

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB

Regular Monthly Meeting of January 18, 1928.

A regular monthly meeting of the New York Mineralogical Club was held in the Academy Room of the American Museum of Natural History, on the evening of January 18 at 8:15 p.m. The President introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Alfred C. Hawkins of Rutgers College, who spoke on "*Blowpipe Analysis.*" Dr. Hawkins outlined the methods of dry chemistry which constitute the essentials of analysis with the blowpipe, and mentioned briefly some of the standard text books on the subject. Entering into a more detailed description of apparatus and methods, he touched upon the various sets employed, from the elaborate one used at Princeton to a miner's field kit. He demonstrated the oxidizing and reducing flames by means of a Bunsen burner converted into a blowpipe lamp by the insertion of a tube flattened at the end. He showed some of the results of tests for volatile metals by sublimates on plaster and charcoal supports, and the use of open and closed tubes in testing for arsenic, antimony and mercury. The speaker then outlined a method of procedure to be followed in blowpipe determinations.

In the discussion Dr. Allen spoke of Prof. S. L. Penfield of Yale, as having been especially expert in this method of analysis and showed a cobalt nitrate solution bulb of the Penfield pattern which had been blown by Prof. Penfield and sealed by Dr. Allen, so that the original cobalt nitrate solution was still in the bulb after the lapse of many years.

Mr. Whitlock described some of the apparatus in use in the Blowpipe Laboratory of Columbia in the '80's, especially the old Plattner oil burning lamp, and described an original scheme of magnetic separation by means of a thin paper "guard" held against the magnet.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Dr. Hawkins for his very able and interesting talk.

HERBERT P. WHITLOCK, *Secretary*

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, March 1, 1928.

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was held on the above date with an attendance of twenty-nine members and eleven visitors. The president, Mr. Clay, presided. Mr. L. W. Strock was elected to membership and Mr. Arthur Criley to junior membership.

Mr. B. B. Weatherby of the University of Pennsylvania addressed the society on "*The use of geophysical instruments in discovering mineral and oil deposits.*" The speaker described the new instruments that have found application in the Gulf States for locating salt domes, anticlines and faults. The use of the torsion balance, the seismograph and the magnetometer were described in detail and the results obtained with each and their comparative merits were spoken of.

A trip to French Creek, with finds of pyrite showing pyritohedrons, was reported by Mr. Oldach. Other trips were reported by Messrs. Warford, Hoadley, Cienkowski and Wolf.

F. A. CAJORI, *Secretary.*