NOTES AND NEWS

The death is announced, on December 28, 1916, of Carl Adolf Ferdinand Hintze, author of the celebrated "Handbuch der Mineralogie." Born in Breslau August 17, 1851, he studied at Breslau, Bonn, Berlin and Strassburg, carrying on a mineral business for some years after his graduation. In 1884 he began teaching at Bonn, then at Breslau, becoming in 1892 ordinary professor and director of the Mineralogical Institute and Museum, which post he held until his death. The first number of his "Handbuch" appeared in 1889. Volume 2 (1,841 pages) treated of the silicates and titanates. Sixteen parts (2,560 pages) of Volume 1, the elements, sulfides, oxides and halides, have been published, but unfortunately the carbonates, sulfates, borates and phosphates remain untouched.

We regret to record the death on June 12, 1918, of William E. Hidden, the well-known mineralogist of Newark, N. J. An account of his life and work will appear in our columns in the near future.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

THE PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

WAGNER FREE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, APRIL 11, 1918

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was held on the above date with the President, Dr. Leffmann, in the chair. Ten members and seven visitors were present.

Mr. Charles W. Hoadley, Englewood, N. J., was elected an active member.

Dr. D. Wilbur Horn presented a paper on "Some Ideas Relating to Water of Crystallization." He described the results of his studies of copper-ammonia compounds, their interpretation according to the Phase Rule, and analogies of these to water of crystallization. The lecturer illustrated his remarks with lantern slides and a space model.

SAMUEL G. GORDON, Secretary

ABSTRACTS OF MINERALOGIC LITERATURE


Minium, PbO₄, occurs as an alteration product of galena. E. T. W.


Minutely crystalline masses of ocher-yellow material in an oxidized gold ore prove to be natrojarosite. Analysis and brief description are given. E. T. W.

An annotated list and bibliography of 31 minerals found in Glamorgan County, Wales.

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An experimental study of the binary system: NaAlSiO₄—KAlSiO₄. The sodium compound has two enantiomorphic forms, nephelite and carnegiite (inversion point 1248°). The potassium compound shows two forms, kaliophilite (isomorphous with nephelite), and an orthorhombic one. Kaliophilite and nephelite form an unbroken series of solid solutions, and it is therefore concluded that NaAlSiO₄ and KAlSiO₄ are the fundamental molecules of natural nephelites. In addition they contain variable amounts of plagioclase in solid solution, the plagioclase varying from albite to anorthite, the latter accounting for the lime content, and the former for the excess of silica in the natural mineral.

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The specimens are shown by analysis to be higher in alumina and lower in silica than typical halloysite, but this is found to be due to mechanical admixture of hydrargillite. The refractive indices of the latter are: α = β = 1.554, γ = 1.576. Dehydration experiments are described.

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An elaborate description, with many illustrations, some in color, and full directions for identifying these minerals.

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The bulletin contains much data on the paragenesis of minerals.

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The euxenite occurs in a granite pegmatite in masses from the size of a pea to two inches, imbedded in feldspar and mica, associated with pyrite. An analysis is given.

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This paper comprises a discussion of the amorphous minerals, their colloidal origin, criteria for their recognition, nomenclature, etc. The term colloid form

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is proposed for the rounded, more or less spherical, forms assumed by colloidal and metacolloidal substances in open spaces, this term embracing the spherical, botryoidal, reniform, stalactitic, and mamillary forms, which intergrade. Colloform minerals may be either amorphous or crystalline. In the criteria for the recognition of amorphous substances a serious difficulty is noted in that many amorphous substances are doubly refracting, an example being noted in the phosphorite from Lassa Island, in which double refraction of the amorphous bands of "collophane" is greater than that of the accompanying crystalline dahlite. The writer further discusses their recognition as mineral species, as some of these substances are of more or less definite character, especially the amorphous equivalents of crystalline minerals, emphasizing that they should be treated as distinctive minerals with distinctive names. About twenty of the more prominent and well-defined amorphous minerals are described and discussed. New names are given to amorphous cadmium sulfide (zanthochrorite), amorphous copper silicate (cornuite), corresponding to greenockite and chrysocolla respectively. Arguments are also advanced for treating the natural hydrocarbons and natural glasses as mineraloids.

S. G. G.


Chalmersite, hitherto only known as minute acicular crystals from the Morro Velho gold mine in Brazil, is found massive, as a prominent constituent of copper ore, at eight widely separated localities in this district. The mineral is very pale yellow, opaque, massive, has a conspicuous cleavage, metallic luster, strongly but variably magnetic. It occurs in the copper deposits occupying shear zones wholly or partly in greenstones, intergrown with chalcopyrite. Two analyses are given.

S. G. G.


A description of a mass of andalusite about 500 feet long, 300 feet wide, and at least 300 feet deep, occurring 4 miles east of Milner Station, on the Nevada and California Railroad, in southern Mono County, Cal. The andalusite rock carries long stringers of quartz containing considerable lazulite, and also locally hematite, and muscovite. It is provisionally suggested that the andalusite originated from the volcanic porphyry which borders the mass on the north and northeast, thru pneumatolytic metamorphismsequent upon the granitic intrusions that occur in the range.

S. G. G.


Description of a spherulitic chondrodite found at Eustis, Fla.

S. G. G.