

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was called to order on September 7 by Pres. Harry W. Trudell, with 42 members and 23 visitors in attendance.

Mr. James G. Manchester addressed the society on the collecting of chalcedony pseudomorphs after coral from Ballast Point, Tampa Bay, Florida. The corals are found in place at very low tides. Silicification is still in operation and all stages of the process can be observed. The chalcedony has replaced the outer surfaces of the corals, and in most cases the inside material has been dissolved, resulting in geodes with mamillary interiors. The speaker illustrated the report with a series of lantern slides.

The latter part of the evening was devoted to reports of summer trips. Mr. Poole described the events of the Mineral Day program of the New York World's Fair. Those giving reports and exhibiting material collected during the summer included Messrs. Whitson, Johle, Morgan, Meier, and Moyd.

A meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was called to order on October 7, 1939 by Pres. Harry W. Trudell, with 45 members and 25 visitors attending.

Election of officers for the 1939-40 season was held with the following results:

President:	Dr. W. Hersey Thomas
Vice-President:	Dr. J. F. T. Berliner
Secretary:	Mr. Louis Moyd
Treasurer:	Mr. Wiley Flack
Councillor:	Mr. Harold Arndt

The subject of the evening was *Reports of Summer Excursions*. Mr. Arndt revisited a number of localities in New England and described them as they were twenty years ago and at present. Mr. Jehle collected vivianite at Mullica Hill, N. J., and discussed the flaking of flint implements. Mr. W. Leigh Smith, with Mr. Tomlinson, visited Perkiomenville, Blue Ball, Quarryville, Avondale, Downingtown, and Barto, Pa., and Cockeysville, Md. Mr. Trudell reported on a trip taken with the Messrs. Gordon and Knabe to the Adirondacks. Mr. Evans visited gold and copper mines at Libertytown, Morristown, and Pabsco, Va., the Morefield Mine at Amelia, and the mines near Spruce Pine, N. C. Mr. Allbrecht visited Ellenville, Herkimer, Gore Mt., and Tilly Foster Mine in N. Y., the Black Lake area and Gaspe, Quebec, Newry, Me., Grafton, N. H., Westfield Mass., and Portland Conn.

Mr. Gordon reported on his trip in the west. He visited Pikes Peak, Denver, Col., Pioche and Owens Valley, Nev., and Mono Crater.

Mr. Frorer visited Thetford, Quebec. Dr. Gillson reported on the field trip of the Society of Economic Geologists, which visited various districts in California, the Comstock Mine and Lassen Peak. Dr. Thomas obtained anthraxolite at Cataqui, Ont., and visited Indian Pond, Madoc, Deloro, Millbridge, Bancroft, Hybla, and the Phoenix Molybdenite Mine, West of Renfrew, Ont. Many interesting and beautiful specimens were exhibited by the speakers.

President W. Hersey Thomas called to order a meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society on November 2, 1939, with 50 members and 22 visitors in attendance.

Mr. Martin L. Ehrmann spoke to the Society on his trip to Mexican mineral localities during the past summer with Dr. William F. Foshag of the U. S. National Museum.

They collected scorodite, hemimorphite, and fluorite at Mapimie, Mexico's largest lead producer. At Durango, they obtained fine gemmy apatite crystals and martite from Iron Mountain. At Sombriete, they saw a considerable quantity of proustite in place in an old mine. The speaker said that the well known apophyllite-amethyst groups and associated minerals really come from La Luz, a short distance away from Guanajuato. They stopped at Pachuca which, at present, produces 20 per cent of the world's silver. At Corderro, the famous Mexican opals are obtained from a rhyolite ridge 30 miles long. Mr. Ehrmann illustrated his address with good specimens, lantern slides, and motion pictures.

LOUIS MOYD, *secretary*

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB, INC.

American Museum of Natural History, November 15, 1939

The meeting was called to order by President Lee with 71 members and guests present. Mr. Northrup, Acting Chairman of the Excursion Committee, reported on the Election Day trip to Vandermade's and Braen's trap rock quarries. The outstanding finds of the day were greenockite in yellow coatings and fine crystals of babingtonite. About 40 members attended.

The President then introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Martin L. Ehrmann, who told of his experiences collecting minerals in Mexico. He was accompanied by Dr. William F. Foshag, of the U. S. National Museum. The first stop was made at Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The first stop in Mexico was at the Ojuela Lead Mine in the State of Durango. This mine produced at one time one-third of the world's supply, but is now operated under a sub-lease on a much reduced scale. Large white hemimorphite crystals and half-inch transparent green scorodite crystals were found at this locality, as well as good carminite.

The next visit was to the hematite mine at Cerro Mercado, a locality long famous for its golden apatite crystals. Rich ore with a high iron content is mined here by very primitive quarrying methods. The apatite crystals found occurred in fissures in a matrix of semi-opal, chalcedony and sepiolite.

The Sombriete silver mine which formerly produced fine specimens was not working and nothing was obtained. This was also true of La Luz and other mines of the Guanajuato district, the Queretaro opal mines and the Pachuca silver mine. However, good specimens of mimetite and fair scorodite were obtained at a silver mine at Taxco, 100 miles south of Mexico City. This mine, reported to be the largest silver mine in the world, has been in operation since 1524.

F. H. POUGH, *Secretary*