

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, September 6, 1945

The vice-president, Mr. Charles R. Toothaker, presided—with 53 persons present. Summer trips were reported by Mr. Cochrane to New Mexico and Arizona, by Paul Seel to Sayresville (pyrite in the clay pits), by Mr. Flack to the Cornog quarry (blue quartz and epidote), and by Messrs. Gordon and Hesse to the coal strippings north of Pottsville (quartz crystals and dickite).

A. ROSENZWEIG, *Sec. pro tem.*

October 4, 1945

Dr. W. Hersey Thomas was in the chair, with 64 persons present. The following officers were elected: President, Dr. W. Hersey Thomas; Vice-President, Charles R. Toothaker; Secretary, Charles A. Belz; Treasurer, Harry W. Trudell; Councillor: Robert Hesse.

Dr. S. J. Shand of Columbia University addressed the society on "Chemical Equations Preserved in Stone." The title of the address was borrowed from J. J. Sederholm, who thus described the remarkable coronas which occur in some gabbroic rocks. These coronas preserve various stages of reaction between olivine (less commonly iron ore) and plagioclase. The structure of coronas was described and illustrated with lantern slides, and the conditions of their formation were discussed. The speaker stated that coronas are produced by thermal metamorphism of rocks of suitable mineralogical composition. He next considered the equation which expresses the desilication of albite by reaction with dolomite to produce nepheline, as required by Daly's hypothesis for the formation of the alkaline rocks. This too is a "chemical equation preserved in stone," although in this case the evidence is not to be seen under the microscope, but in the field. The case for Daly's hypothesis was supported by lantern slides of geological maps and sections.

Mr. Charles A. Thomas exhibited a pumiceous slag which was formed by fusion of the sand about the crater produced by the atomic bomb test at Alamogordo, New Mexico.

November 1, 1945

Dr. W. Hersey Thomas presided, with 72 present.

Mr. Nicola Goodwin D'Ascenzo spoke on "Asterism," and illustrated his address by specimens from his collection, and by lantern slides. He also awarded 5 prizes to those who had identified gemstones among the 45 he had placed on exhibition in the Academy.

December 6, 1945

Dr. Thomas was in the chair, with 66 persons present. Mr. Louis Moyd spoke on "Exploration of Mineral Deposits," in which various phases such as mapping, sampling, and drill-coring were illustrated by maps and photographs. Areas described included the nepheline syenite and corundum and graphite deposits in Ontario, the Yellowknife area, and Great Bear Lake.

CHARLES A. BELZ, *Secretary*

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB, INC.

Abstract of meeting of March 20, 1946

A nominating committee was chosen to nominate the officers for the coming year. Dr. Pough and Dr. Hawkins are compiling data for a publication on the mineral localities around New York City. Dr. Kerr, the speaker of the evening spoke on "A Recent Mineralogical Reconnaissance" referring to the problems of wall rock alterations in (1) a sericite deposit in Nevada, (2) at Butte, Montana and (3) at the Tintic District, Utah.

MRS. E. J. MARCIN, *Secretary*