

Secretary-Treasurer—Raymond C. Gutschik (University of Notre Dame).

Editor—William F. Read (Lawrence College).

Heinrich Ries, professor emeritus of economic geology, Cornell University, died April 11 at Ithaca, New York, at the age of seventy-nine years.

To correct some errors which have been discovered in the fourth edition of Part II of Winchell's Elements of Optical Mineralogy an errata sheet is now available by request from the publishers, John Wiley and Sons, of New York.

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY (LONDON)

A meeting of the Society was held on Thursday, June 7, 1951, in the apartments of the Geological Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1 (by kind permission).

The following papers were read:

- (1) A new beryllium mineral, discovered as a gem-stone.

By Mr. B. W. Anderson, Mr. C. J. Payne and Dr. G. F. Claringbull, with a microchemical analysis by Dr. M. H. Hey.

This pale-mauve transparent mineral at present known only as two faceted gemstones is hexagonal with $a=5.72 \text{ \AA}$ and $c=18.38 \text{ \AA}$; space group $D_6^0=C6_32$. Refractive indices $\omega=1.723$ (1.721), $\epsilon=1.719$ (1.717); density 3.62 (3.59). Microchemical analysis gives the composition $\text{Be}_4\text{Mg}_4\text{Al}_{16}\text{O}_{32}$.

- (2) The amygdale minerals in the Tertiary lavas of Ireland. (1) The distribution of chabazite habits and zeolites in the Garron plateau area, Co. Antrim.

By Mr. G. P. L. Walker.

It has been found possible to arrange chabazite habits in a habit series ranging from the simple, untwinned unit rhombohedron to the complex-twinned varieties, phacolite and herschelite. A habit notation is proposed, and a habit distribution map, perhaps the first of its kind to appear, has been prepared of seventy square miles of basalt lavas in the Garron plateau area in the east of Co. Antrim, accompanied by a section. The distribution is so regular that the habit seems to have been controlled by the temperature. The Chabazite habits fall into a number of well-defined zones superimposed upon, and therefore later than the lavas, but clearly shifted by several faults. The zeolites associated with the chabazite are described and their distribution considered. Analcime, which falls into a zone towards the base of the lavas appears, unlike the chabazite, to post-date the faulting. It is therefore possible to establish a relative chronology of events following the eruption of the lavas. Regarding the origin of the zeolites, the distribution of chabazite habits and analcime appears to support the idea which is put forward that, once initiated, the reactions resulting in the hydration of the pyrogenetic minerals in the basalts to zeolites and chlorites are capable of generating sufficient heat to maintain these reactions.

- (3) Notes on the copper deposits of Middleton Tyas and Richmond.

By Mr. M. T. Deans.

These deposits, worked mainly in the eighteenth century, occur as flats, pockets and thin veins in the Carboniferous Limestone not far below the former surface on which Permian rocks rested. Chalcocite predominates in the east, chalcopyrite in the west, and covelline and bornite are well developed, together with malachite, azurite and a little native copper. Replacements among the copper minerals are described, also chalcocite

replacing galena. Gangue minerals are absent or very subordinate, consisting of calcite, baryte and witherite, as in the nearest Pennine lead deposits. The origin of the deposits is discussed.

(4) Cataclastic pegmatites and calc-silicate skarns near Bunbeg, Co. Donegal.

By Mr. E. H. T. Whitten.

Description is given of the Dalradian calc-silicate hornfelses and three cataclastic zoned diopside-rich pegmatites intruded into them; these dykes have produced interesting skarns. The petrogenesis of the dykes and skarns is discussed.

The following paper was taken as read:

(1) On the occurrence of conichalcite and other minerals new and rare to Britain.

By Mr. A. W. G. Kingsbury and Mr. J. Hartley.

New and recent occurrences of conichalcite in Devon, antlerite and cyanotrichite in Cornwall, carminite in Cornwall and Cumberland, and zeunerite, plumbogummite and other minerals in Cornwall are described.

(Titles and abstracts kindly submitted by G. F. Claringbull, General Secretary)