

THE CORRECT MINERALOGICAL NAME FOR  
CUPRIC CHLORIDEEDGAR T. WHERRY, *Washington, D. C.*

In view of the magnitude of the sixth edition of Dana's System of Mineralogy, the percentage of errors in it is almost incredibly small, nevertheless a few do occur. One of these concerns the name for cupric chloride, on page 174, which was copied on line 17, page 19, in the January number of this Journal. The Italian term applied by Scacchi to this mineral was *ericalco*, evidently derived from the Greek *erios*, signifying wool, and *chalcos*, copper. Through overlooking this derivation, and confusion with the other Scacchi name *eritrosidero*, correctly transliterated *erythro-siderite*, Dana made the name for the green mineral containing no calcium "erythrocalcite." The correct English transliteration is clearly *eriochalcite*.

## BOOK REVIEWS

DIE KÜNSTLICHEN EDELSTEINE. Eine zusammenfassende Darstellung ihrer Unterscheidung von dem natürlichen und ihrer Stellung im Handel. Mit je einem Abschnitte über Verfälschungen der Edelsteine und über Perlen. Hermann Michel. 2d edition. VIII+477 pages, 2 colored plates, 180 text figures. Verlag von Wilhelm Diebener, *Leipzig*, 1926. Price 25 Mks.

This is the second edition of Doctor Michel's work on the synthetic gem stones the first having appeared in 1914. There are a number of additions, including a discussion of crystal structure and a new chapter on pearls. The part devoted to the examination of the synthetic stones is considerably enlarged and includes methods devised by the author based on color and luminescent effects.

The book begins with a short discussion of the natural occurrence of gem minerals. The second chapter deals with the synthesis of some of the gem minerals, the summary of the literature of corundum and diamonds being particularly complete. The synthetic production of the corundum gem material has reached enormous proportions; one plant alone is capable of producing five million carats monthly.

The examination of the natural and synthetic stones is taken up in detail. An interesting discussion concerns the determination of the place of origin of natural stones by means of inclusions, luminescence, etc. Burma rubies, for instance, show a lively fluorescence under the various rays, Siam rubies only feebly so.

The new chapter on pearls discusses their origin, culture and imitation, also their examination with the pearl microscope as devised by the author.

The book is well printed on heavy paper, the illustrations are good and the book on the whole is very readable and attractive.

W. F. FOSHAG

TRACHTEN DER KRISTALLE. H. Tertsch. 8 vo. VIII+222 pages, with 58 text figures. Forschungen zur Kristallkunde, No. 1, Gebrüder Borntraeger, *Berlin*, 1926. Price 15 Mks.

This splendid monograph presents a comprehensive survey of the various contributions in the field of crystal habit. The list of papers considered contains 181 entries, most of which are discussed in the text. By his concise and critical

treatment of the various phases of crystal habit and related phenomena the author has rendered an excellent service to the many investigators now studying these interesting problems.

EDWARD H. KRAUS

## PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES

### PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY

*Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, April 7, 1927.*

A stated meeting of the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society was held on the above date; the vice-president, Mr. Clay, presided. Twenty-three members and four visitors were present.

Mr. Harold Poole of Miquon, Pa., was elected to membership.

Mr. Samuel G. Gordon presented a paper on *A Preliminary Note on Metavauxite, a New Phosphate Mineral from Llallagua, Bolivia*. It has the following properties: colorless or white; luster, vitreous or silky; form, acicular crystals or radiating fibrous aggregates; hardness 3; specific gravity 2.34. Monoclinic:  $a:b:c=1.2044:1:0.7272$ ;  $\mu=61^{\circ}19'$ ;  $p_0=0.6037$ ,  $q_0=0.6379$ ;  $e=0.4800$ ; habit prismatic. Optically +,  $X=b$ ,  $Z/c=17^{\circ}$ ;  $\alpha=1.550$ ,  $\beta=1.561$ ,  $\gamma=1.577$ ;  $\gamma-\alpha=0.027$ . The formula from an analysis by Mr. Earl V. Shannon is compared below with those of vauxite, paravauxite, etc.

Vauxite (blue)	$\text{FeO} \cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{P}_2\text{O}_5 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Triclinic
Paravauxite	$\text{FeO} \cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{P}_2\text{O}_5 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Triclinic
Metavauxite	$\text{FeO} \cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{P}_2\text{O}_5 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Monoclinic
Lazulite (Fe,Mg)O	$\cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{P}_2\text{O}_5 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	Monoclinic
Wavellite	$2\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 2\text{P}_2\text{O}_5 \cdot 2\text{Al}(\text{OH},\text{F})_3 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Orthorhombic

Mr. Biernbaum reported on a trip taken by several members to Avondale and Lieperville, Delaware Co. He exhibited cyanite from Ridley Park and Mr. Clay displayed garnet, likewise collected on this trip. Mr. Hoadley reported on trips to Danbury, Conn., where at the original locality danburite was found; and Monroe township, Conn., where native bismuth was collected. Other localities were visited and the specimens collected exhibited. Dr. Wills described a trip to the Poorhouse Quarry where he found chesterlite.

Dr. Wills then addressed the society on *Microscopic Mineralogy*. The technique of preparing and mounting specimens was described, the speaker exhibiting many box mounts. Six revolving tables, each equipped with a microscope were used, and the members seated about these tables examined the choice mounts which were shown.

F. A. CAJORI, *Secretary*

### NEW YORK MINERALOGICAL CLUB

*Regular Monthly Meeting of March 16, 1927.*

At the regular meeting held on March 16 Miss Catherine Schroder read an interesting paper on the *Minerals of British Columbia*. The speaker touched upon the minerals associated with those of economic value around Banff and Lake Louise, Alberta. She also spoke of the gold and silver locality over the boundary line in