While the blowpipe art is an important phase of determinative mineralogy, it was pointed out that chemical testing should not be over-emphasized, and an appeal was made for drawing full value from all discernible physical characters of minerals. Determinative characters beyond the blowpipe were shown to be necessary for polymorphic minerals and for those that are chemically similar. The advantages and limitations of blowpipe methods, especially in relation to the chemical composition of minerals, were impartially summarized, and pertinent experiences cited. Finally, the speaker concluded that collegiate instruction in determinative mineralogy shows a strong trend away from the blowpipe and toward entire reliance on physical characters—and regret was implied. Declining to prophesy the future of the blowpipe art, the speaker expressed the hope that it would long survive and that many would use it to widen their present interest and pleasure in the study of mineralogy.

F. H. Pouagh, Secretary

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Bedenite


Name: From the locality, Beden Mountain, North Caucasus.

Chemical Properties: A silicate of lime, magnesia, iron and alumina: Ca₂(Mg, Fe⁺⁺⁺, Al)₆Si₈O₂₂(OH). Analysis: SiO₂ 55.15, Fe₂O₃ 7.18, Al₂O₃ 4.66, MnO, FeO, tr., CaO 13.00, MgO 19.09, H₂O+1.60, H₂O—0.10. Sum 100.78.


Relationship: Bedenite is a rhombic amphibole belonging to the anthophyllite series.

W. F. Foshag