

Following an introduction in which the important physical properties are briefly described, there are chapters on the Antique Use of Gems, Art of the Lapidary, Forms in which Gems are Cut, The Diamond, Famous Diamonds of the World, Precious Stones Other than the Diamond, Semiprecious Stones, Opaque and Ornamental Stones, Unusual Gem Stones, and Organic Products Used as Gems. There is also a well-selected bibliography, and a table summarizing the important properties of gems, which should prove useful in their determination. The text is well illustrated, and the author is to be commended for the many excellent half-tone cuts. The appearance of this volume is to be welcomed as a very helpful addition to the literature, in book form in the English language, on gem stones, in which there has been a growing public interest in recent years.

EDWARD H. KRAUS

MINERALOGIE by R. BRAUNS. Seventh revised edition. 146 pages, 132 figures. Sammlung Göschel. Walter de Gruyter, Berlin, 1936. Price in cloth binding, 1.62 R.M.

This small but well-known manual on Mineralogy makes its appearance in a new revised edition. The presentation follows the general arrangement of the earlier issues with such changes and additions as to bring the book up-to-date, insofar as the limited space will permit.

About 40 pages are devoted to geometrical crystallography with descriptions and line drawings of the more common crystal forms; the physical and chemical properties of minerals, and methods of formation are discussed in 25 pages, while about half of the text, or 75 pages, are devoted to descriptions of over 100 minerals.

The book is intended to give the beginner a general survey of the subject and this purpose has been achieved as the author with his long experience as a teacher has made a wise selection and has presented the material clearly.

W. F. H.

## PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

### PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

*Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, June 4, 1936*

A stated meeting of the Society was called to order by Mr. Arndt; 39 members and 27 visitors being present. Experiences of the various members in collecting their most interesting specimens were described.

Field trips were reported by Mr. Morgan from the American Copper Mine, Somerville, N.J., (native copper specimens from dumps), Paterson, N.J., (analcite, natrolite, pectolite, prehnite), Strickland's Quarry (green tourmaline, columbite, garnet); and by Mr. Moyd, above the Easton Verdolite Quarry (smoky quartz).

W. H. FLACK, *Secretary*

*Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, September 3, 1936*

A stated meeting was called to order by President W. Arndt, 41 members and 18 visitors being present. The subject for the evening was "Reports of Summer Trips." The speakers and the localities visited included: Harold W. Arndt, Lake Clear and Cantley, Canada; Leonard A. Morgan, Moore Station, Blackwood and Kirby's Mills, N. J., Amelia Court House, Va., and Spruce Pine, N. C.; Edmund H. Cienkowski, western localities; Samuel G. Gordon, Joplin District; Albert Jehle, western localities; Joseph L. Gillson, Newfoundland to examine a fluorspar deposit; Louis Moyd, Goat Hill and Bernardsville,

N. J.; Wm. C. Knabe, Perkiomenville and Bridgeport, Pa.; Elmer Bengé, West Conshohocken and Henderson Station, Pa.; G. Earle Thompson, Audubon, Bridgeport and Media, Pa.; Charles Durbin and party camped nine days at Phoenixville digging in old dumps.

W. H. FLACK, *Secretary*

#### NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB

*American Museum of Natural History, New York City, October 21, 1936*

President B. T. Butler presided at the first Fall meeting with 81 members and guests present. The business meeting dealt principally with the approaching 50th anniversary celebration, which will take the form of a banquet at the Museum in November.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to reports of members upon their collecting experiences during the summer. Miss Catherine Schroder reported upon a rather unprofitable visit to Hawaii, where she attempted to collect from some localities described by Eakle, but found most of them inaccessible or unproductive.

Daniel T. O'Connell told of the mineral collecting experiences of the Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley expedition. He described one very promising radium prospect near the Mitten Buttes, almost on the Arizona, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico boundary corner. Carnotite and hewettite were said to be abundant.

J. A. Taylor told of an interesting trip through Europe, with visits to the salt mines of Berchtesgaden and the granite quarries of Baveno.

O. I. Lee had just returned from a visit to the vicinity of Spruce Pine, where he visited many of the mines. The McKinney Mine is said to be very active and has a large dump rich in columbite, samarskite, sphalerite and other interesting minerals. The large Glen Mine is the source of white and blue hyalite. Nearby is the No. 20 Mine, on Crabtree Creek, from which the first clarkite specimens came. From the Smith Mine come thulite crystals in feldspar, as well as garnet, apatite, and uranium minerals. A new mine in Ash County is reported to yield large beryl crystals with gem possibilities, perfect large smoky quartz crystals and crystals of columbite which weigh as much as twenty pounds. A thirteen pound mass of the latter mineral was exhibited.

F. H. Pough described two trips to the Strickland Quarry, Portland, Conn., where some rare minerals were found. The first visit produced some loose fragments of very deeply etched beryl, on which masses of small white tabular crystals of bertrandite were found. One specimen was collected containing two crystals of microlite in a matrix of the late potash-bearing albite which replaces the cleavelandite. Lithiophilite was abundant. The second trip produced more bertrandite, this time in more prismatic crystals in vugs in feldspar, and apparently later than the late albite.

F. H. POUGH, *Secretary*