUARIES

Professor G. Cesàro died at Comblain-au-Pont, Belgium, on January 20, 1939. He was born at Naples, Italy, on September 7, 1849, came to Liège, Belgium, in 1865 and taught crystallography and mineralogy at the University of Liège for forty years. He became emeritus in 1922, but continued his work of research in mineralogy, crystallography and mathematics almost to the time of his death. His list of publications numbers about 250 titles. He is survived by his nephew, Dr. J. Mélon, who has contributed articles at various times to *The American Mineralogist*.

Dr. Frank Nelson Guild, Professor Emeritus and former head of the Department of Geology and Mineralogy of the University of Arizona, died at his home, Tucson, Arizona, March 12, 1939, at the age of 68 years.

Dr. Guild had been a member of the faculty of the University of Arizona since 1897.

William Ebenezer Ford, Professor of Mineralogy and Curator of the Mineral Collections in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, died on March 23, 1939, at the age of 61 years.