

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Aminoffite

CORNELIUS S. HURLBUT: Aminoffite, a new mineral from Långban. *Geol. Fören. Förh.* *Stockholm*, vol. 59, No. 410, pp. 290–292, 1937.

NAME: In honor of Dr. G. Aminoff.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A hydrous silicate of calcium, beryllium and aluminum: $\text{Ca}_{24}\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_3\text{Si}_{24}\text{O}_{84}(\text{OH})_3 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Analysis (by F. A. Gonyer) SiO_2 42.49, Al_2O_3 4.41, BeO 6.20, Fe_2O_3 0.31, MnO 0.19, CaO 40.27, H_2O 6.45; Sum 100.33. Insoluble in acids. Infusible.

CRYSTALLOGRAPHICAL PROPERTIES: Tetragonal $c = 0.7116$. $(111).(001) = 45^\circ 11'$. Forms p (111) and c (001). Habit simple pyramidal. $a = 13.8 \text{ \AA}$. $c = 9.8 \text{ \AA}$. Space group $I 4/m m m$.

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Clear and colorless; luster vitreous. Uniaxial, sometimes anomalously biaxial. Negative. $\omega = 1.647$, $\epsilon = 1.637$. Brittle. Cleavage (001) poor. Fracture conchoidal. Hd. 5.5. G = 2.94.

OCCURRENCE: Found as small crystals in veins or cavities in massive magnetite or limonite.

RELATIONSHIPS: Related to meliphanite $(\text{Ca}, \text{Na})_2\text{Be}(\text{Si}, \text{Al})_2(\text{O}, \text{F})_7$.

W. F. FOSHAG

Scheteligite

HAROLD BJØRRLYKKE: Scheteligite, a new mineral. *Norsk. Geol. Tids.*, vol. 17, pp. 47–49, 1937.

NAME: In honor of Prof. Jacob Schetelig, late director of the Mineralogical Museum in Oslo.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A titanate, tantalate, columbate and tungstate of calcium, manganese, etc.; $(\text{Ca}, \text{Fe}, \text{Mn}, \text{Sb}, \text{Bi}, \text{Y})_2 \cdot (\text{Ti}, \text{Ta}, \text{Nb}, \text{W})_2(\text{O}, \text{OH})_7$. Analysis (by V. Bruun): CaO 10.73, FeO 1.88, MnO 6.19, Sb_2O_3 7.77, Bi_2O_3 2.54, Y_2O_3 6.00, TiO_3 18.73, Ta_2O_5 20.00, WO_3 5.00, Nb_2O_5 8.65; loss on ignition 2.00, SiO_2 , calculated as microcline, 9.70; Sum 99.19. Soluble in hydrofluoric acid.

CRYSTALLOGRAPHICAL PROPERTIES: Orthorhombic, with rough pyramid faces.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: Color black. Streak pale yellow to grayish; in thin section reddish brown. Fracture conchoidal. Hd. 5.5. G. 4.74.

OCCURRENCE: Found as small embedded crystals in a pegmatite at Torvelona, Iveland, Norway, together with tourmaline, bismuth, alvite, euxenite, monazite, thortveitite, beryl, etc.

W. F. F.

Magallanite

G. A. FESTER, J. CRUELLAS AND F. GARGATAGLI: La Magallanita, un nuevo Mineral bitumenoso. *Anal. Soc. Cient. Argentina*, vol. 124, p. 211, 1937. An asphaltic substance found as rolled pebbles near Magallanes. No analysis or other data given.

W. F. F.

Gahno-spinel

B. W. ANDERSON AND C. J. PAYNE: Magnesium-zinc-spinels from Ceylon. *Mineralog. Mag.*, vol. 24, No. 158, pp. 547–554, 1937.

Some pale blue to deep blue gem spinels from Ceylon have indices of refraction of 1.7153–1.7469 and specific gravities of 3.584–3.981. They are intermediate between spinel and gahnite and contain zinc. The name "gahno-spinel" has been proposed.

W. F. F.

β -Ascharite

M. N. GODLEVSKY: Mineralogical investigation of the Inder borate deposit. *Mem. Soc. Russ. Mineral.*, 2d Ser., vol. 66, No. 2, pp. 315-344, 1937, 11 text figures, 5 plates, 1 map (in Russian); pages 345-368 in English.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A hydrous magnesium borate: $MgHBO_3$. Analysis (E. N. Egorova, analyst): SiO_2 0.20; Al_2O_3 0.16; Fe_2O_3 0.13; MnO 0.02; CaO none; MgO 46.70; Na_2O 0.20; K_2O 0.26; B_2O_3 40.85; Cl 0.11; SO_3 0.69; CO_2 None; H_2O+ 10.95; H_2O- 0.32. Sum 100.59. Insoluble in water, slowly soluble in acids. B.B. fuses to an enamel.

CRYSTALLOGRAPHICAL PROPERTIES: Orthorhombic?

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color white, luster chalky. Biaxial, 2 V small. $\alpha=1.575$, $\beta=1.642$, $\gamma=1.646$. Parallel extinction; X parallel to elongation of the fibers. Hd. 3.5. G. 2.65.

OCCURRENCE: The principal industrial mineral in the Lake Inder borate deposits, near the Ural River, about 150 km. north of the Caspian Sea. Found as chalky masses of fine fibrous habit or massive. Differs from the ascharite of Germany (here called α -ascharite) in optical properties. Closely related to camsellite.

W. F. F.

Inderite

Ibid.

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION: A hydrous magnesium borate: $Mg_2B_6O_{11} \cdot 15H_2O$. Analysis (by E. N. Egorova): SiO_2 0.13; Al_2O_3 0.02; Fe_2O_3 0.33; MnO none; CaO 0.16; MgO 14.65; Na_2O 0.17; B_2O_3 36.20; CO_2 0.17; H_2O+ and H_2O- 48.20; Sum 100.03.

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color white, luster vitreous. Biaxial, 2 V large. $\beta=1.488$, $\gamma=1.504$, $Z \wedge c=5^\circ$. $G=1.80$.

OCCURRENCE: Found as small nodules or aggregates of minute needles.

W. F. F.

Gedroitsite

I. N. ANTIPOV-KARATAJEV AND I. D. SEDLECKIJ: On the genesis of colloidal metals in salt soils. Gedroitsite, a new mineral. *Compt. Rend. Acad. Sci., U.S.S.R., new ser.* vol. 17, No. 5, pp. 251-254, 1937.

A name proposed for an artificial crystalline aggregate produced by adding sodium aluminate solution to sodium silicate solution and allowing the resultant precipitate to stand for several years. The final product is chiefly crystalline, isotropic, with $n=1.483$.

W. F. F.

Correction

In the editor's report for 1937 (*Am. Mineral.*, vol. 23, p. 162) the statement is made that the current volume describes six new minerals. The correct number is seven. The new mineral species "ellestadite" was inadvertently omitted and should be added to the list.