

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

THE PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

WAGNER FREE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, September 12, 1918

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was held on the above date with the president, Dr. Leffmann, in the chair. Thirteen members were present.

Mr. Hugh Alexander Ford, Philadelphia, was nominated by the executive council, and elected to active membership.

The following officers were elected for 1918-1919: President: Dr. Henry Leffmann; Vice-president: Mr. Harry W. Trudell; Treasurer: Mr. Harry Warford; Secretary: Dr. A. A. Jones. The latter subsequently withdrew.

Mr. Gordon reported a trip with Mr. Ford to Hellertown, Pa., where beraunite and wavellite were found; Friedensville, Pa., where calamine was obtained; Easton, Pa., asbestos and eastonite; and Franklin, N. J., and Paterson, N. J.

At Franklin, the limestone quarries proved unproductive (altho the best present quarry at Hamburg was not visited). The Buckwheat open cut has been entirely worked out, and little is therefore obtainable. The dumps are extremely barren, with the exception of the Parker Shaft dumps, which require quite deep digging, however, to produce anything. At the picking table, rhodonite, willemite, pink fluorite, crocidolite, and manganosite (the latter from a workman) were obtained. Two local collectors, speculators, were next visited. These men refuse to put a price on their specimens, expecting the prospective purchaser to make a bid. We succeeded, however, in getting a few specimens, altho at rather high prices. Their favorite trick is to say that some particular specimen, that had attracted one's eye, was not for sale, thus anticipating a high bid. Some gem willemites were purchased, and a remarkable little group of three nearly colorless sphalerite crystals, of simple form, the largest measuring about three quarters of an inch. A visit was paid to Captain Rowe, who has a very fine collection. Magnificent rhodonites, willemites, franklinites and spinels, were seen, and one particularly interesting Franklin mineral, native silver. Sterling Hill is unproductive of specimens.

Mr. Trudell reported a trip to the Falls of French Creek, Jones mine and Birdsboro, with Mr. Gordon. At the Falls, nothing of interest was found. A visit was made to two of the very old galleries of the mine, the 80- and 90-foot levels, by way of the old shaft. Of particular interest were stalactites of malachite in gel form hanging from the roof, each with a clear drop of solution at the apex; and similar brittle brown stalactites of limonite. At Jones mine, aragonite, dodecahedral magnetite, and chrysocolla were abundant. Prehnite, calcite, and stilbite were obtained at Birdsboro.

The society then adjourned for an examination of the specimens.

SAMUEL G. GORDON. *Secretary*