The twenty-fifth anniversary of the announcement of the discovery of radium to the Paris Academy of Science, was celebrated on December 26 at the Sorbonne with ceremonies over which M. Millerand presided. As an evidence of national appreciation, the chamber of deputies passed a bill conferring on Mme. Curie an annuity of forty thousand francs, which was presented to her on this occasion.

Dr. Oliver C. Farrington, curator of geology in the Field Museum of Chicago, returned from a seven months' exploring expedition in the interior of Brazil.

The death is reported of Professor L. Milch, the distinguished petrographer of the University of Giessen; also of Dr. Karl Mieleitner of the University of Munich, noted for his many contributions to mineralogy and crystallography.

The March issue of THE AMERICAN MINERALOGIST will contain the proceedings of the fourth annual meeting of the Mineralogical Society held in Washington, D. C. on December 29, 1923. The presidential address and short abstracts of the papers presented will be found in that issue.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

Academy of Natural Sciences, November 8, 1923

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was held on the above date, the President, Mr. Vaux presiding. Eighteen members were present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The four men whose names were proposed at the October meeting were elected to membership in the Society. Mr. Trudell reported some progress in the matter of a club exhibit but that many details still awaited consideration. There being no further business Mr. M. G. Biernbaum addressed the Society on the subject, "*Crystallography from the Viewpoint of the Field Mineralogist.*"

Prefacing his remarks by a brief reference to the Greek and Latin prefixes and roots whose various combinations form a key to the nomenclature of crystallography, he then indicated the differences in symmetry that mark the various crystal systems. Models and diagrams were used to advantage thus furnishing a broad, general working basis for the field determination of crystallized minerals.

Mr. Keeley exhibited a cut blue zircon, stating that while there was still some doubt as to the origin of this specimen, he felt that it might represent a new find, probably Madagascar. The cause of the color is still an open question. Mr. Vaux stated that his information regarding this zircon favored Policeman's Knob, Australia, as the locality. Describing the largest blue zircon in his possession he pointed out that when kept in the dark for several days it changes to a deep straw-brown, while a short exposure to the light restores the rich blue color. However, when held in a certain manner a plane of brown color is always present in this gem. Mr. Keeley stated further that a red heat destroys practically all color but the color is again restored upon cooling. He did not believe the color due to uranium oxide which is rather characteristic of ordinary zircon.

Mr. Hoadley reported upon a trip to Ossining, N. Y. with Professor Rogers and two members of the New York Mineralogical Club, at which time malachite,

azurite, and pyromorphite were found. Professor Rogers suggested that the azurite might be cyanotrichite. Mr. Boyle reported upon a trip to the district about Nottingham, Pa., participated in by Messrs. Trudell, Clay, Knabe, and Broadbelt. Several chromite pits and albite quarries were visited. The chromite pits furnished considerable kämmererite, talc, drusy quartz, chromite, deweylite, picrolite and albite.

Mr. Warford exhibited several specimens of rhodolite from North Carolina and Mr. Hoadley crystallized hodgkinsonite from Franklin, N. J. and two minerals from Easton, Pa., which await further investigation.

The meeting adjourned at 10 P.M.

J. C. BOYLE, *Secretary pro tem.*

NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB

Regular Monthly Meeting of November 14, 1923

A regular monthly meeting of the New York Mineralogical Club was held in the East Assembly Room of the American Museum of Natural History on Wednesday evening, November 14, 1923. The President, Dr. George F. Kunz, presided. There was an attendance of 33 members. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Recording Secretary, on behalf of the Committee appointed to arrange details of a loan collection, reported that the idea of such a collection to be exhibited in the Mineral Hall of the Museum was not regarded favorably by the Director of the Museum. The Recording Secretary read a letter from Mr. Wintringham reporting favorably on the following candidates for admission and recommending them for membership: George D. Hurst, 38 West 61st Street, New York City; Fred C. Metcalf, Box 51, Asbury Park, N. J.; Maurice Blumenthal, 558 Quincy Street, Brooklyn. It was moved that the Secretary cast one ballot for these candidates who were thus declared elected.

