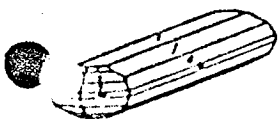
CHALCOCITE

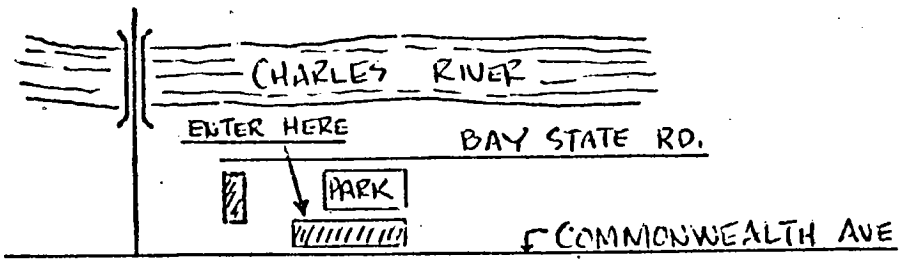
Bristol



MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND

NEWSLETTER #67 November 10, 1981

The next regular meeting will be held at Boston University on Sunday, November 22, 1981, from 10AM to 4PM. There is little traffic in the City at this time of day and ample free parking behind the building at the end of Bay State Road. Come and bring a friend.



The November 4 issue of the "Want Advertiser" listed an American Optical stereo microscope for sale for $110, from a party in Plymouth (224-3755). This seems to be a good price if it is not damaged. It comes with two objectives.

The Club has a copy of the "Directory of Micromounters" which is a listing of micromounters around the world and is an excellent reference for anyone looking for people to start a trade. Janet Cares will have it at the next meeting.

The Palermo issue of "Rocks and Minerals" is out and orders are being taken for extra copies - see Janet at the November - cost is about $2 per copy. Carl Caldera, who contributed to the cost of the color plates in this issue, has kindly donated three copies to the Club.

Forrest Fogg appreciated the get-well card signed by Club members at the last meeting. He is recovering from surgery at home after recently leaving the hospital.

PRESIDENT

Raymond Denicourt
38 Sea Breeze Lane
Bristol, RI 02809

VICE PRESIDENT

Gerry Lindeyer
24 Laurel Drive
Granby, CT 06035

SECRETARY

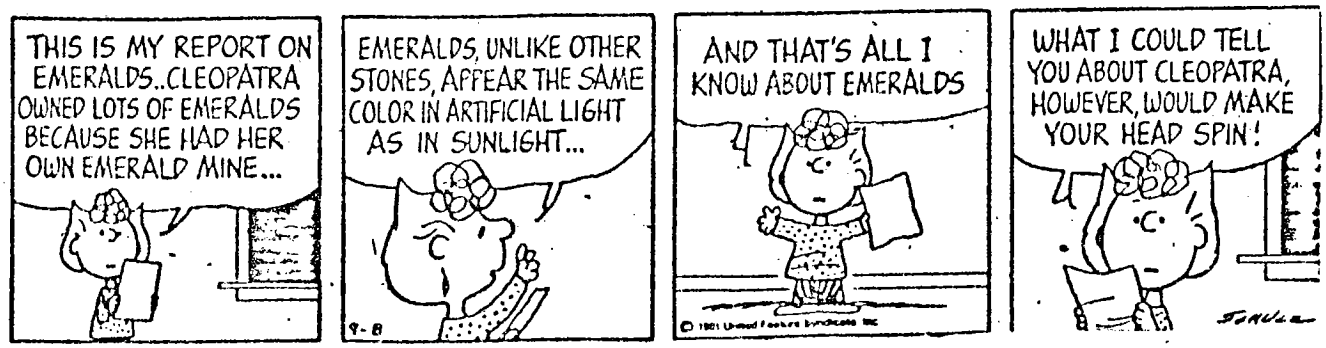
Ralph Carr, Jr.
25 Farnum Road
[illegible]wick, RI 02888

TREASURER

Janet Cares
18 Singletary Lane
Sudbury, MA 01776

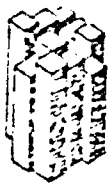
BULLETIN EDITOR

John Anderson
17 Ginley Road
Walpole, MA 02081

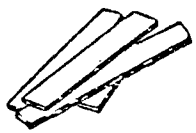


Terms Used To Describe Crystal Groups and Mineral Aggregates

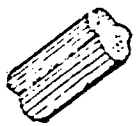
Columnar—an aggregate of columnlike individuals.



Bladed—an aggregate of bladed individuals.



Fibrous—an aggregate of capillary or filiform individuals.

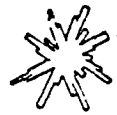


Dendritic—treelike or mosslike form.

