

ber 20-21. We visited the El Paso Mountains, Red Rock Canyon, the gold mines and mills in the vicinity of Mojave, and collected much fine polishing material at Gem Mountain. The trip to Coso Hot Springs in the early Spring netted a fine supply of obsidian, cristobalite, fayalite, sulfur, and other interesting materials. The outstanding trip of the year was the nine-day excursion in Easter week to Nevada and Arizona. On May eighth, Drs. Hoyt S. and H. Rodney Gale led thirty-six cars to Frazer Mountain, where fine collecting was enjoyed in a region of very great geological interest. The last trip of the year sponsored by the Society was the National Rocks and Minerals Outing to Big Bear Lake and Holcomb Valley on May 30th.

EDWIN V. VAN AMRINGE, *President*

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Chacaltaita

MARJA KALOCZKOWSKA: Chacaltaita, a new mineral from Bolivia. *Sprawozdania z posiedzeń Towarzystwa Naukowego Warszawskiego*, vol. 29, pp. 1-3, 1936. Polish with French summary.

St. J. THUGUTT: Pinite from Chacaltaya, Bolivia. *Archiwum Mineralogiczne*, Warsaw, vol. 12, pp. 58-63.

A green pinite from the Caboceras mine, Chacaltaya, Bolivia, has been described by Thugutt. SiO_2 46.25, Al_2O_3 31.89, Fe_2O_3 1.52, FeO 2.08, MnO 0.15, CaO 0.29, MgO 1.00, K_2O 10.18, Na_2O 1.15, H_2O - 0.12, $\text{H}_2\text{O} +$ 4.93, F 1.39. Sum 100.95.

On the basis of a variation of the unit cell from two other muscovites examined and on several lines in the x-ray photographs peculiar to it, Kaloczkowska names it chacaltaita.

W. F. FOSHAG

Picroamosite

D. R. SERDUČENKO: Picroamosite—a new mineral. *Bull. Acad. Sci., U. S. S. R., Cl. Sci., Math. Nat., Ser. Geol.*, pp. 689-696, No. 5, 1936.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A silicate of magnesium and iron: $(\text{Mg}, \text{Fe})_7\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_3$. SiO_2 55.90, Al_2O_3 1.13, Fe_2O_3 8.28, FeO 0.68, MnO 0.49, CaO 0.94, MgO 29.26, $\text{H}_2\text{O} +$ 3.20, TiO_2 , K_2O , Na_2O , H_2O - tr. Sum 99.88.

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color greenish gray, sometimes brownish gray. Fibrous or radially fibrous. Biaxial; $2V = 87^\circ$, lies in the plane of {010}. Extinction parallel. $\alpha = 1.626$ (colorless), $\beta = 1.638$, $\gamma = 1.651$ (light grayish brown).

OCCURRENCE: Found in blocks in a talcose rock on the banks of the Malaya Laba River, North Caucasus.

W. F. F.

Karachaite

N. E. EFREMOV: Karachaite—A new mineral. *Bull. Acad. Sci., U. S. S. R., Cl. Sci. Mat. Nat., Ser. Geol.*, No. 6, pp. 921-928, 1936. English summary.

NAME: From the locality Karachi, Northwestern Caucasus.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A hydrous silicate of magnesium, H_2MgSiO_4 . Analysis: SiO_2 47.12, Al_2O_3 2.82, Fe_2O_3 2.58, MgO 30.90, CaO 3.20, $\text{H}_2\text{O} +$ 13.48, H_2O - 0.76. Sum 100.86.

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color yellow, luster silky. Fibrous. $G = 2.20$. Elongation positive; extinction parallel. $\alpha = 1.542$, $\gamma = 1.546$.

OCCURRENCE: Found in the asbestos deposits at Shaman-Beklegen, Karachai, Northwestern Caucasus.

W. F. F.

Asovskite

N. E. EFREMOV: Asovskite—A new mineral from the group of hydroferriphosphates. *Trans. Lomonossov Inst. Acad. Sci., U. S. S. R.*, vol. 10, pp. 151–155, 1938. Russian with English summary.

NAME: From the locality, shore of the Azovsky (Azov) Sea.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A hydrous ferriphosphate, $3\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{P}_2\text{O}_5 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Analysis: Fe_2O_3 52.73, Mn_2O_3 1.68, P_2O_5 15.90, FeO None, CaO 2.84, MgO trace, SiO_2 2.64, CO_2 0.15, SO_3 none, $\text{H}_2\text{O}+$ 11.87, $\text{H}_2\text{O}-$ 11.28. Sum 99.09. Easily soluble in HCl and HNO_3 but with difficulty in concentrated H_2SO_4 .

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color dark brown; streak brown. Luster tarry. Fracture conchoidal. H.=4. G.=2.5. Slightly birefringent, n about 1.758.

OCCURRENCE: Found as reticulating veinlets filling fissures in iron ores of Taman.

W. F. F.

"Kratochirlite"

R. ROST: The minerals of the burning heaps in the vicinity of Kladno, Rozpravy. *Ceská Akademie, Kl II*, vol. 47, No. 11, 1937.

Among the organic compounds formed by the distillation from the combustion of coal dump heaps is the hydrocarbon $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{10}$ (Fluorene). $\alpha=1.557$, $\beta=1.725$. Other compounds formed are α and β sulfur, γ selenium, tschermigite, epsomite, lapparentite, mascagnite and letovicite.

W. F. F.

Foschallasite

PETER CHIRVINSKY: Foschallasite from the Chibina Tundra. *L'Academie des Science de l'U. S. S. R.*, pp. 757–763, 3 figs., German summary.

NAME: From its relationship to foshagite and centrallasite.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: A hydrous silicate of calcium: $3\text{CaO} \cdot 2\text{SiO}_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Analysis (by Starynkewitsch-Bornemann) SiO_2 32.65; R_2O_3 1.89; CaO 45.45; Na_2O 0.40; H_2O 0.16; Ign. loss 16.66. Sum 97.21.

CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC PROPERTIES: Orthorhombic or monoclinic; tabular to {100}, elongated along {100} {010}, striated parallel to {100} {010}.

PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: Color snow-white. H.= $2\frac{1}{2}$ –3. G.=2.5. Cleavage {100}, perfect. Biaxial negative, $2V=12^\circ$ – 18° .

OCCURRENCE: Found as thin plates, sometimes radially aggregated, forming veins in the Lovtschorrite mine at Yukspor, associated with calcite and mesolite.

W. F. F.

Omission

In the description of *thioelaterite* on page 542, August 1938, "S 2.96" was omitted from the chemical analysis.

NEWS

Roland B. Snow has become a research engineer at Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio, and has been assigned to work on ceramics problems. For the past two years he has been petrographer on the research staff of Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation, South Chicago, Illinois.

The Geological Society of America is carrying on a special program of public education in geology. In connection with this program the officials of the Society are interested in securing information regarding scientific progress in mineralogy. Members of The Mineralogical Society of America carrying on programs of research which may be of interest to the general public will aid this program considerably if they will send notices of their investigations to the secretary's office. It is particularly desirable to have advance notices of subjects to be presented at the Annual meeting.

Dr. James Gilluly of the U. S. Geological Survey has recently been appointed Chairman of the Department of Geology, University of California, Los Angeles, California.