gates are white in color with a pearly to vitreous luster, and the fibers are translucent to transparent. The mineral gives the usual test for phosphorus with nitric acid and ammonium molybdate. In the field it might be mistaken for a zeolite, except for its association with sandstone.

The indices of refraction are nearly those of the wavellite described recently by F. Ulrich (*Min. Abs.*, **II**, 1923, p. 141). It is optically positive, $2V = 70°–75°$; the indices determined by the immersion method with white light are as follows: $\alpha = 1.530$, $\beta = 1.540$, and $\gamma = 1.558$; $B = 0.028$, dispersion distinct, $r > v$, and $Z = c$ axis. The high indices are probably due to the presence of iron. There are no indications of hydrothermal action and while the origin of the wavellite is apparently secondary, the writer offers nothing towards the particular mode of genesis. Gratitude is hereby expressed to Miss Jewell J. Glass, U. S. Geological Survey, who made the physical measurements. The specimens are in possession of the Biological Station of the University of Virginia at Mountain Lake, Giles County, Virginia.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

(Extracts from the annual report of the President, June 18, 1938)

On this seventh anniversary of the founding of the organization, I shall simply summarize the events of the current year.

In September, 1937, Buel Hunt of the U. S. Forest Service exhibited two films teaching the importance of conservation of our chaparral, and the necessity of erosion control. In October, Dr. William C. Putnam of Los Angeles Junior College gave an illustrated lecture on the geology and mineralogy of the Mono Craters. In November, Dr. Ward Smith of Pomona College taught us the preparation and use of thin sections of rocks. In December, Donald Curry, geologist of the Death Valley National Monument, told us of his area's geologic and historic background. The feature evening of the year was on January the tenth when we were honored by the presence of the well-known mining engineer, Dr. Louis D. Ricketts, who spoke on his work at Ajo, Arizona. His address was illustrated with motion pictures. In February, Dr. John H. Maxson of the California Institute of Technology, spoke on "Mineral Development in Siberia." In March, Alfred Livingston of Los Angeles Junior College gave us convincing proof that our Southern California beaches were in imminent danger of destruction. Through the courtesy of the Union Oil Company, our April program consisted of two fine geological motion pictures. In May, Major Julian Boyd, consulting engineer for the Pacific Coast Borax Company, gave us the benefit of his wide knowledge of gold mining. Tonight we had the pleasure of enjoying the remarkable colored motion pictures taken by Charles Heald on the Society's last two nine-day excursions into Arizona and Nevada.

Our first and largest excursion of the year was on Sunday, October 17, to Soledad Canyon, Vasquez Rocks and vicinity, with the surprising number of 90 cars and 300 people in attendance. Excellent titaniferous magnetite, ilmenite, borax ores, geodes, etc., were obtained by all. On Armistice Day, November 11, a much smaller group collected Cretaceous fossils in the Santa Ana Mountains. A most successful overnight trip was held on Novem-

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

Chacaltaite

MARJA KALOCZKOWSKA: Chacaltaite, a new mineral from Bolivia. *Sprawozdania z posiedzén 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, H_2O+ 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 chacaltaite.

W. F. FOSHAG

Picroamosite

D. R. SERDUĆENKO: 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: $(Mg, Fe)_7Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$. 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, H_2O+ 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; $2V=87°$, 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, H_2O+ 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.