NEW MINERAL NAMES

Evenkite

In the abstract published in The American Mineralogist, 40, 368 (1955), the composition of evenkite was given as C₁₂H₄₂. Mr. Arthur W. Rudkin, Earlwood, New South Wales, has kindly called attention to the fact that this formula does not agree with the analysis. Examination of the original paper shows that the formula was there given as C₂₁H₄₄. However, Mr. Rudkin also points out that one would expect a saturated hydrocarbon of formula CnH₂n+2, and the analysis actually corresponds much more closely to C₂₁H₄₄ than to C₁₂H₄₂. My apologies for the error and my thanks to Mr. Rudkin.

MICHAEL FLEISCHER

Labuntsovite


The name titanoeilpidite was given by Labuntsov in 1926 (See Am. Mineral., 12, 295 (1927)) to a mineral from Khibina resembling elpidite in crystallography but shown qualitatively to contain much titanium. Re-examination of the original material and of samples found in the Lovozero massif show this to be a new mineral.

Orthorhombic, in simple prismatic crystals up to 12X3X2 mm., showing the forms c (001), b (010), m (110), d (011), and s (111). a:b:c=0.511:1:0.489 (elpidite has 0.511:1:0.9781). X-ray powder data are given for both localities; the strongest lines (Lovozero) are 3.15 (10), 2.56 (9), 1.543 (9), 3.09 (8), 1.677 (8); the pattern for elpidite is different. Cleavage perfect on (100).

Color rose to brownish-yellow. Brittle. Hardness about 6. G. = 2.901 (Lovozero), 2.96 (Khibina). Optically biaxial, positive, ns α = 1.689, β = 1.702, γ = 1.795, 2 V 41° (Lovozero) α = 1.686, γ = 1.792 (Khibina). The optic axial plane is (001), X = b, Y = c, Z = a. Pleochroic from brownish-yellow on Z to yellowish on X.

Analysis by T.A.B. of rosg-colored material from Lovozero gave SiO₂ 39.59, Al₂O₃ 1.30, Fe₂O₃ 1.56, Na₂O 1.45, TiO₂ 2.54, MgO 0.42, MnO 2.34, CaO 1.19, BaO “6.61%” (see note below). K₂O 7.24, Na₂O 3.18, H₂O 7.91; sum “100.27%.” (Note—this adds to 98.27. However, the atomic ratios given indicate that BaO should be 8.61%. M.F.). This corresponds to (K₅, Ba, Na, Ca, Mn)(Ti₅, Nb)(Si, Al)₅(O, OH), 0.6H₂O (more nearly 1H₂O. M.F.’). X-ray spectral analysis showed Rb (0.3%), Sr, Y, Ce, and Th, and spectrographic analysis by L. N. Indichenko showed also Be, Pb, Zn, Ca, Sn, and V (weak lines). The water is lost gradually between 200° and 400° C. (dehydration curve by O. V. Karpov given). The mineral dissolves with difficulty in HCl, HNO₃, or H₂SO₄. Easily fusible before the blow-pipe to a bluish enamel.

Labuntsovite is widely distributed in the Lovozero and Khibina alkaline massifs, in druses with albitte and natrolite, and associated with aegirine, nepheline, microcline, endiolite, ramayite, and murmanite. It is a hydrothermal alteration product of murmanite and is sometimes altered to analase (leucoxene).

Since the mineral is not related to elpidite, the name titanoeilpidite should be dropped. Labuntsovite is named for Aleksander Nikolaevich Labuntsov and Ekaterina Eutikhieva Labuntsov-Kostyleva, Russian mineralogists.

M. F.

Feruite

which he stated that x-ray study of the "mineral from Mozambique" showed it to be different from davidite. It is hexagonal with \( a = 6.88 \) \( kX \), \( c = 16.86 \) \( kX \). It is given the name feruite (from ferrum, uranium, titanium). Presumably this is the davidite-like mineral described by Bannister and Horne, Mineral. Mag., 29, 101-112 (1950), from the Tete district, who reported it to be hexagonal rhombohedral (class 3m), with \( a/c = 1:1.37 \).

