

stone, judging from analysis<sup>13</sup> of samples from the vicinity of its origin<sup>14</sup> (Bellefonte, Centre County, Pennsylvania), probably contained about 0.5 per cent  $MgCO_3$ . Thirty thousand pounds of limestone with 0.5 per cent  $MgCO_3$  would contain 150 pounds of  $MgCO_3$ , which is equivalent to 640 pounds of boussingaultite. Some of the bone coal from the vicinity of the boussingaultite was found to contain a few per cent of ankerite. The water, judging from analysis of water from a nearby well<sup>15</sup> and from the Susquehanna River<sup>16</sup> (into which the region drains), contained only a few parts per million of magnesium, so the water was not an important source of the magnesium. Lansfordite and nesquehonite, the type locality of which is about 20 miles away,<sup>17</sup> may have contributed some magnesium but none of these minerals were found in the samples of boussingaultite.

Sulfur compounds in the refuse probably supplied the sulfur for the sulfate. From 0.2 to 4.3 per cent sulfur was found<sup>18</sup> in similar refuse.

<sup>13</sup> Miller, B. L., Limestones of Pennsylvania: *Pa. Geol. Sur.*, 4th Series, *Bull.* **M20**, 281-291 (1934).

<sup>14</sup> Personal communication, George E. McElroy, senior mining engineer, Health Division, Central Experiment Station, Bureau of Mines, Pittsburgh, Pa.

<sup>15</sup> Lohman, S. W., Ground water in northeastern Pennsylvania: *Pa. Geol. Sur.*, 4th Series, *Bull.* **W4**, 244 (1937).

<sup>16</sup> Dole, R. B., The quality of surface waters in the United States: *U. S. Geol. Sur.*, *Water-Supply Paper* **236**, 104 (1909).

<sup>17</sup> Ford, W. E., *Dana's Textbook of Mineralogy*: John Wiley & Sons, New York (1932), pp. 529-531.

<sup>18</sup> Jones, G. W., and Scott, G. S., Work cited in footnote 4, page 5.

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#### NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA FOR 1945

The Council has nominated the following for officers of the Mineralogical Society of America for the year 1945:

PRESIDENT: K. K. Landes, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

VICE-PRESIDENT: George Tunell, Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

SECRETARY: C. S. Hurlbut, Jr., Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

TREASURER: Earl Ingerson, Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

EDITOR: Walter F. Hunt, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

COUNCILOR (1945-1948): R. E. Grim, Illinois Geological Survey, Urbana, Illinois.

Following the decision of the Geological Society of America, there will be no meeting for the presentation of papers of the Mineralogical Society of America during 1944. Members of the Society may submit abstracts of scientific papers to be published in the March-April issue of the *American Mineralogist*.

The ballots for officers of the Society and for candidates for fellowship will be sent out from the Secretary's office early in October.

C. S. HURLBUT, JR., *Secretary*.

*To the Editor:*

On page 235, vol. 29 of your journal, you published a paper by V. L. Bosazza on "Notes and news on the adsorption of some organic dyes by clays and clay minerals."

In this paper the author states that the results of Hauser and Leggett (*Jour. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **62**, 1811 (1940)) cannot be widely accepted because the clays used in their investigations are not specified in any way.

The Wyoming bentonite we used was of the highest possible purity, containing particles not over .1 micron obtained by supercentrifugal fractionation. For the reactions carried out with dry bentonite, the same purified clay was used which had been dehydrated at a temperature just below the point where x-ray analysis reveals a decomposition of the original crystal lattice. Our samples were, therefore, at least as well defined as those Mr. Bosazza used and certainly purer. That some of the color reactions we reported do not depend on the presence of water was illustrated by our use of dimethylaniline. This chemical was not used by Mr. Bosazza so that his conclusion (2) is unjustified.

