

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB

Minutes of the May Meeting

A regular monthly meeting of the New York Mineralogical Club was held at The American Museum of Natural History on the evening of May 20th, 1931, with an attendance of 68. President Allen was in the chair.

Messrs. J. C. Boyle of Brooklyn, N. Y., H. R. Lee of White Plains, N. Y., and Raymond H. Torrey of Hollis, Long Island, N. Y., were elected to membership. President Allen named the following to serve on the Membership Committee for the ensuing year: Mr. George E. Ashby, chairman, Miss Schroeder and Mr. Grenzig.

Mr. Manchester announced the field meeting to be held on May 30th to the Bedford, N. Y., quarries. A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Quinn, Dr. Whitlock's assistant, for his services on behalf of the Club. Treasurer Stanton presented his report which was duly audited and accepted.

The Club was addressed by Dr. Waldemar T. Schaller of the United States Geological Survey on "The Mineralogy of the New Mexico and Texas Potash Deposits." These deposits were discovered during drilling operations for oil at a depth of 1000 feet. Subsequent drilling has revealed the presence of a large potash salt deposit, similar in its mineralogy and origin to the great Stassfurt salt deposits of Germany, but differing in one respect—the German salt beds have suffered considerable deformation while the American deposit has not been disturbed by dyastrophic forces. American potash salts are now being mined near Carlsbad, New Mexico. Dr. Schaller also pointed out that such minerals as sylvite (KCl) cannot be formed directly by the evaporation of sea water, but carnallite ($\text{KMgCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$) is the mineral so formed. The occurrence of sylvite in the deposit is ascribed to secondary chemical changes subsequent to the original precipitation possibly through the agency of algae. The lecture was illustrated by lantern slides showing photomicrographs of the minerals described as well as samples of the minerals themselves.

Messrs. Manchester and Grenzig reported on the present conditions at the Tilly Foster Mine. Dr. Whitlock discussed differential weathering rings in quartzite as contrasted with rings in agate.

DANIEL T. O'CONNELL, *Secretary*

Minutes of the October Meeting

A regular meeting of the New York Mineralogical Club was held at The American Museum of Natural History on the evening of October 21st, 1931, with an attendance of 69. President Allen was in the chair.

Mr. John Vlismes of New York, N. Y., and Dr. Ralph W. G. Wyckoff of New York, N. Y., were elected to membership. Mr. Manchester reported upon a successful field excursion of the Club to Bedford, N. Y., on May 30th. He also announced a field excursion for Election Day to the Paterson, N. J. quarries to be led by Mr. Morton, who conveyed to the Club Mr. Mercer's invitation to again visit the famous quarries of which he is in charge.

The meeting was then turned over to the members for reports on their "summer collecting experiences." Dr. Whitlock described how he learned that albite was dichroic, by tests with the dichroscope on peristerite and a moonstone from Ceylon. Dr. Kunz described a remarkable find of succinite amber in the hills of Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic. Dr. Hawkins exhibited a large collection including emerald, samarskite, cassiterite and uraninite which he secured on his collecting trip to Spruce Pine and Tuxedo, North Carolina. Mr. Radu told of his travels to the Basque Provinces of Spain to learn the art of damascene and to Fortsheim, Germany, to study enameling. He also exhibited a large collection of fine minerals obtained in Germany. Mr. Karlsson exhibited his summer finds collected near home in Connecticut and southern New York, including a large crystal of amazonite from Valhalla, N. Y. Mr. Morton told of his adventures collecting zeolites in Nova Scotia, on the shores of the Bay of Fundy. Mr. Grenzig exhibited choice specimens of marcasite from Cherokee Co., Kansas, and gave a formula for preserving marcasite specimens. He also introduced Mr. John Bucan who found a perfect zircon crystal at Tilly Foster Mine during the summer. Mr. Lee reported on his investigations of the "old gold mine" at Sandy Hook, Conn., and of a reported cryolite locality in Maine. Mr. Maynard brought back some datolite which he found at Westfield, Mass. President Allen described his visit to Brandon, Suffolk, England, where he observed the oldest human industry still extant, that of flaking flint.

At the close of this symposium of "world-girdling" experiences, Mr. Manchester introduced Mr. Peter Zodac, editor of "Rocks and Minerals" magazine of Peekskill, N. Y.

DANIEL T. O'CONNELL, *Secretary*

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, April 7, 1932

A stated meeting of the society was held on the above date, with the vice-president, Mr. Toothaker, in the chair. Thirty-eight members and forty-eight visitors were present.

Dr. L. C. Wills described "The Preparation of Micro-mineral Mounts." Box mounts of minerals were exhibited at eleven revolving tables carrying microscopes. Among the exhibitors were Dr. L. C. Wills, John A. Grenzig, T. J. Lewis, H. W. Arndt, Dr. W. S. Newcomet, H. W. Trudell, H. E. McNelly, and M. G. Biernbaum.

W. H. FLACK, *Secretary*

Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, May 5, 1932

A stated meeting of the society was held on the above date with the president, Dr. Cajori in the chair. Thirty-three members and twenty-seven visitors were present. Mr. Harold Philip was proposed for junior membership.

Mr. F. Lynwood Garrison addressed the society on "The World's Gold Supply." The history of gold mining was briefly reviewed, introductory to a survey of the present sources of gold. After the discussion, a rising vote of thanks was given the speaker.

Mr. Jackson reported finding aquamarine on the west side of Crum Creek, one half mile above the Media Trolley Line. Mr. Knabe exhibited drusy quartz from Blue Hill, and wavellite from Hellertown. Mr. Gordon described the occurrence of wavellite at an abandoned wavellite mine (worked for fertilizer), on the Tuscarora Creek, 5 miles northeast of Blairs Mills, in Juniata County.

W. H. FLACK, *Secretary*