

amounts. These mines are being worked for feldspar, but mica and other minerals are frequently encountered; for instance, a 300-pound mass of samarskite had recently been found, which was held at \$1.00 per pound. The quarrymen know most of such rare-metal minerals, and carefully save them, so that the chance visitor requires a "silver pick" to obtain much in the way of specimens. There are a large number of mica and feldspar mines within a radius of 5 miles of Spruce Pine, most of which are within three miles and can be reached over fair roads, which wind their way thru very picturesque scenery. If one had sufficient time to devote to this district, doubtless interesting finds would be made, but our time was too limited and while we worked very hard, we accomplished but little. The Grassy Creek aquamarine mine, located 5 miles southeast of Spruce Pine, is now closed due to litigation, and we were advised not to visit this, as the dumps had been gone over most carefully, and washed by the owners; furthermore visitors were not permitted on the property. Nor did we get to the emerald-matrix mines which are located 7 miles from Spruce Pine ($3\frac{1}{2}$ miles due south from Estatoe). It was from these mines that most of the emeralds in matrix came which we saw used in jewelry so much about Spruce Pine. We finally left over the Clinchfield, Carolina & Ohio Railroad for Marion. The distance is about 23 miles and the route most picturesque, embracing some very extensive mountain scenery of great beauty; nineteen tunnels were passed thru on this short run. Close connections were made at Marion for Danville via the Southern Ry., and from there we went to Amelia Courthouse, Va. What happened here will be described in another article.

NOTES AND NEWS

The editors will appreciate receiving for this column items of interest to mineral collectors.

Mr. Albert B. Peck, formerly in the department of mineralogy of the University of Michigan, has been appointed assistant physicist in the U. S. Bureau of Standards at Pittsburgh, Pa., where he will carry on petrographic studies on cement, porcelain products, etc.

Dr. Horace B. Patton, for twenty-four years professor of mineralogy at the Colorado School of Mines, has opened an office at 817 Fifteenth St., Golden, Colorado, as a consulting geologist.

Mr. Earl V. Shannon, of West Haven, Connecticut, and Mr. M. L. Jandorf, of York, Pennsylvania, have been called into the national army.

It is with the deepest regret that we chronicle the death of Dr. Louis Pope Gratacap of the American Museum of Natural History. From the beginning he had been one of the staunchest supporters of this magazine,—contributing an elaborate article on Madagascar minerals to one of our early numbers,—and the loss of his helpful advice and encouragement is keenly felt. A fitting tribute to his memory will appear in our pages in the near future.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

THE NEWARK MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

The 19th regular meeting of the Newark Mineralogical Society was held Sunday, December 2, 1917, with eight members present. In order that the society might become better known to Newarkers, the Secretary had previously been instructed to get in communication with the Newark Museum and make arrangements to have a large card hung in the Museum announcing that there was a mineralogical club in the city. The Secretary reported that this had been done and a card would be ready in a few days, which we trust will lead to good results. A motion was then presented and carried that Dr. Wm. S. Disbrow, the founder of the Newark Museum, be elected an honorary member.

The following resolution on the death of Mr. Albert H. Petereit was then adopted:

WHEREAS, The sudden death of ALBERT H. PETEREIT on Monday, November 5, was a great shock to the members of the NEWARK MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY, as he had attended the monthly meeting of the Society the previous day and seemed in good health, taking part in the discussions with his usual vigor,

And Mr. Petereit was a charter member of the Society, deeply interested in its welfare and growth, and adding interest to its meetings by the display of many fine specimens. Therefore be it

Resolved, that the members of the NEWARK MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY desire to record their sincere sorrow on the death of their fellow member, recommending that this minute be incorporated in the proceedings of the December meeting and a copy of the same be sent his family.

After a talk and demonstration on blowpipe testing by Dr. Colton the meeting adjourned.

WM. H. BROADWELL, *Secretary*

THE PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Wagner Free Institute of Science, December 13, 1917

A joint meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and The Wagner Institute Society of Chemistry and Physics was held on the above date with the President, Dr. Leffmann, in the chair. Eleven members and a large number of visitors were present. On motion, the regular business was suspended.

Dr. Charles H. LaWall, president of the Wagner Institute Society of Chemistry and Physics, delivered his presidential address on "Colloids." The history and the salient facts of this modern development of chemistry were presented, illustrated with many experiments showing the properties of colloids.

SAMUEL G. GORDON, *Secretary*