

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

*Academy of Natural Sciences, September 6, 1928.*

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was held on the above date with the president, Mr. Clay, in the chair. Twenty-eight members and two visitors were present. Nominations for officers for the coming year were presented.

Reports of summer trips constituted the program of the evening, and the following accounts were given:

1. French Creek mines, by Dr. Newcomet.
2. Franklin, N. J., by Dr. Wills and Mr. Toothaker.
3. Portland, Conn.; Westfield, Mass.; and Paris, Maine, by Messrs. Weagle and Dipple.
4. Franklin, N. J.; Paterson, N. J.; Bedford, N. Y.; Danbury, Middletown, and Portland, Conn.; Westfield and Chester, Mass.; Paris, Newry, and Norway, Maine, by Dr. Gilliland
5. French Creek mines, by Messrs. Trudell, Knabe, and Frankenfield.
6. French Creek mines, by Mr. Biernbaum.
7. Franklin, N. J.; and Easton, Pa.; by Messrs. Biernbaum, Clay, Oldach, and Boyle.
8. Ontario, Canada, localities, by Messrs. Biernbaum, Arndt, Boyle, and Clay. An extensive account deferred.
9. Clay Center and Gibsonburg, Ohio, by Messrs. Cienkowski, Reinitz, and Parish.
10. Paterson, N. J.; Herkimer, N. Y.; Buckfield, Maine, and Montreal, by Mr. Cienkowski.

The society adjourned to examine the specimens exhibited.

SAMUEL G. GORDON, *Sec. pro tem.*

REVIEWS

HISTORICAL NOTES OF THE IRON AND ZINC MINING INDUSTRY IN SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY. ELWOOD DELOS SHUSTER. 47 pps. Franklin, N. J., 1927. Privately printed.

Mr. Shuster, who for more than twenty years has been a member of the Surveying staff of the New Jersey Zinc Co. at Franklin, has brought together in this pamphlet a number of facts concerning the discovery, nature, and development of the famous New Jersey zinc mines which should be known to every mineralogist particularly interested in the minerals of these localities. The material is divided into five chapters whose headings indicate the scope of the paper. Chapter I treats of the settlement of the region, land titles, and early iron mining from 1664 to 1800. Chapter II deals with the ownership, exploration and early mining development of Sterling Hill and Mine Hill from 1800 to 1850. In Chapter III there is an account of the establishment of the zinc industry and the revival of iron mining at Franklin from 1850 to 1897 when the consolidation of the various interests involved led to the formation of the present New Jersey Zinc Co. Chapter IV gives an account in

condensed form of the extraordinarily complicated litigation caused by conflicting mineral titles which was continued through a period of forty years. Chapter V tells of the progress of mining and milling at Franklin from 1897 to 1927, with some account of the concentration and metallurgical treatment of the ores. The facts here collected from a great variety of sources are not on record in any other publication and Mr. Shuster is to be congratulated upon the industry which brought them together and the interest which has thus made them available in printed form.

A few copies of this pamphlet are in the hands of the writer of this abstract for distribution.

CHARLES PALACHE

HANDBUCH DER BIOLOGISCHEN ARBEITSMETHODEN. EMIL ABDERHALDEN. ABT. X, METHODEN DER GEOLOGIE, MINERALOGIE, PALÄOBIOLOGIE, GEOGRAPHIE, Heft 6. Lieferung 257, EXPERIMENTELLE MINERALOGIE. RUDOLF GROSS. Urban & Schwarzenberg. Berlin. 1928. Price 5 Mk.

This pamphlet of 90 pages records and discusses in a clear and concise manner the various determinable properties of minerals. The subjects covered include hardness, specific gravity, crystal forms and their projection, parallel growth, twinning, etch figures, cleavage, optical properties and crystal structure. The pamphlet is illustrated with 63 figures and contains 2 tables. It should serve as a helpful summary to any student somewhat conversant with the subjects treated.

W. F. H.

DIATOMACEOUS EARTH. IMPERIAL INSTITUTE. THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES. Published by His Majesty's Stationery Office. Price 1 s. net. Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W. C. 2. Also can be obtained from the British Library of Information, 5 East 45th St., New York City. Price 30c, postage extra.

This is one of a series of reports on the mineral industry of the British Empire and other countries. The report on diatomaceous earth covers the general physical properties of the material, uses, preparation for market, prices, production, and distribution not only in the British Empire but in 24 foreign countries as well.

Among the uses listed are the following: for heat and sound insulation, filtration, as a filler in certain types of rubber goods, in cement manufacture, for absorbent purposes, as a carrier for nickel catalyst in the hydrogenation of oils, as a mild abrasive, and for chemical purposes as in the manufacture of ultramarine and matches. For filtration purposes an earth that is free from carbonates and excessive clay, iron oxide, and organic matter is usually preferred. The function of diatomaceous earth for the various uses indicated above is given in considerable detail.

W. F. H.