ERNST A. HAUSER,  
*Department of Chemical Engineering,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology.*

4 Upland Park Road  
Oxford

THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY  
LONDON

6/9/44

Dear Mr. President,

May I express to you and ask you to convey to your colleagues on the Council of the Mineralogical Society of America and to its Fellows and Members the sincere sympathy of my colleagues and myself at the loss you have sustained through the tragic death of your Vice-President, Harry Berman, of whose death in the aeroplane crash at Prestwick I was informed today by our Editor, Dr. Sepnker.

I have heard no details, but I feel certain that Dr. Berman must have been travelling to this country, if not on Government business, on business intimately connected with the war effort, and if that was the case, he is, I think, the first Officer or Member of Council of either of our twin Societies to lose his life in our countries' common cause.

I have never had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Berman, who was also a member of this Society, but his name is well known to me. Unfortunately I have never been able to visit the United States, though I have just set foot in it when travelling through from Montreal to St. John, New Brunswick, if I remember correctly at a place called Moose Lake.

With deepest sympathy

Prof. R. C. Emmons  
President, Mineralogical Society of America  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

Yours sincerely,  
(Signed F. N. Ashcroft)  
President.

Dr. Harry Berman, associate professor of mineralogy and curator of the Mineralogical Museum at Harvard University was killed in an airplane accident at Prestwick, Scotland, on August 27. He was on leave of absence from the University and was in charge of research laboratories and of crystal production for the Reeves Sound Laboratories, Inc., and the Hudson American Corporation. He was en route to England to supervise special war work when the crash occurred. Dr. Berman was forty-two years of age and in December

was elected Vice-president of the Mineralogical Society for the current year. A memorial will appear in a later issue of the *Journal* enumerating some of his important contributions to mineralogy and crystallography.

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As this issue goes to press word has been received of the sudden death of Professor J. Ellis Thomson, Head of the Department of Mineralogy in the University of Toronto, on Sept. 26, 1944, at the age of sixty-two. Professor Thomson had served on the Council of the Mineralogical Society of America, also as Vice-President of the Society in 1935, and as President in 1938. A memorial will appear in a later issue.

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The State Mineralogist of California announces the publication of Bulletin No. 126—California Mineral Production for 1942. It contains 224 pages, 7 illustrations and one chart, bound in paper covers. It may be purchased from the State Division of Mines, Ferry Building, San Francisco, California, for 75¢ plus 2¢ sales tax for California residents.

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Announcement is also made of the *California Journal of Mines and Geology* for July 1943 (vol. 39, no. 3). Articles in this report include Crestmore minerals, the isometrograph as developed and used at the new Idria quicksilver mine, the sillimanite group of minerals, activity in strategic minerals in the Sacramento and Redding fields, and other articles. Price 60¢, plus 2½% sales tax for California residents.

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Bulletin 151 of the Arizona Bureau of Mines, Geological Series (No. 16) was issued in October 1943. This 160 page bulletin deals with the Geology and Ore Deposits of the Superior Mining Area, Arizona (located in the northeastern part of Pinal County). The authors are M. N. Short, F. W. Galbraith, E. N. Harshman, T. H. Kuhn, and Eldred W. Wilson. This bulletin is distributed free to residents of Arizona, to others the price is \$1.85. Address the University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

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Mr. Fred W. Cassirer addressed the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society on June 1, 1944. He spoke on "Mineral Hunting in Central Europe." Mr. John Cochrane described his recent visit to the Harding Mine near Dixon, New Mexico, now being worked for microlite

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The newly elected officers of the New Jersey Mineralogical Society include:  
 President: Joseph D'Agostino  
 Vice-Presidents: H. E. Millson and Dr. H. P. Walther  
 Treasurer: Miss E. Heusel  
 Secretary: G. R. Stilwell  
 Librarian: A. A. Surina  
 Curator: Dr. A. C. Hawkins.

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#### Correction

The legends of figures 1 and 2, page 300, of the article on "Occurrence of gabbro-wehrlite near Lochalsh, Ontario" in the July-August issue of *The American Mineralogist* should read "gabbro-wehrlite" instead of "gabbro-lherzolite."