M. F.

Mavudzite


DISCUSSION: Bannister and Horne stated "It does not seem warrantable to claim that the radioactive mineral from Tete, Mozambique, is a new and distinct species. It should rather be classed as a variety of davidite until unambiguous evidence to the contrary is forthcoming." On this basis, the name mavudzite should not have been proposed.

M. F.

Grovesite


A micro-analysis (on 70 mg. for main constituents, 60 mg. for \( H_2O \), and 20 mg. for oxidation states) gave \( SiO_2 \) 22.0, \( Al_2O_3 \) 18.8, \( Fe_2O_3 \) 4.1, \( MnO \) 0.8, \( BaO \) 0.3, \( H_2O \) 0.9, sum 98.4\%; corresponding to \( (Mn, Fe, Al)_2(Al, Si)_2O_2(OH)_4 \) or \( (Mn, Fe, Al)_2(Al, Si)_2(O, OH)_4 \). This is close to the composition of pennantite (see Am. Mineral., 32, 256 (1947)), but the x-ray powder data (not given) do not resemble closely those of chlorites. They agree well with those for cronstedtite and berthierine except that grovesite shows a fairly strong line corresponding to a spacing of 14 Å. The mineral is therefore a member of the cronstedtite-berthierine-amosite group with a structure based on the two-layer sheets of the kaolinite family, but presumably with a two-sheet repeat as compared with the three-sheet repeat of cronstedtite. Berthierine (not berthierite) (Boudant, 1832) was formerly thought to be identical with chamosite, but is structurally distinct. (The name berthierine ought to be changed to eliminate confusion. M.F.)

Grovesite is dark brown (blackish-brown). It occurs as small rosettes, at most 0.5 mm. across. \( D = 3.150 \pm 0.2 \). The unit cell dimensions are \( a = 5.51 \pm 0.2 \), \( b = 9.54 \pm 0.2 \), \( c = 14.36 \pm 0.4 \) Å. It is optically uniaxial, negative with \( \alpha = 1.658 \pm 0.001 \), \( \beta = 1.667 \pm 0.001 \), absorption \( \beta = \gamma > \alpha \); \( \beta \) and \( \gamma \) parallel to the cleavage, very dark brown; \( \alpha \) perpendicular to the cleavage, red-brown.

The mineral is from the No. 5 ore-body of the Benallt mine, Rhiw, North Wales. The name is for A. W. Groves, geologist, Colonial Geological Surveys.

M. F.

Trogtalite, Hastite, Bornhardtite, Unnamed Cobalt Selenide


Four new cobalt selenides occur in fine violet to red-brown intergrowths in clausthalite; hematite and native Se (secondary) are also present. Samples were drilled out under the microscope; the x-ray patterns were corrected for the presence of clausthalite.
Trotgalite. Isotropic, very hard, polishes badly, color rose-violet. The x-ray powder pattern was indexed as cubic with \( a_0 \) 5.87 ± 0.02 Å. Synthetic CoSe\(_2\) (pyrite type) has \( a_0 \) 5.854 Å. The name is for the locality. It probably also occurs at St. Andreasberg, Harz.

Hastite. Strongly anisotropic, hard, polishes well. Forms idiomorphic and radiating crystals. Reflection pleochroism strong, especially in oil immersion, and corresponds to orthorhombic symmetry. Color light brownish-red to lark reddish-violet. Twinning observed. These properties suggested that the mineral might be CoSe\(_2\) of marcasite type or CoAsSe of arsenopyrite type, neither of which has been synthesized. X-ray powder data were indexed in terms of a cell \( a_0 \) 3.60, \( b_0 \) 4.84, \( c_0 \) 5.72 Å and comparison with marcasite, FeSe\(_2\), and frohbergite indicates this to be CoSe\(_2\) of marcasite type. The name is for Dr. P. F. Hast, mining engineer.

