

Known specimens of eudialyte and eucolite were obtained from the Royal Ontario Museum through the courtesy of Mr. L. I. Cowan. The x -ray powder patterns of these specimens were identical with each other and with that of the Hollinger sample. On the basis of its optic sign, the mineral is called eucolite.

Labrador

A sample from the Seal Lake area of Labrador was submitted for identification by W. B. Gordon Walker of Frobisher Ltd. The rock was a syenite containing large amounts of fine-grained vitreous reddish-pink material. An x -ray powder pattern gave the same pattern as eudialyte and eucolite. A qualitative spectrographic analysis indicated a composition similar to the Hollinger specimen. An optical study showed that the mineral was uniaxial positive with approximate indices of refraction, $\omega = 1.589$ and $\epsilon = 1.594$. On the basis of its optic sign, the mineral is considered to be eudialyte. No measurement of specific gravity was made due to fine-grained impurities.

Conclusion

A search of the literature has failed to reveal any published data on Canadian occurrences of eudialyte and eucolite. In the hand specimen they could be mistaken for garnet. For that reason, they may be more common than is suspected.

A CORRECTION

*The Editor,
The Canadian Mineralogist*

DEAR SIR,

May we correct a mis-statement, attributed to us, in Dr. R. L. Stanton's paper "Studies of Polished Surfaces of Pyrite and some Implications," *The Canadian Mineralogist*, Vol. 6, part I, pp. 87-118.

On p. 88 Dr. Stanton writes: "Recently McAndrew and Edwards (1954) have noted very weak anisotropism in pyrite from Rum Jungle, Australia, which they thought might be due to a high nickel content."

We wish to draw attention to there being no suggestion whatsoever in our report, *C.S.I.R.O. Mineragraphic Investigations Report No. 587*

"Bismuth and Nickel Minerals from Rum Jungle, Northern Territory," referred to by Dr. Stanton, of a high nickel content in this Rum Jungle pyrite. What we in fact established was that (within the precision of our measurements) the pyrite was nickel-free.

The relevant portion of our report reads: "The pyrite . . . crystals are very weakly anisotropic, which suggested that they might contain some nickel. However, the cell-edge of the pyrite was determined as 5.417 ± 0.001 Å from an x-ray powder pattern, which agrees closely with the value of 5.4175 Å of pure pyrite (from Leadville, Colo.) whereas nickeliferous pyrite with 6.5% Ni (from Sudbury, Ont.) has a cell-edge of 5.428 Å, while bravoite has cell-edges of 5.50 to 5.58 Å. It is concluded, therefore, that the pyrite contains less than 0.5% Ni. This could not be tested chemically because of the presence of intergrown gersdorffite."

We are at a loss to understand how Dr. Stanton could have misread this to mean that we thought the pyrite had a high nickel content.

We note also that on p. 107 Dr. Stanton, in speaking of the Vanderwilt method of polishing on soft metal laps, states: "It can be said with fair confidence that the great retarding factor in ore studies has simply been the difficulty of polishing."

C.S.I.R.O. Mineragraphic Investigations has been successfully using the Vanderwilt technique for about 30 years, with a simple machine only slightly modified from Vanderwilt's original design. Polishing is done by all geologists on the staff, and we do not commonly experience any difficulty in obtaining a high polish.

Our experience is that the slowest aspect of ore microscopy is the correct identification of the ore minerals, especially when present in minute grains. A polishing process that renders cubic minerals anisotropic offers less advantage in this respect than the Vanderwilt polishing method, that renders them isotropic, yet renders non-cubic minerals anisotropic.

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