

crystals observed was .028 millimeters. The refractive index  $\gamma$  of the cleavage plates was  $1.565 \pm .003$ , and the maximum observed extinction angle on  $\{010\}$  against the base was  $18^\circ$ .

AN OCCURRENCE OF LARGE ZIRCON NEEDLES  
IN A BASIC PEGMATITE

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Crystals of zircon up to  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches long and  $1/16$  to  $1/8$  inch in diameter occur in a basic pegmatite in the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 29, T 45 N, R 2 W, about 2 miles north of the town of Mellen, Wisconsin. The pegmatite, which is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide, cuts the gabbro country rock. It contains large crystals of basic plagioclase, hornblende and biotite, penetrated by the needles of zircon.

The zircon is non-magnetic, has a specific gravity greater than 3 and shows prismatic parting. Its color is cinnamon brown with adamantine lustre. The crystals are uniaxial and positive, showing parallel extinction. The refractive index of the ordinary ray is  $1.925 \pm 0.002$ , and the birefringence determined on thin sections of grains with the universal stage is  $0.054 \pm 0.002$ . An x-ray powder photograph by George W. Field of the University of Wisconsin shows a typical zircon pattern.

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Dr. Henri Mngemach, the noted crystallographer and curator of the collections at Strasbourg, died on the night of June 10th at Strasbourg.