Bornhardtite. Rose-colored, but paler than the preceding two. Isotropic. Hardness about 4 or a little less. The x-ray powder diagram is indexed as cubic, with \( a_0 \) \( \approx \) 10.2 ± 0.2 Å, which indicates a mineral of the linneite group, CoSe\(_4\). This may be closely related to the unnamed cobalt copper nickel selenide \((\text{Co:Cu:Ni}=3:2:2.5)\) from Goldfields district, Saskatchewan, which had \( a_0 \) 10.005 Å (Robinson and Brooker, *Am. Mineral.*, 37, 542–544 (1952)). The name is for the late Dr. W. Bornhardt.

Unnamed Mineral. Anisotropic, softer and polishes better than trotgalite and hastite. Optical relations and hardness are analogous to those of niccolite, but the color is more of a violet-rose, not yellowish. The mineral was so scarce that x-ray powder diagrams were unsatisfactory. Weak lines that were measured gave a pattern of NiAs type corresponding to \( a_0 \) 3.6, \( c_0 \) 5.3 Å. Synthetic CoSe has \( a_0 \) 3.59, \( c_0 \) 5.27 Å. No name is proposed pending further study.

M. F.

Nolanite


This new iron vanadate, 3 FeO V\(_2\)O\(_4\) 3V\(_2\)O\(_4\), occurs in four mines. It is a major constituent in the Pitche group where in hand specimen it is massive gray with a bluish tarnish; under the microscope it is in hexagonal plates. Associated minerals are hematite and chalcopyrite. It is a minor constituent (a) at Fish Hook Bay, in laths in dolomite; (b) at the Nicholson No. 2 mine where a bladed boxwork of nolanite and dolomite contains chalcopyrite, galena, and other sulfides, also in veins with pitchblende and sulfides; (c) in veins at the Ace mine, associated with pitchblende and ilmenite. Structural data for the mineral have been published by Barnes and Qurashi, *Am. Mineral.*, 37, 420–421 (1952). A complete account is to be published in the *Am. Mineralogist* by Robinson, Fahey, and Schaller. The name is for Thomas B. Nolan, Assistant Director, U. S. Geological Survey (private communication from W. T. Schaller).

M. F.

Cardosonite


A clear green mineral is associated with esphorite, evansite, and smoky quartz. Qualitative analysis showed Ca, Mg, and Mn, but no ferrous iron. Quantitative analysis (incomplete for lack of material) gave Fe\(_2\)O\(_3\) 24.76, FeO 54.07, H\(_2\)O 9.21%. The x-ray powder data are given; they agree fairly well with those obtained on dufrenite from Hirsch-
berg, Westphalia. The differences in chemical composition and in exterior appearance (compact, massive, without fibrous structure) are considered to be sufficient to warrant a new name.

The name is for Martin Cardoso, who had previously described the associated evansite and eosphorite.

**Discussion:** Insufficient basis for a new name.

M. F.

**Absite**


A chemical analysis gave TiO$_2$ 35.13, UO$_2$ 31.83, ThO$_2$ 12.81, Sc$_2$O$_3$ 0.19, Ce$_2$O$_3$ 1.43, Y$_2$O$_3$ etc. 3.71, ZrO$_2$ 0.38, Fe$_2$O$_3$ 1.37, P$_2$O$_5$ 2.79, P$_2$O$_4$ 0.13, H$_2$O$^-$ 2.54, H$_2$O$^+$ 7.41; sum 99.72%. Cr, V, Be, Mn, Ca, Mg, Ta, and Nb were absent. The analysis suggests the formula $2$UO$_2$·ThO$_2$·$7$TiO$_2$·$5$H$_2$O. Absite does not fuse when heated to redness, but expands and splits. The mineral is readily decomposed by HCl, HNO$_3$, and H$_2$SO$_4$. Non-fluorescent.

