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PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB

American Museum of Natural History, New York City, October 19, 1938

The first meeting of the fall season opened with a resumé of the past year's accomplishments. About 78 members and guests were present; Dr. Olaf Andersen presided.

As is the custom at the first meeting, the program was then turned over to the members who recounted their summer collecting experiences and displayed specimens. Miss Catherine Schroeder told of a submarine phosphate deposit near San Diego, California. O. I. Lee spoke of a trip to the North Carolina pegmatites, where this year he collected sphene crystals of gem quality and a terminated green tourmaline crystal. M. A. Northup described collecting in the Pennsylvania coal region, where he found in the slates and mine waste, pyrite, millerite crystal tufts, siderite, ankerite, barite, quartz and pyrophyllite.

L. N. Yedlin displayed some Paterson minerals, and massive scheelite in hornblende schist from Trumbull, Connecticut. Harry Grahl showed additional Paterson minerals, stilbite from Summit, N. J.; and stilbite, heulandite, pyrite, and sphaerosiderite from the new Queens Tunnel dump in Flushing Bay. J. A. Taylor had minute modified fluorite crystals from a quarry near the Empire City racetrack. Peter Zodiac exhibited dumortierite and molybdenite from shaft 18 of the new water tunnel at Valhalla. A. C. Hawkins showed long needle-like gypsum crystals from New Mexico.

F. H. POUGH, *Secretary*

American Museum of Natural History, New York City, November 16, 1938

The meeting was called to order by President Andersen with about 60 members and guests present. L. N. Yedlin, as Chairman of the Excursion Committee, reported a very successful trip on October 30 to the Vandermeed Quarry in Paterson, where all of the members secured fine specimens of zeolites and associated minerals. The speaker of the evening, Dr. E. G. Zies, then addressed the Club upon "Mineral Products of Volcanic Activity."

The speaker brought out a number of interesting features in connection with their study of the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes, especially regarding the abnormal composition of the magnetite crystals found only in the fumarole vents in the rhyolitic extrusion on the floor of the valley. They contain Pb, Zn, and Cu in considerable quantity: A later visit after temperature had fallen showed them to have decomposed with the formation of PbS, ZnS, and CuS. The mineralogical implications of the talk, the potentialities of vapor

activity in forming concentrations of valuable elements until a deposit of economic value has been developed, were of as much interest and as novel to many of the members as the knowledge of mineral paragenesis. Dr. Zies also described volcanic activity in Central America and in the Pacific islands and illustrated the talk with fine lantern slides and unusual specimens.

An extra meeting of the Club was held on December 1, attended by about 30 members, at which a symposium on the occurrence of prehnite was given. Members displayed specimens from their collections and told many interesting facts about the mineral and their experiences in collecting it. This type of meeting, without a formal program to discuss one or more minerals, was found to be very successful and popular with those who attended, and more are planned for the coming year.

F. H. POUGH, *Secretary*

American Museum of Natural History, New York City, December 21, 1938

The meeting was called to order by President Andersen with about 65 members and guests present. The speaker of the evening, Mr. Arthur Montgomery, a fellow member, was then presented and spoke upon his summer experiences "Collecting on Mt. Antero." He and his partner Edwin Over, first searched for the old Sterling, Colorado, barite locality, while waiting for the weather conditions in the mountains to improve. Finally finding it some miles west of Sterling, in a small canyon, they were successful in obtaining some very attractive specimens. Loose crystals were found upon the slopes and upon digging into the soft weathered volcanic tuff they were fortunate enough to locate several crystal-filled pockets. The lovely pale blue color was well shown in these specimens, and in others which were collected from a calcite vein in which the crystals were all coated with an easily removable crust of calcite. After two weeks in this locality they returned to the mountains and despite adverse conditions decided to explore the slopes of Mt. Antero and White Mountain. Here, dividing their efforts, Over concentrated on White Mountain and found a few aquamarine pockets, while Montgomery worked on Antero. The most interesting and unexpected find of the summer was made by Montgomery when two pockets were uncovered with octahedral fluorite crystals twinned in the spinel manner. A good many pockets were found, in spite of the many years of collecting on Antero, and the largest phenakites from this locality were collected. The bertrandite was disappointing. The talk was illustrated with natural color photographs and fine lantern slides, which showed well the beauty of the region in which they were working.

When the meeting adjourned the members examined the specimens which Mr. Montgomery exhibited.

F. H. POUGH, *Secretary*

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was called to order on November 3rd, 1938, by the president, Mr. Harry Trudell.

Messrs. Ralph Hoffa and Frank Bozzelli discussed the cutting and polishing of minerals and gems. The first speaker, Mr. Hoffa, described the technique used in cutting flat and cabochon gems, spheres, and decorative inlaid boxes. The second speaker, Mr. Bozzelli, described the faceting of gems. He pointed out the peculiarities of certain gem minerals and the precautions to be exercised in cutting them. Both speakers exhibited samples of their work.

Mr. Trudell reported on the first meeting of the Philadelphia Geological Society and Mr. Moyd gave a summary of the New England Geologist's Field Conference, which met at Rutland, Vt.

LOUIS MOYD, *Secretary*

Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. Harry Trudell presided at a meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society held on December 1st, 1938.

The subject of the evening was a symposium on the lead, zinc and copper mines near Phoenixville, Pa. The first speaker, Mr. Toothaker, described the Wheatley Mine in operation, when he first visited it in 1895. At that time the ore was a fine-grained, argentiferous galena, the silver content of which was high enough to pay for the mining costs of the ore. High cost of pumping soon made mining unprofitable. Mr. Arndt described the geology of the lodes, which are true fissure veins cutting the Baltimore gneiss, Pickering gneiss, and Stockton shale. Their age is determined as late or post-Triassic as they cut Triassic diabase dikes. Downward percolation has greatly affected the veins, producing the secondary minerals cerussite, anglesite, and pyromorphite. Mr. Roedder described the present condition of the mines, all of which are inactive, and the mineral collecting possibilities still available to those who wish to dig in the dumps. Many members recalled interesting personal experiences during visits to the mines over a long period of years. Attractive specimens collected at the mines were displayed.

Mr. Vanartsdalen exhibited a specimen of polished blue quartz from Bucks Co., Pa., and a discussion followed as to the possible cause of the color. Dr. Berliner exhibited a large model of a diamond cut from a colorless plastic.

LOUIS MOYD, *Secretary*

TEACHING FELLOWSHIP IN MINERALOGY

A teaching fellowship in mineralogy at Stanford University is now open to properly qualified graduate students who intend to specialize in mineralogy. Preference will be given to those who have had two years of graduate work. The chief duty of the fellow is to assist in laboratory instruction. Not more than eight or nine hours a week will be required. The amount of the fellowship is \$750.

Application for the year 1939-40, accompanied by a photograph of the candidate and supported by testimonial letters, should be made to Professor Austin F. Rogers, Box 87, Stanford University, California.
