The next annual meeting of the Mineralogical Society of America will be held at Washington, D. C., December 27-29, in conjunction with that of the Geological Society of America.

We regret to note the death of Dr. William S. Disbrow of Newark, New Jersey. He was one of the founders of the Academy of Medicine of Northern New Jersey and a collector of minerals and antiques.

NEW MINERALS

Larsen's "Microscopic identification of the non-opaque minerals," reviewed in this Journal, *Am. Min.*, **7**, 69, 1922, contains a considerable amount of data on mineral species, near-species, and varieties which seems likely to introduce changes in ranking in a number of cases. While final action on these may have to await consideration by the Committee on Nomenclature and Classification of the Mineralogical Society of America, important changes not already published or abstracted in our pages may be enumerated here.

In Larsen's "New Data," pages 34 to 160, there are 32 cases where the optical properties of supposed varietal minerals seem sufficiently distinct from those of the related species to suggest the desirability of raising these to sub-species, and in some cases to full species, rank. These comprise:

Alurgite	Jeffersonite
Antlerite	Kalinite (fibrous form)
Auerlite	Mariposite
Brandisite	Melanophlogite
Coeruleolactite	Paraffin
Cookeite	Picotite
Corkite	Pleonaste
Cuprodescloizite	Ripidolite
Destinezite	Salmoite (entirely new)
Endlichite	Schneebergite
Ferberite	Schroeckingerite
Ferrocolumbite	Serpentine (chrysotile form)
Fuchsite	Uraconite
Griphite	Uranochalcite
Heterolite	Voelckerite
Heterosite	Zippeite

On the other hand, specimens labeled as representing supposed species show features which in a number of cases suggest other interpretations, as follows:

Castanite, apparently identical with quetenite.
Cervantite, varies widely and is evidently made up of more than one species.
Dawsonite, comprises more than one species.
Dufrenite, shows wide variation, and may be composite.
Guarinite, does not agree with previous data, and shows peculiar features.
Hibbenite, seems optically identical with alpha-hopeite.
Ihleite, seems essentially identical with copiapite.
Janosite, seems also identical with copiapite.

Johannite, is usually another species, and is doubtfully distinct.

Kalinite, comprises two species, and it is recommended that the name be limited to the fibrous, strongly birefringent form, the other to be called potash alum.

Knoxvillite, seems identical with copiapite.

Litharge. In announcing the recognition of two forms of lead monoxide, Larsen had suggested the name litharge for the yellow, orthorhombic form, and massicot for the red, tetragonal one. The common usage for the artificial products, as well as Dana's statements under the species massicot, suggest that this be reversed.

Lithargite. The mineralogical form of the name, preferred in this journal. Now to be defined as the red tetragonal form of PbO.

Massicot. Discussed under litharge.

Massicotite, the mineralogical form of the name, preferred in this journal. To be defined, following Dana, as the yellow orthorhombic form of PbO.

Metavoltaite, a new spelling of "metavoltine."

Montmorillonite, is variable and needs further study.

Pseudomalachite, seems identical with dihydrite.

Psittacinite, seems identical with cuprodescloizite.

Pyrrhite, may be grouped with koppite as a sub-species.

Quenstedtite, seems identical with copiapite.

Rivaite, "not very different from . . . wollastonite." (Compare Bowen, *Am. Min.* **7**, 64, 1922.)

Scorodite, in 8 specimens showed at least 4 different sets of properties and may represent as many species.

Stibiconite, varies widely and like cervantite is evidently composite.

Utahite, seems identical with jarosite. E. T. W.

ABSTRACTS—MINERALOGY

A NEW DESCRIPTION OF AMESITE. Earl V. Shannon. *Am. J. Sci.*, **49**, 96–8, 1920.

Amesite from Chester, Mass. is bluish-green in color, pearly to metallic in luster, and translucent to opaque except in thin fragments. Micaceous basal cleavage, laminae are brittle. H. 2.3, sp.gr. 2.77. Optical properties: biaxial, 2V very small, Bx_a normal to perfect cleavage, +, colorless, α 1.597, β 1.597, γ 1.612, all $\pm$ 0.003. Analysis: SiO_2 20.95, Al_2O_3 35.21, FeO 8.28, CaO 0.58, MgO 22.88, MnO trace, H_2O- 0.23, H_2O+ 13.02, sum 101.15. Formula: $2(Fe, Mg)\,O.Al_2O_3.SiO_2.2H_2O$. E. F. H.

IMMERSION METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF INDICES OF REFRACTION OF SOLID BODIES. Ch. Fabry. *J. de Phys.*, **9**, 11, 1919; through *Am. J. Sci.* **49**, 148–50, 1920. Note. H. S. Uhler. *Am. J. Sci.* **49**, 143–5, 1920.

Fabry's method allows the det'n of n to the fifth decimal, and exact equality of indices of the unknown and the immersion liquid is unnecessary. A goniometer,