It is yellow to yellow-brown or brownish olive-green. Hardness of purest samples 5 to 6, G. 4.0 to 4.2. Luster resinous on fresh fracture to dull on weathering. Fracture irregular; very brittle. Optically isotropic, n somewhat variable with degree of weathering, but mainly 1.96±.01.

X-ray study by K. Norrish shows the mineral to be amorphous, presumably metamict, the only lines observed being weak ones corresponding to the presence of a little rutile. When heated at 900$^\circ$, the mineral gives an x-ray pattern, the strongest lines being at 3.43 and 4.79 kX.

Absite occurs in irregular grains in a zone of brecciated rocks ranging from adamellite to granodiorite at Crockers Well, South Australia. It also occurs in rutile-bearing quartz veins, sometimes in forms 5-10 cm. in size that simulate hexagonal or triclinic crystals.

The mineral is considered to be related to brannerite, differing in containing no UO$_2$ in containing ThO$_2$, and more H$_2$O. It is stated that the x-ray data on heated material are similar to those given by heated brannerite.

The name is an abbreviation of air-borne scintillometer, by which means the deposit was discovered.

**Discussion:** An unnecessary name for thorian brannerite.

M. F.

**Wairakite**


Wairakite occurs in tuffaceous sandstones and breccias, vitric tuffs and welded tuffs in drill cores from levels 600 to 2890 ft. and in rocks ejected by steam from some of the drill holes. In drill cores it is fine-grained, replacing andesine and filling cavities. In some of the ejected rocks, it occurs as megascopic veinlets, 0.5 to 0.25 mm. thick, which may be lined with subhedral crystals up to 15 mm. across, showing partial octahedron and trepezohedron faces.

Analysis by J. A. Ritchie of pure material gave SiO$_2$ 55.9, Al$_2$O$_3$ 23.0, CaO 11.7, SrO 0.05, Na$_2$O 1.06, K$_2$O 0.16, Cs$_2$O 0.017, Rb$_2$O 0.0003, H$_2$O$^-$ 0.15, H$_2$O$^+$ 8.35; sum 100.39%,
which corresponds closely to CaO·Al₂O₃·4SiO₂·2H₂O, which corresponds to the formula of analcime with Ca replacing Na₂. Study of the literature shows few analysis intermediate between analcime and wairakite. The mineral loses 4.23% from 110° to 380° C., 4.09% from 380° to 800°, and 0.03% above 800°. It fuses at 217. Gelatinizes with HCl.

Wairakite is colorless to white, luster vitreous to nearly dull. G. 2.26, hardness 5½-6.

The mineral is brittle. Two sets of partings (?) intersecting at right angles and parallel to two sets of twinning lamellae were observed under the microscope. The mineral is biaxial and shows no isotropic patches (in contrast to birefringent analcime), α (near b) 1.498, γ (near c) 1.502, both ±0.001, 2Vγ variable 70° to 105°, average near 90°, dispersion weak r>v about γ.

The x-ray powder pattern shows doubling of many lines of the analcime pattern indicating departures from cubic symmetry and corresponding to a cell with maximum and minimum dimensions of about 13.68 Å and 13.56 Å. Weissenberg photographs of optically oriented sections show wairakite to be monoclinic, space group la or 12/a, a 13.69±0.02, b 13.68, c 13.56 Å, β 90.5°; the unit cell contains 8 CaAl₂SiO₄·2H₂O. The cell is pseudo-cubic and pseudo-tetragonal.

The mineral is of hydrothermal origin. The waters in the drill holes are alkaline and temperatures measured range from 200° to 250° C. Calculated hydrostatic pressures are 55 to 265 atmospheres. There is no evidence to suggest that wairakite has formed from analcime by ion exchange.

