

crystals observed was .028 millimeters. The refractive index γ of the cleavage plates was $1.565 \pm .003$, and the maximum observed extinction angle on $\{010\}$ against the base was 18° .

AN OCCURRENCE OF LARGE ZIRCON NEEDLES
IN A BASIC PEGMATITE

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Crystals of zircon up to $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches long and $1/16$ to $1/8$ inch in diameter occur in a basic pegmatite in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 29, T 45 N, R 2 W, about 2 miles north of the town of Mellen, Wisconsin. The pegmatite, which is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, cuts the gabbro country rock. It contains large crystals of basic plagioclase, hornblende and biotite, penetrated by the needles of zircon.

The zircon is non-magnetic, has a specific gravity greater than 3 and shows prismatic parting. Its color is cinnamon brown with adamantine lustre. The crystals are uniaxial and positive, showing parallel extinction. The refractive index of the ordinary ray is 1.925 ± 0.002 , and the birefringence determined on thin sections of grains with the universal stage is 0.054 ± 0.002 . An x-ray powder photograph by George W. Field of the University of Wisconsin shows a typical zircon pattern.

Dr. Henri Mngemach, the noted crystallographer and curator of the collections at Strasbourg, died on the night of June 10th at Strasbourg.