The following names were submitted to the Membership Committee: Albert F. Karlsson, 826 Penfield Street, New York City; A. R. Green, 31-33 Tiffany Place, Brooklyn; J. F. Schairer, 150 Grove Street, New Haven, Conn. On a motion by Dr. Kunz the following telegram of congratulations was directed to be sent to Dr. Robert A. Millikan, recipient of the Nobel prize: "The New York Mineralogical Club offers sincerest congratulations on the conferring upon you of the Nobel prize for physics, which you have so well merited for your remarkable investigations in isolating the ion, your radioactive research in many lines and your logical deductions that science and religion do not conflict."

Dr. Kunz then introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Austin Flint Rogers of Stanford University, who addressed the Club on "*X-rays and Crystal Structure.*" Dr. Rogers reviewed the historical phase of crystal structure beginning with Haüy and explained the space lattices of Bravais and Sohncke and the space groups of Fedorow and Barlow. Passing to the employment of the X-Ray as a means of demonstrating the orderly arrangement of atoms within a crystal, the speaker explained the photographic method of Dr. Laue of the University of Zurich and the X-ray spectra as developed by W. H. and W. L. Bragg. Finally, Dr. Rogers explained the more recent investigations along this line by using crystals reduced to fine powder. This portion of his address, as well as that which preceded it, was amply illustrated by lantern slides, those showing the recent work done in the

laboratory of Stanford University being particularly interesting. Dr. Rogers then spoke for a short time on the California minerals, dwelling on such famous localities as the San Diego County pegmatites and the Riverside limestones.

At the close of his address a vote of thanks was tendered to Dr. Rogers for his highly interesting and valuable presentation of the subject of X-Rays and Crystal Structure as well as his masterly review of the California minerals. Mr. Lee exhibited a specimen of the new mineral germanite from Southwest Africa. The meeting adjourned at 10 P.M.

HERBERT P. WHITLOCK, *Recording Secretary.*

NEWARK MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

At the sixtieth regular meeting of the Newark Mineralogical Society held on November 4th which was also the Annual Meeting, the following officers were elected: President, P. Walther (re-elected); Vice-President, Geo. F. Black; Secretary, Wm. H. Broadwell (re-elected); Treasurer, H. W. Lehman (re-elected).

The secretary reported a membership of 28, with one resignation and one new member. With a record of 8 meetings held during the year the secretary was the only member with a perfect attendance. The treasurer reported a balance on hand of $38.54.

WM. H. BROADWELL, *Secretary.*

At the December meeting held on December 2nd, 10 members were present and 18 visitors. The topic for discussion was *The Fluorescence and Phosphorescence of Minerals Under the Iron-Arc,* led by T. I. Miller, P. Walther and Wm. H. Broadwell.

Due to the many visitors present routine business was dispensed with and Mr. Miller proceeded with his talk on *Luminescence* and displayed specimens with a specially equipped microscope of his own design. Mr. Broadwell exhibited a number of large specimens subjected to the rays of an iron-arc and Mr. Walther had on display an assortment of fluorescent minerals.

WM. H. BROADWELL, *Secretary.*

NEW MINERALS: NEW SPECIES

CLASS: PHOSPHATES, ETC. DIVISION: $R'' : R''''' : H_2O = 5 : 2 : 2$.

Staszicite

J. MOROZEWICZ: Staszicite, a new mineral from the copper mine at Miedzianka. *Bull. Int. Acad. Sci. Cracovie, Class A, Sci.-Math.*, **1918**, 4-16; *thru Min. Abstr.* **2**, 51; (original not seen).

NAME: Presumably personal.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: *Formula,* $5(Ca, Cu, Zn)\ O.As_2O_5.2H_2O$ or $R_5(AsO_4)_2(OH)_4$; theory, for Ca:Cu = 1:1, CaO 23.2, CuO 32.9, As_2O_5 38.0, H_2O 5.9, sum 100.0%. Analysis gave: CaO 20.80, CuO 26.45, ZnO 7.30, FeO 0.63, MnO 0.14, MgO 0.27, As_2O_5 38.77, SiO_2 0.14, H_2O 5.56, sum 100.06%. At 500-600° loses 1.5 H_2O, at 800-880° the balance, and fuses at 880°.

CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES: *System,* presumably orthorhombic. Fibrous, with parallel extinction and + elongation.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: Color, yellowish green. Form, compact masses with radially fibrous structure. H = 5.5-6; d. = 4.227.