The name is for the locality, Wairakei, in the central part of the North Island, New Zealand, about 4 miles from Lake Taupo.

M. F.

Isokite


Isokite occurs as fibrous spherulites, commonly 0.5 to 1 mm. in diameter, rarely up to 2 or 3 mm. in diameter, in ankeritic rocks of a carbonatite plug at Nkumbwa Hill, 15 miles east of Isoka (pronounced Isoka). Associated minerals include strontian fluorapatite, pyrite, ilmenite, barite, monazite, pyrochlore, and selinite. Analysis by R. Pickup gave CaO 30.72, SrO 1.65, BaO 0.21, rare earths 0.16, MgO 21.58, FeO 0.49, MnO 0.13, P₂O₅ 37.76, F 9.55, H₂O below 300° 0.26, H₂O above 300° 0.46, CO₂ 1.02, acid insol. 0.10; sum 104.09 less (O=F₂) 4.02, 100.07%. After deduction of 2.14% ankeritic dolomite and 0.99% fluorapatite, this correspond closely to CaMgPO₄F. The mineral dissolves slowly in cold HCl, rapidly in warm acids.

Isokite is colorless to buff or pinkish, luster silky to slightly pearly. G. 3.27 for crystalline plates, down to 3.15 for fibrous material, 3.29 calc. from x-ray data. Hardness above 4, probably 5. Fluoresces blue under longwave (3650 Å) ultra-violet light. Optically biaxial, positive, α 1.590, β 1.595, γ 1.615 (all ±0.002), 2V 51-51°±2° (Universal stage), γ=β, α<γ, dispersion r>v, Xₐ normal to the cleavage plates.

The plates show the forms (001), (100), (101), (101), and (102); angles measured under the microscope agree well with those from the x-ray data. Weissenberg and oscillation photographs show isokite to be monoclinic, space group C2/c (test for pyroelectricity negative), a 6.52, b 8.75, c 7.51 Å. (all ±0.05 Å), β 121°28' ±12°. a:b:c=0.745:1:0.858. There is a very good cleavage, (010). X-ray powder data are given. Isokite is isostructural with durangite (NaAlAsO₄F), tilasite (CaMgPO₄F), and sphene (CaF₂SiO₄(O, OH, F)).

The name is for the locality.
NEW MINERAL NAMES

DISCREDITED MINERALS

Alvarolite (= Mangantantalite)


X-ray powder data on type material (see *Am. Mineral.*, 39, 159 (1954)), showed alvarolite to be identical with mangantantalite.

M. F.

Ribeirite (= Yttrian zircon)

E. TAVORA, op. cit.

X-ray powder data on type material (see *Am. Mineral.*, 39, 159 (1954)) gave a weak pattern with 10 lines corresponding closely to the strongest lines of zircon. The heated sample gave a sharp pattern corresponding closely to that of zircon.

M. F.

Curtisite (= Idrialite)


A hydrocarbon found in fissures in andesite at Ordejov, Moravia, had G. 1.225, \( \alpha \) 1.557 ± 0.001, \( \beta \) 1.738 ± 0.001, \( \gamma \) above 1.83. The optical data suggest monoclinic symmetry. The optics and x-ray powder patterns are identical with those of curtisite from Skaggs Springs, Cal. (Wright and Allen, *Am. Mineral.*, 15, 169–173 (1930)) and idrialite from Idria, Yugoslavia (Dana’s System, 6th Ed., p. 1013).

The name idrialite has priority.

M. F.

Corrections

A number of typographical errors appear in the paper by E. G. Zies and H. E. Merwin in the article “Analysis of Hamley bornite from South Australia,” in the November–December issue, 1955, pages 1002 and 1003. *Page 1002, Table 1, last column:* The footnote reference for the third and fourth figures down should be \( f \) instead of \( b \). The column total should be 99.90, instead of 99.80.

*Page 1003, Table:* The total of the second column should be 99.91, instead of 99.51.