

BOOK REVIEW

THE BOOK OF MINERALS. ALFRED C. HAWKINS. 161+XII pages, 5 plates and 62 figures. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1935. Price \$1.50.

In the preparation of this book of 161 pages the author had in mind the average mineral collector and layman whose technical knowledge of the basic sciences is limited and therefore unable to read profitably the usual mineralogical texts used in class room instruction. The result is a very readable, largely descriptive booklet, liberally illustrated containing the essential characteristics of the more common minerals.

The treatment of crystal forms (crystallography) and the chemical tests employed for the determination of minerals (blowpipe analysis) have been largely dispensed with and the space devoted instead to such general topics as where to collect minerals, how to collect them, how to preserve them if unstable and the types of minerals one might expect to find in quarries of limestone, marble, sandstone, granite, schist and gneiss, serpentine, shale and slate. A bibliography of 26 entries calls attention to some of the more comprehensive texts on the subject and journals carrying mineralogical articles.

The descriptive portion follows the classification of minerals as given by Dana and as many museums follow the same order the text can be used to advantage as a guide in studying these collections. With the present revival of interest in minerals as revealed by the numerous mineralogical clubs holding regular meetings this handy booklet should command a ready sale.

W. F. H.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, September 5, 1935

A stated meeting was held with Vice-president Arndt in the chair. Thirty-four members and twenty-three visitors were present.

"Reports of Summer Trips" included accounts of visits to New England by Messrs. Arndt, Morgan, and D'Ascenzo; and local trips to Franklin, N. J., the French Creek mines, and Bridgeport, Pa., by Messrs. Morgan, Moyd, Knabe, Poole, and Jehle. Specimens exhibited included lepidolite from the Greenlaw mine dumps and garnet and beryl from Topsham, Maine; babingtonite and datolite from Westfield; crocidolite from Franklin; coal from the Triassic beds at Collegeville; analcite from Rushland, Pa.; and cyanite from Washington, Conn.

MORRELL G. BIERNBAUM, *Secretary pro tem*

Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, October 3, 1935

Vice-president Arndt was in the chair at a meeting at which 46 members and 40 visitors were present.

New officers elected were, President: Harold W. Arndt; Vice-president: Harry W. Trudell; Secretary: Wylie H. Flack; Treasurer: Morrell G. Biernbaum; Councillor: Charles R. Toothaker.

Mr. Stephen Varni addressed the society on "Gems and Gem Anecdotes" illustrated with colored lantern slides and specimens.

W. H. FLACK, *Secretary*