While the blowpipe art is an important phase of determinative mineralogy, it was pointed out that chemical testing should not be over-emphasized, and an appeal was made for drawing full value from all discernible physical characters of minerals. Determinative characters beyond the blowpipe were shown to be necessary for polymorphic minerals and for those that are chemically similar. The advantages and limitations of blowpipe methods, especially in relation to the chemical composition of minerals, were impartially summarized, and pertinent experiences cited. Finally, the speaker concluded that collegiate instruction in determinative mineralogy shows a strong trend away from the blowpipe and toward entire reliance on physical characters—and regret was implied. Declining to prophesy the future of the blowpipe art, the speaker expressed the hope that it would long survive and that many would use it to widen their present interest and pleasure in the study of mineralogy.

F. H. POUGH, *Secretary*

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Bedenite

N. E. EFREMOV: Bedenite—a new mineral (preliminary information). *Mem. Soc. Russe Mineral.*, 2d ser., vol. **66**, No. 3, pp. 479–485, 1937, 1 fig. English Summary.

NAME: From the locality, Beden Mountain, North Caucasus.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A silicate of lime, magnesia, iron and alumina: Ca_2 (Mg, Fe‴, Al)$_5$. $Si_8O_{22}OH$. Analysis: SiO_2 55.15, Fe_2O_3 7.18, Al_2O_3 4.66, MnO, FeO, tr., CaO 13.00, MgO 19.09, H_2O+1.60, H_2O-0.10. Sum 100.78.

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color pale gray. Not pleochroic. Luster silky. Biaxial, negative. 2V large. $\alpha=1.634$, $\gamma=1.638$. Plane of the optical axes parallel to the fibers. Extinction parallel.

OCCURRENCE: Found as a white, asbestos-like mineral in a vein of plagioaplite in serpentine, in the region of the Vlasenkov ravine, Beden Mountain, North Caucasus.

RELATIONSHIP: Bedenite is a rhombic amphibole belonging to the anthophyllite series.

W. F. FOSHAG