Mr. Albert J. Walcott, a graduate of the University of Michigan, and for the past three years engaged in research work in optical glass with the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company, has been appointed lecturer in mineralogy at Northwestern University.

Dr. Oliver Bowles of the United States Bureau of Mines has been admitted as an honorary member of the Institution of Quarry Managers of Great Britain.


Bulletin 724 of the U. S. Geological Survey contains an interesting account of the nitrate deposits in the Amargosa region of southeastern California. The nitrate-bearing material (caliche) resembles in character and mode of occurrence the caliche of Chile, but the quantity of nitrate that could be produced would be very small and the cost high. Though these deposits are the most promising in the United States the development from a commercial standpoint was found to be impracticable.

CORRECTION

I regret that in my article on the plagioclase feldspars I misquoted Dr. Alling; the following corrections will serve to make the references to his work more accurate:
Page 115, line 7, after "Alling" delete the words "suggested that this is the case."
Line 8, for "but" read "and"; delete "no"; line 10, for "really" read "not"; line 11, delete "on the contrary." Footnote, for page 193 read 237. Page 116, line 6, delete "as for instance in the monograph on the feldspars by Alling.

E. T. W.

NEW MINERALS: NEW SPECIES

FAMILY: SILICATES. DIVISION: R': R''; R''' : Si = 1:3:1:5

Torendrikite.


NAME: From the locality, Torendrika (or Torendrika) in the valley of the Imorona, Madagascar.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: Formula, approximately Na₂O,4MgO, CaO, FeO, Fe₂O₃, 10SiO₂. Theory Na₂O 5.6, MgO 14.5, CaO 5.0, FeO 6.5, Fe₂O₃ 14.4, SiO₂ 54.0. Analyses by Raoult of material from two distinct localities gave: SiO₂ 52.52, 54.10; TiO₂ 0.57, 0.42; Al₂O₃ 2.59, 1.00; Fe₂O₃ 12.95, 13.02; FeO 5.51, 8.09; MnO 0.73, n.d.; MgO 14.74, 12.81; CaO 3.86, 3.82; Na₂O 4.51, 5.24; K₂O 1.43, 0.94; F 0.09, 0.12; H₂O 0.41, 0.12, X —, 0.31, sums 99.91, 99.99%.

This is regarded as the first member of a distinct group of amphiboles, intermediate between those of richterite, imerinite, and glaucophane.
Physical Properties: Color, brilliant bluish black; under the microscope very pleochroic, \( \gamma \) pale yellow, \( \beta \) violet, a sea blue. Extinction is incomplete in white light, but approaches 40°. Sp. gr., 3.15 to 3.21.

Occurrence: A constituent of eruptive alkaline-syenite rocks occurring in the high plateau of Madagascar. In part found in chalcedonic masses, evidently residual from aplite or pneumatolytic veins.

E. T. W.

Unnamed


Physical Properties: Color steel gray, luster metallic, streak black. Sp. gr. 4.2.

Crystallographic Properties: A twinned crystal when measured failed to show angles in agreement with any of the minerals thus far described and apparently represents a new species. It is tabular in habit and probably triclinic; \( a:b:c = 3.3425:1.35536; \alpha = 90^\circ 0', \beta = 102^\circ 8', \gamma = 90^\circ 0' \). Tables record both observed and calculated values.

Occurrence: Found loose in a collection of minerals from the Binnenthal, labeled "scleroclase?" W. F. H.

Doubtful Species

Family: Elements. Division: Non-Metals

"Daiton-sulfur."


Name: From being a form of sulfur peculiar to the locality, Daiton.

Properties: A monoclinic form of sulfur distinct from \( \beta \) and \( \gamma \) sulfurs, described by M. Suzuki, *J. Geol. Soc. Tokyo*, 22, 343, 1915.

Discussion: To be classed as a variety of *Sulfur, monoclinic*, now considered a definite mineral species, *J. Wash. Acad. Sci.*, 7, 451, 1917.

E. T. W.

"Rubber-sulfur."


Name: From being a form of sulfur with the general properties of rubber.

Properties: Amorphous and plastic.

Discussion: To be classed as a variety of *Sulfur, amorphous*, now considered a definite mineral species; *op. cit.*, p. 452.

E. T. W.

Family: Halides. Division: ?

"Pseudomendipite."


Name: From *pseudo*, false, and *mendipite*.

Properties: Said to have the formula \( 3\text{PbO} \cdot \text{PbCl}_2 \), but the analysis quoted does not support this formula.

Discussion: Requires confirmation.

E. T. W.