

showed quite a number of spectral lines of the element. Prof. Papish is now engaged in attempting a *quantitative* determination of germanium in topaz.

Dr. W. F. Foshag, of the division of mineralogy of the U. S. National Museum, has been made a corresponding member of the Sociedad Científica "Antonio Alzate" of Mexico.

The Roebing collection of the National Museum has acquired by purchase an unusual platinum nugget from the Choco district, Colombia. It weighs $17\frac{1}{4}$ troy ounces and shows associated chromite in numerous places on its surface.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB

Minutes of the November Meeting

A regular monthly meeting of the New York Mineralogical Club was held at the American Museum of Natural History on the evening of November 21, 1928, under the chairmanship of the president, Dr. Herbert P. Whitlock. About forty-five members and visitors attended.

Messrs. William P. Hewitt, J. P. H. Marker, and Leo H. Norodny of New York City, Mr. R. C. Neuendorffer of North Tarrytown, N. Y., Col. William Boyce Thompson of Yonkers, N. Y., and Mr. E. C. Doremus of Boonton, N. J., were elected to membership.

Mr. Morton reported a successful Club excursion to the quarries at Paterson, N. J., on Election Day, Nov. 6th. Over thirty persons attended and about twenty different mineral species were found.

The Club was then addressed by Mr. Wilbur G. Valentine, of Columbia University, on *The New Ore Body at Cananea, Mexico*. This ore deposit is interesting for its peculiar crucible shape and zoned structure. The principal minerals are bornite, chalcopyrite, molybdenite, pyrite, and quartz. The deposit occurs in a quartz-porphry intrusive into volcanic rocks. It is apparently entirely unconnected with any feeder or channel of supply from below.

The origin of the ore body is very obscure. It has been ascribed to magmatic differentiation and also to deposition from solutions after the formation of the quartz-porphry. Objections to both theories were presented. Sinking of the surface has also been invoked by Locke to account for the unusual shape.

The lecture was illustrated by lantern slides and by a large number of specimens of the ore. In addition to these exhibits a specimen showing parallel crystals of rose quartz from Bedford, N. Y., was displayed by Mr. Weidhaas.

HORACE R. BLANK, *Secretary*

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Academy of Natural Sciences, November 1, 1928

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was held on the above date with the president, Mr. Trudell, in the chair. Twenty-seven members and twenty visitors were present. The name of Mr. Charles M. B. Cadwalader was presented for active membership.

Dr. William S. Newcomet addressed the society on the *Fluorescence of minerals by radium*. The effect of radium emanations on specimens of calcite, aragonite, celestite, gypsum, fluorite, and willemite was demonstrated. Very marked was the luminescence shown by some specimens of these minerals in the dark after exposure to an ordinary electric light bulb. Mr. J. C. Boyle contrasted the fluorescence of willemite and calcium-larsenite from Franklin, New Jersey, by means of an iron arc.

Dr. Newcomet described a trip to Yellowstone Park, illustrating his remarks with colored moving pictures. Mr. Toothaker spoke briefly of his recent visit to some Cuban iron mines. Mr. Squiers reported on a trip to Paterson with Mr. Dippel. Mr. Wolf spoke briefly on the Gap nickel mine, where he found some annabergite, pyroxene, and pyrrhotite. Mr. Strock described visits to the Chester Springs graphite mine, Leiper's quarry, and Mineral Hill.

SAMUEL G. GORDON, *Secretary*

NEWARK MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

The members of the Newark Mineralogical Society held their 101st. business meeting Sunday afternoon, in the rooms of the Newark Technical School on High Street.

The president, Daniel T. O'Connell, presided during the meeting. Routine business was transacted, followed by the annual election of officers and trustees.

The election resulted as follows:

President—William H. Broadwell, of Newark.

Vice-president—John A. Grenzig, of Brooklyn.

Secretary—Rodney B. Miller, of Newark.

Treasurer—Herman M. Lehman, of Newark.

Mr. Grenzig and Mr. Lehman were re-elected. Mr. Broadwell was promoted from the office of Secretary, which he has held since the formation of the society in 1915. The new president is an enthusiastic mineralogist and has a very fine collection of New Jersey minerals, which is especially rich in Franklin material.

The Board of Trustees was completed by the election of former Presidents Paul Walther of Elizabeth and Herbert L. Thowless of Newark. The board consists of the four principal officers and three elected at large. The present board consists of:

William H. Broadwell, of Newark, term expires November 1929.

John A. Grenzig, of Brooklyn, term expires November 1929.

Rodney B. Miller, of Newark, term expires November 1929.

Herman M. Lehman, of Newark, term expires November 1929.

Charles W. Hoadley, of Englewood, term expires November 1929.

Herbert L. Thowless, of Newark, term expires November 1930.

Paul Walther, of Elizabeth, term expires November 1931.

The new president was escorted to the chair and assumed his duties. His first official act was to announce the following committees.

Membership: Herbert L. Thowless, *Chairman*

John A. Grenzig

George E. Carpenter

Miss Josephine Morlock

Richard P. Milburn

Outings: John A. Grenzig, *Chairman*
Charles W. Hoadley
Louis Reamer

Publicity: Herbert L. Thowless.

The members of the program committee will be announced at the December meeting.

Former president O'Connell will address the December meeting on *Magnetic and Electrical Characters of Minerals*. This address will be illustrated by means of experiments. The president requested members to bring suitable specimens to the meeting and to all meetings in the future.

After all business had been completed a symposium was held on the general subject *Minerals collected during vacation*. A talk was given by Mr. Hoadley of a collecting trip taken near Montreal, Canada. Short talks were also given and minerals exhibited by George E. Carpenter; Paul Walther; W. Dan Quattlebaum; Louis Reamer and others.

President Broadwell told of the difficulty in arranging suitable and profitable outdoor trips on account of the many quarries and other collecting places being abandoned. The new outing committee will take in hand the entire matter of trips and try and arrange for several in the future.

The principal of Public School No. 36 of Brooklyn has asked the society to provide material for its museum.

The next business meeting will be on Sunday afternoon, December 2nd. All mineralogists and students are cordially invited to the meetings.

HERBERT L. THOWLESS, *Chairman of Publicity Committee*

THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY (ENGLAND)

Mineralogical Society, November 6, 1928. Dr. G. T. Prior, President, in the chair.

MR. F. A. BANNISTER: *The so-called "thermokalite" and the existence of sodium bicarbonate as a mineral*. The composition of a large collection of saline incrustations collected by Dr. Johnston-Lavis about 1889, has been investigated. He labelled them "thermokalite" but they are found to be a mixture of trona, thermonatrite, thenardite, and free sodium bicarbonate; no potassium salts are present. The name nahcolite is proposed for naturally occurring sodium bicarbonate. These incrustations were found lining the walls of a cuniculus near the Stufe de Nerone, Baia, Naples, Italy; their mode of occurrence is discussed from a physical-chemical point of view.

DR. W. A. WOOSTER: *The piezo-electric effect of diamond*. The effect has been investigated by a delicate method using magnetic attraction to apply pressure to the diamond. The result shows that the effect, if it exists, is less than 1/200th of the effect observed in quartz cut perpendicular to the electric axis.

MR. J. D. BERNAL and NORA MARTIN showed X-ray photographs of the arkansite variety of brookite indicating that the space-group is Q_4^{15} . An explanation was offered of how A. Schröder's observations did not lead to this result.

MR. F. N. ASHCROFT exhibited specimens of minerals collected recently in Switzerland, together with photographs of the localities represented.

W. CAMPBELL SMITH, *General Secretary*