

A circular letter from the Director of the Geological Survey of Finland has been sent to numerous geologists in other countries. In the letter the Director calls attention to the destruction of property, including damage to the structure housing the headquarters of the Survey, as a result of the recent Russian-Finnish war. An appeal is made to friends of the Survey for assistance, particularly for publications for the library. The letter concludes with the following paragraph:

"Now that the Geological Survey of Finland has lost its headquarters, we venture to appeal to all geologists living in happier circumstances than ours, in the hope that they would organise in their respective countries a collection of means that would enable us to resume as soon as possible our participation in the geological study of our globe. We are confident that you will not, knowing that we have conscientiously carried out our own share of the world's geological work, refuse to give us all the aid in your power. Many small contributions can together denote an appreciable measure of help. The Geological Survey will commemorate in lasting form and honour those who helped it in its hour of need."

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB, INC.

The American Museum of Natural History, New York City, March 20, 1940

The meeting was called to order with 80 members and guests present. Mineral Day at the World's Fair, June 17, was announced and the members were urged to support it to make it as successful as possible. After the business meeting, the President introduced Mr. Thomas A. Wright, who spoke upon "The Spectrograph in Mineralogy." He showed slides illustrating modern instruments with their various advantages. A survey of the history of spectroscopy and spectrography was given and actual plates shown illustrating the practical applications of the technique. An interesting series showed many different tin minerals, while another drew comparisons between several of the micas. A number of calcite specimens from various localities showed some unexpected rare elements present. The talk was very interesting and well presented.

The American Museum of Natural History, New York City, April 17, 1940

The meeting was called to order with 62 members and guests present. The incumbent officers were reelected for another year. The speaker of the evening, Mr. John J. Shanks, of Waynesboro, Pa., spoke on the "Rocks and Minerals of South Mountain, Pa." The history of the geological work in this interesting region of pre-Cambrian rocks was first recounted, and then the interesting mineral deposits of the area described. A number of thin sections showing the intense alteration of the rocks and the growth of piemontite were projected on the screen. At the close of the meeting the members had an opportunity to examine a large number of polished specimens of the altered rock and some of the minerals, such as copper, which are found in them.

F. H. POUGH, *Secretary*

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

*The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Meetings of
December 7, 1939, January 4, February 1, March 7
and April 4, 1940*

Dr. W. Hershey Thomas presided on December 7, 1939 with 48 members and 30 visitors present. Dr. A. Williams Postel gave an illustrated talk on "The Granodiorites of the Philadelphia Area."

Dr. Thomas presided on January 4, 1940, with 37 members and 18 visitors in attendance. Dr. H. K. Alber addressed the society on "The Microchemical Analysis of Minerals," which was illustrated.

Dr. Thomas was in the chair on February 1, 1940, with 37 members and 17 visitors present. Dr. A. B. Cummins described "The Asbestos Minerals," emphasizing methods of mining and extraction in Canada. Mr. William Hunter reported on pitchblende from Avondale, Pa.

Dr. Thomas presided on March 7, 1940 with 39 members and 15 visitors present. Dr. Robert D. Butler spoke on "Mineral Collecting in Park County, Colorado," which was illustrated with maps.

Dr. Thomas presided at a meeting held on April 4, 1940, with 46 members and 29 visitors present. A minute expressing the regret of the Society on the death of Stephen Varni was read.

Mr. Ernest Weidhaas addressed the Society on "Freak Simulations in Minerals," illustrated by some of the extraordinary examples from his collection which includes famous specimens from the cabinets of George Frederick Kunz and John Calvert. Historical notes on such objects were given. Mr. Meier and Mr. Smith reported on natrolite, chabazite, and allanite from the Lenni quarry.

Mr. Samuel G. Gordon exhibited a model of a newly designed two-circle goniometer, constructed under his direction by Mr. Van Horn.

ALBERT JEHL, JR., *Acting Secretary*

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Yamagutilite

KENJIRO KIMURA AND YOSIO HIRONAKA: Chemical investigations of Japanese minerals containing rarer elements. XXIII. On yamagutilite, a phosphorus-bearing variety of zircon, found at Yamaguti village, Nagano prefecture. *Jour. Chem. Soc. Japan*, **57**, 1195-1199 (1936). (In Japanese.) *Abs. Mineral. Abs.*, **7**, 263-264 (1939).

"Brown to dark-brown crystals with $p(111)$, $a(100)$, $pp' 56^\circ 52'$, $D_2^{25} 3.971$, gave SiO_2 21.35, P_2O_5 4.23, $(Zr,Hf)O_2$ 43.57, UO_2 2.08, ThO_2 3.52, rare earths 15.89, TiO_2 nil, $(Nb, Ta)_2O_5 + SnO_2$ 0.54, Al_2O_3 0.48, Fe_2O_3 0.59, MnO 0.50, MgO 0.03, CaO 1.23, $H_2O +$ 6.08, CO_2 0.61; sum 100.70. X-ray powder photographs show that the high content of P_2O_5 is not due to intermixture with xenotime."

W. F. FOSHAG