

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA FOR 1937

The Council has nominated the following for officers of THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA for the year of 1937:

PRESIDENT: N. L. Bowen, Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

VICE-PRESIDENT: H. V. Ellsworth, Canada Geological Survey, Ottawa, Canada.

SECRETARY: Paul F. Kerr, Department of Geology and Mineralogy, Columbia University, New York City.

TREASURER: Waldemar T. Schaller, United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

EDITOR: Walter F. Hunt, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

COUNCILOR (1937-1940): A. P. Honess, 113 Frazier Street, State College, Pennsylvania.

The seventeenth annual meeting of the Society will be held December 28-30, at Cincinnati, Ohio. It is planned to publish in the December issue of the *Journal* a preliminary list of titles of papers to be presented before the Society at its annual meeting. In order to appear on the advance program, titles of papers should be in the hands of the Secretary by *November 10*.

A printed program containing abstracts of all papers will be mailed to the membership of the Society prior to the annual meeting. Abstracts for this program, typed in duplicate, should be in the hands of the Secretary by *November 25th*.

PAUL F. KERR, *Secretary*

## BOOK REVIEW

A KEY TO PRECIOUS STONES. L. J. SPENCER. Crown Octavo, VII+237 pages, 8 plates, and 57 figures. Blackie & Son, Ltd., London and Glasgow, 1936. Price five shillings.

This book is by the distinguished mineralogist, L. J. Spencer, and is issued in Blackie's Key Series. The volumes in this series aim to serve as lucid, practical, and authoritative guides in the various fields of knowledge, and are sold at the remarkably low price of five shillings.

The KEY TO PRECIOUS STONES is written from the standpoint of the mineralogist in popular language. The scientific aspects of the subject are emphasized, while romance and mystery, so often associated with gems, are kept in the background. The book is divided into two parts, designated as I—GENERAL PRINCIPLES, and II—DESCRIPTIVE PORTION. In Part I the important physical properties, geological occurrences and origin, mining, and the cutting and polishing of gems are adequately discussed. Imitation and artificial gem materials and the nomenclature of gem stones are also considered. Part II contains concise descriptions of properties, occurrences, and uses of those gems which are most commonly used. The book is illustrated with eight full-page plates and fifty-seven line drawings. It is to be regretted that the excellent colored plate which appears on the jacket was not made an integral part of the book.

The author is to be congratulated upon his success in incorporating so much material concerning gems in a text of this size. The volume should prove most helpful to all students and lovers of gems and gem materials, and its very low price should make it easily available.

EDWARD H. KRAUS