

Dr. E. Van Someren of England
Dr. Lester W. Strock of the United States

It is expected that the first number of the revived journal (no. 1 of vol. 3) will be ready for the press by August 1, and that from 6 to 8 numbers will appear annually thereafter.

Papers in English from America should be submitted to Dr. Lester W. Strock, 21 Madison Ave., Saratoga Springs, New York. Other editors will take care of papers in other languages from other countries. The official languages of *Spectrochimica Acta* are English, French and German, although papers will also be accepted in Italian and Spanish.

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB, INC.

American Museum of Natural History

Abstracts of Minutes of meeting for March 19, 1947

The speaker of the evening was Mr. A. N. Holden who spoke on "Growing Crystals from Solution." The crystals grown were ammonium dihydrogen phosphate, a piezoelectric material, which is used by the Bell Telephone Co. for voice frequency filters. These filters will pass certain frequencies and cut out others thereby enabling several messages to be sent over the same wire, at the same time, at different frequencies without interference. The material selected had to have the necessary piezoelectric property and had to be suitable for growing large crystals rapidly in the laboratory.

If a seed crystal is suspended in a solution, growth does not take place uniformly over the entire surface but a current is set up which moves up around the crystal and the bottom of the crystal grows faster than the top, giving a stepped back effect. This can be eliminated by stirring the solution but this develops turbulence so it must be stirred very slowly.

The effect of even very small amounts of impurities such as chromium and tin have a marked and harmful effect on the crystals.

At the Bell Laboratories the crystals are grown by fixing a seed plate on an arm which rotates slowly in a solution of uniform temperature and then reversing the direction of rotation periodically so that growth is uniform. Material is added to the seed plate as pyramids at the four corners of each side of the plate and these pyramids get larger until they grow together forming one pyramid. In the solution used these crystals grow only on the pyramids so that on continued growth the crystals become elongated in the direction of the pyramids while the prism does not get any thicker.

The talk was illustrated with lantern slides and specimens.

PARFIELD KENT, *Secretary*

Dr. George Tunell of the Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C., has accepted the appointment of Associate Professor of Mineralogy at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Dr. E. Wm. Heinrich of the Department of Geology, Montana School of Mines, has been appointed Assistant Professor of Mineralogy at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Gordon A. Macdonald, District Geologist, U. S. Geological Survey, has been granted a leave from the Survey and can be addressed at Dept. of Geology, University of Southern California, University Park, Los Angeles 7, California.

William H. Broadwell, well known mineral collector in the New Jersey-New York area and one of the founders of the Newark Mineralogical Society, died on April 2 at the age of 71 years.