NEW MINERAL NAMES

Mindigite


Name: From locality Mindigi, Katanga.

Chemical Properties: A hydrous cobalt hydroxide, $9\text{Co}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 2\text{CuO} \cdot 16\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Analysis: $\text{Co}_2\text{O}_3$ 76.05, 77.05; $\text{CuO}$ 9.22, 7.34; $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ 14.79, 14.74; insol. 0.66; total 100.00, 99.79. Heated yields water and finally some oxygen. Fuses to dark blue mass.


Occurrence: Found as crusts with shining surface on hematite at Mindigi, 58 kms. W.S.W. of Kambove, Katanga.

W. F. H.

$a$-Uranopilite

NOVÁČEK, R.: Study of some secondary uranium minerals. *Věstníku Královské České Společnosti Nauk*, vol. 2, pp. 15–16, 1935. (In English.) A lower hydrate of uranopilite, $6\text{UO}_2 \cdot 2\text{SiO}_2 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ is tentatively called $a$-uranopilite. It differs from uranopilite in color (grayish, dirty green), less perceptible pleochroism, parallel extinction, higher birefringence, and higher indices ($\alpha = 1.72$, $\beta = 1.76$, $\gamma = 1.70$). Elongation parallel with the optic normal $\beta$; the obtuse bisectrix $\gamma$ lies in the flat face (010).

W. F. F.

Bismoclite


Name: In reference to its composition, a bismuth oxychloride.

Chemical Properties: A bismuth oxychloride, $\text{BiOCl}$. Analysis: $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ 88.49; Fe$_2$O$_3$ 0.12; PbO trace; Cl 13.00; $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ + (above 110°C.) 0.45; $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ − (below 110°C.) 0.42; insol. 0.77; less 0 = Cl 2.93; total 100.32. Gently heated in closed tube gives small quantity of acid water. Upon further heating the mineral becomes almost white, then yellow, yielding a white cloudy sublimate. At higher temperature the color darkens to orange and the sublimate collects into lemon yellow globules. Finally, the mineral melts and solidifies to a lemon yellow mass. In open tube the behavior is the same except sublimate is dense white and does not collect into
globules. In the flame gives an indistinct pale blue color. Soluble in acids without
effervescence but is precipitated on considerable dilution.

**PHYSICAL PROPERTIES:** Color creamy white, slightly yellowish in patches. Columnar or platy-fibrous. Cleavage well defined. Luster greasy or silky, except on
cleavage, pearly. Hd. = 2 1/2, G. = 7.36.

**Occurrence:** Found 13 miles N.W. of Jackals Water, Namaqualand, on pegmatite outcrop, associated with muscovite.

Examination by x-rays suggests its identity with artificial, tetragonal BiOCl.

**Bokspuitite**


**Name:** From the locality, the farm Boksput, Cape Province.

**Chemical Properties:** A lead bismuth carbonate, 6PbO·Bi2O3·3CO2. Analysis: PbO 67.22; Bi2O3 22.92; CO2 6.96; Cl 0.99; H2O+ 0.73; H2O− 0.19; insol. 0.34; less 0 = Cl 0.22; Sum 99.13.

When heated gently in closed tube it decrepitates slightly and gives off a small
amount of moisture. On further heating, first becomes orange, then brown and be-
gins to melt below red heat to a black melt, cooling to yellowish brown mass. In
open tube the behavior is identical. When strongly heated on charcoal it melts easily
giving a yellow sublimate near the assay, white farther away and yields soft, malle-
able bead. With potassium iodide and sulfur it gives an orange and red sublimate.
Soluble in hydrochloric and nitric acids with effervescence. With sulfuric acid it
gives a test for lead.

**Physical Properties:** Color yellow. Fine grained with pearly luster. Hd. = 3 1/2,
G. = 7.29.

**Occurrence:** Found as fine grained yellow masses in quartz veins and pegma-
tites with wolframite, scheelite and beryl, from Boksput, Langklip, Gordonia, Cape
Province.

W. F. F.

**Cobalto-Sphärosiderite**

**Kobalt-Oligonspat**

**Reissner, R.:** Überg einen kobalthaltigen Oligonspat. *Centr. Min.,* Abt. A, No-
6, pp. 170-173, 1935. A bright peach colored carbonate associated with siderite in
quartz from an unknown locality gave: FeCO3 40.48, MnCO3 19.11, MgCO3 21.06,
CoCO3 14.44, CaCO3 4.34, ZnCO3 0.61. For this mineral the name cobaltosphäro-
siderite or kobalt-oligonspat is proposed.

W. F. F.