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#### THE GREENOCKITE LOCALITY AT BISHOPTON, SCOTLAND

H. F. HARWOOD, *Deganwy, North Wales, England.*

In view of the announcement in the January-February issue of *The American Mineralogist*, Vol. 36, 1950, page 165, that crystallized greenockite had been discovered at two new localities in Bolivia, a note of a visit paid last year by the writer and some mineralogist friends to the original Scottish source of this mineral may not be without interest.

The exact locality is a large pasture field near the village of Bishop-ton. Beneath the field runs the railway to Greenock, in a tunnel about 60 feet below the surface; this tunnel was excavated well over a century ago. At about the center of the tunnel is a large "eye" through which a considerable portion of the excavated debris was hoisted to the surface and dumped on the nearby grass field. The tunnel traverses a series of inclined lava beds. It is in one of these that the greenockite occurs. The rock in question is an amygdaloidal labradorite porphyry, containing mammillary prehnite. The greenockite crystals occur invariably in crevices of the prehnite. The mineral appears to be confined solely to the one band of rock, and nothing is known about either the thickness of this, or its exact situation in the tunnel.

An intensive search of the excavated material in the field produced one fair-sized block of this rock, and on carefully breaking this up, four crystals of greenockite were obtained from it. The largest one measured 6×4 mm. but was unfortunately incomplete. The remaining three were smaller, but showed well the hemihedral character of the crystals.

A prolonged search failed to bring to light any more of the prehnite-bearing rock, and as comparatively little of the original spoil heap now remains, most of it was carted away thirty years ago for road material, it seems unlikely that the locality will yield any further specimens of these rare crystals of greenockite.

#### TEN YEARS OF NEW MINERAL NAMES

MICHAEL FLEISCHER\*

The completion of a ten year period of abstracting new mineral names for the *American Mineralogist* caused me to review the results for that period. The following table summarizes my present opinion of the new names that have been abstracted in Volumes 26 through 35

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of the *American Mineralogist*; other reviewers would doubtless have arrived at somewhat different results. It is not proposed to discuss here the philosophy of mineralogical nomenclature.

	Total New Names Proposed	Valid Names	Identical with Known Minerals	Unnecessary Names for Varieties	Insufficient Data
1941	20	8	3	8	1
1942	12	5	1	5	1
1943	14	9	2	1	2
1944	11	7	3	1	0
1945	14	5	2	4	3
1946	11	5	2	2	2
1947	21	9	3	4	5
1948	20	7	2	4	7
1949	22	15	2	1	4
1950	19	7	2	3	7
	164	77	22	33	32

Detailed comments are perhaps unnecessary. New names are being added at the rate of about 20 a year, except for the War years, and less than half of these appear to be valid; very likely some of those above considered valid now will be discredited later. During this same period, 85 mineral names were discredited. It is mildly comforting to note that there were more mineral names discredited than there were valid species established.

There are probably 1200 to 1500 valid mineral species, the exact number depending on the counter's definition of mineral species; yet a complete index of mineralogical names would probably require 10,000 to 12,000 entries. In these circumstances, it behooves every mineralogist to think carefully before he proposes a new mineral name.

#### ABSTRACT

CALCULI AND OTHER STONES FOUND IN MAMMALS, by CHARLES MILTON AND JOSEPH M. AXELROD (U. S. Geological Survey). *Journal of Mammalogy*, May, 1951.

This is a study, using x-ray diffraction patterns, of the substances composing several dozen pathologic stony concretions found in the internal organs (stomach, kidneys, salivary glands, etc.) of deer, horses, mules, and dogs. All available literature is reviewed furnishing additional data on calculi from guanacos, hippopotami, elephants, and many other beasts, birds, and fishes. Of special interest to the mineralogist is the identification of brushite, newberyite, struvite, calcite, whewellite, and weddellite. Four pages of plates with 22 figures show the characteristic aspect and internal structure of the various types of stones; most of which form around a foreign nucleus, such as a wooden splinter, an iron nail, a lead bullet, siliceous hematite, or a whole pecan nut. A brief theoretical discussion of the formation of such calculi, from the standpoint of colloid chemistry, is based largely on the writings of Heinrich Schade, whose work also throws light on lithogenic processes in sedimentary rocks. The former therapeutic use of mammalian calculi ("bezoars," "mad-stones") is discussed and 25 references to the literature of calculi are cited.

## X-RAY IDENTIFICATION AND CRYSTAL STRUCTURES OF CLAY MINERALS.

Edited by G. W. BRINDLEY. London, 1951, *Mineralogical Society* (Clay Minerals Group).

The *Mineralogical Society of Great Britain* announces the publication of a new and original monograph of 345 pages. The preparation of this book results from the efforts and discussions of the Clay Minerals Group which was formed in 1947 for the express purpose of furthering the study of clay minerals.

The book provides an authoritative account of the  $x$ -ray identification and crystal structures of clays and allied substances. The fourteen chapters are contributed by a number of different authors who are experts in their respective fields, the co-ordinating editor being Dr. G. W. Brindley. The kaolin, montmorillonite, mica, and chlorite minerals, vermiculite, sepiolite, attapulgite, and oxides of iron and aluminium are all included in the survey. A great deal of information is presented in the form of tables, valuable for reference purposes not only to those concerned with the study and applications of clays, but also to  $x$ -ray crystallographers generally.

Copies, price 35s (post free 36s) are obtainable only from the *General Secretary, Mineralogical Society*, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London, S.W. 7, or in the U.S.A. (price \$6.00), from *Dr. R. E. Grim, Illinois Geological Survey, Urbana, Illinois, U.S.A.*

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An Authors' Index and a Subject Index of groups are added. Further, a list of Industrial Diamond Publications as issued by the Industrial Diamond Information Bureau and N.A.G. Press Ltd., is added. The Industrial Diamond Information Bureau, 32-34 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1. has arranged for a mailing list for readers interested in these reprints according to which they can receive reprints of selected groups when they are published.