

Meeting of June 3, 1943

Dr. W. Hersey Thomas presided. Forty-one members and visitors were present. Dr. J. F. Schairer of the Geophysical Laboratory addressed the Society on "The Rock-forming Minerals and their Origin." Dr. Schairer explained the methods used in the laboratory for determining just what happens when a molten magma cools and solidifies slowly, and how the magma changes its composition during this crystallization process. The common minerals of the igneous rocks were dealt with in turn, namely, the olivines, pyroxenes, amphiboles and micas, feldspars, and finally quartz.

The relationship between the olivine series and the pyroxenes was mentioned. A number of melting point curves were shown and explained. Slides were shown illustrating some of the equipment that is used in carrying out this type of investigation.

J. S. FRANKENFIELD, *Secretary*

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Hanušite

JAN V. KAŠPAR: Hanušite, a new mineral. *Chem. Listy Vědu Průmysl*, **36**, 78-81 (1942); through *Chemisches Zentral. latt*, II, 511-512 (1942).

NAME: For J. Hanuš, Czech chemist.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: Formula $H_2Mg_2Si_3O_9 \cdot H_2O$. Analysis gave SiO_2 57.37, MgO 18.55, CaO 4.84, MnO 0.54, FeO 3.57, H_2O (above 200°) 6.49, H_2O (below 200°) 8.68%. A dehydration curve indicates that the water given off below 200° is adsorbed, most of the remainder is given off at 700° . Completely decomposed by HCl with separation of silica, slowly decomposed by H_2SO_4 and $HClO_4$, slightly acted on by HNO_3 .

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: Occurs as yellowish-white to yellow-brown radiating aggregates similar to pectolite. $H=1-1\frac{1}{2}$, $G=2.166$. Optically biaxial with large axial angle. Birefringence greater than that of sepiolite. The x-ray powder pattern differs from that of sepiolite.

OCCURRENCE: Occurs as a pseudomorph after apophyllite in the region of Liebstadt, Riesengebirge.

RELATIONS: The mineral is thought by Kašper to be the magnesium end of the pectolite-walkerite series.

DISCUSSION: This material seems to correspond fairly closely to stevensite, a pseudomorph after pectolite, cf. Glenn, *Am. Mineral.*, **1**, 44 (1916). Further study is needed.

MICHAEL FLEISCHER

Dr. D. Jerome Fischer of the Department of Geology, University of Chicago, is spending the summer investigating the beryllium and tantalum content of the Pala pegmatites in California. He expects to return to Chicago about October 1.