

NEW MINERAL NAMES

Franquenite

RENÉ VAN TASSEL, Occurrence de minéraux sulfatés récents sur des schists de Mousty, à Franquénies. *Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Belgique*, 20, No. 16, 24 pp. (1944); through *Mineralog. Abstracts*, 9, 125 (1945).

"Yellow efflorescences (previously thought to be sulfur) on Cambrian shales consist mainly of a new species named franquenite. Minute hexagonal scales (8–15 μ across, 2 μ thick) have $n_O = 1.531$, $n_E = 1.494$, $G. = 1.87$ – 1.94 . Analysis gave SO_3 32.77, Al_2O_3 5.51, Fe_2O_3 14.84, FeO 1.00, MgO 4.23, alkalis not detd., H_2O 40.69; sum 99.04 per cent. From this the formula $(Mg, Fe)_2(Fe, Al)_6(SO_4)_8(OH)_6 \cdot 4H_2O$ is derived. It is slowly soluble in cold water. A dehydration curve is given; 28.2 per cent H_2O is lost at 110°. This new mineral is compared with slavikite."

DISCUSSION: The analysis does not lead to the formula as given above, but gives approximately $(Mg, Fe)O : (Al, Fe)_2O_3 : SO_3 : H_2O = 2 : 1.5 : 8 : 40$ – 45 . The most recent analysis of slavikite (Gordon, 1941) gave $MgO : Fe_2O_3 : SO_3 : H_2O = 2 : 1 : 8 : 39$. Gordon reported $n_O = 1.533$, $n_E = 1.497$, $G. = 1.99$, for rhombohedral slavikite.

In view of these correspondences, there seems to be no justification for this new name.

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Tschermakite

A. N. WINCHELL: *Am. Mineral.* 30, 29 (1945).

Ferrotschermakite

A. N. WINCHELL: *Am. Mineral.*, 30, 29 (1945).

Groutite

J. W. GRUNER: *Am. Mineral.*, 30, 169 (1945) (abs.).

Cattierite

PAUL F. KERR: *Am. Mineral.*, 30, 483–497 (1945).

Vaesite

PAUL F. KERR: *Am. Mineral.*, 30, 483–497 (1945).

Brazilianite

F. H. POUGH AND E. P. HENDERSON: *Am. Mineral.*, 30, 572–582 (1945).

DISCUSSION: The nomenclature proposed by Kerr for the system FeS_2 – NiS_2 – CoS_2 seems more complex than is warranted in view of the rarity of NiS_2 and CoS_2 . It would have been simpler to redefine bravoite as in the Seventh Edition of *Dana's System*, thus avoiding the introduction of the new name vaesite.

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