Granular—an aggregate of mineral grains.

Massive—a compact aggregate without distinctive form.

Divergent, radiated, stellated—individuals arranged in fan-shaped groups or rosettes.

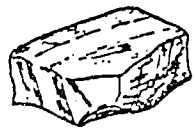


Colloform (botryoidal, reniform, mammillary, globular)—radiating individuals forming spherical or hemispherical groups. The various terms have been used to designate the extent and radius of the hemispherical surfaces developed. Colloform includes all other terms.

Reticulated—slender crystals arranged in a latticelike array.

Pisolitic, oölitic—composed of rounded masses respectively the size of peas or BB shot.

Banded—bands or layers of different color and/or texture.



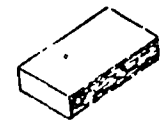
Concentric—onion-like banding.

Terms Used To Describe Single Crystals

Capillary, filiform, acicular—hairlike, threadlike, or needlelike crystals.

Bladed—crystals in elongate, flattened blades.

Tabular, lamellar—booklike in shape.

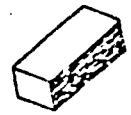


Foliated, micaceous—easily separated into sheets or leaves, micalike.

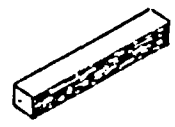
Plumose—featherlike arrangement of fine scales.

Stout or stubby—usually applied to pyramidally terminated crystals whose *c* axis is short compared with its other axes.

Blocky—brick-shaped.



Columnar—columnlike crystals.



Geometrical terms—various geometrical terms are used as applicable, e.g., cubic, tetrahedral, octahedral, prismatic, dodecahedral, scalenohedral, etc.

Dennen, W. "Principles of Mineralogy", Ronald Press, N. Y., 1959 (out-of-print)

#67

Chemical and Blowpipe Tests for the Silicates

Mineral	Reaction with HCl: Insoluble	Reaction with HCl: Soluble (1)	Reaction with HCl: Gel (2)	Water in Closed Tube	Fusibility (3)	Miscellaneous
Analcite		x		x	3.5	
Andalusite	x				Infusible	
Anthophyllite	x			x	5*	
Augite	x				4–4.5*	
Beryl	x				5.5	
Biotite	x			x	5*	Decomposes in boiling H_2SO_4 giving a milky solution
Cancrinite			x	x	2	Effervesces
Chabazite		x		x	3	
Chlorite	x			x	5.5*	As biotite
Chondrodite			x	x	Infusible	
Chrysocolla		x		x	Infusible	Cu tests
Cordierite	x				5.5*	
Diopside	x				4	
Enstatite series						Solubility and fusibility increase with increasing iron
Enstatite	x				Infusible	
Hypersthene		x			5*	
Epidote	x			x	3–4(*)	Gelatinizes if previously ignited
Garnet	x			x	3–3.5(*)	As epidote
Garnierite		x		x	Infusible	
Glauconite		x		x	Easy*	
Hemimorphite			x	x	6	
Hornblende	x			x	4*	
Kaolinite	x			x	Infusible	
Kyanite	x				Infusible	
Lepidolite	x			x	2	
Leucite		x			Infusible	
Margarite	x			x	4–4.5	Slowly decomposed
Melilite			x		3	
Montmorillonite	x			x	Infusible	
Muscovite	x			x	5	
Natrolite			x	x	2.5	
Nepheline			x		4	
Olivine			x		Infusible	Slow reaction
Opal	x			x	Infusible	
Orthoclase	x				5	
Pectolite		x		x	2.5–3	
Phlogopite	x			x	4.5 5	As biotite
Plagioclase series						
Albite	x				4–4.5	
Anorthite		x			5	
Prehnite	x			x	2.5	Gelatinizes after being fused
Pyrophyllite	x			x	Infusible	
Quartz	x				Infusible	
Rhodonite	x				3	
Scapolite		x			3	Imperfectly decomposed
Serpentine		x		x	Infusible	
Sillimanite	x				Infusible	
Sodalite			x		3.5–4	
Sphene	x				4	
Spodumene	x				3.5	
Staurolite	x			x	Infusible	
Stilbite		x		x	3	
Talc	x			x	5	
Topaz	x				Infusible	
Tourmaline	x				Varies with composition from 3 to infusible	
Tremolite	x			x	3–4	
Vesuvianite	x			x	3	Gelatinizes after being fused
Wollastonite		x			4	
Zircon	x				Infusible	

(1) Yields free silica when boiled in HCl

(2) Dissolves in boiling HCl and yields first a jelly and then granular silica on evaporation.

(3) An asterisk (*) indicates the fused mineral is magnetic. An Asterisk within parentheses indicates the fused mineral is sometimes magnetic.