

## REPORTS AND PROCEEDINGS.

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY.—15th March.

Mr. F. A. Bannister: "The distinction of pyrite from marcasite in nodular growths."

X-ray single crystal and powder photographs show that nodules from the Chalk in the South of England are pyrite. Examination of polished sections of a number of these nodules by reflected polarized light confirms this work; in no case of nodular pyrite yet examined is there evidence of an intimate intergrowth of marcasite and pyrite. Both methods have also been applied to the study of nodules from other localities, including the true marcasite nodules from Wisconsin, U.S.A., and pyrite nodules in shales. Nodular pyrite is far more common than was formerly supposed, whereas nodular marcasite is comparatively rare.

Dr. L. Hawkes and Dr. H. F. Harwood: "On the changed composition of an anorthoclase-bearing rock-glass."

The vitreous contact facies of a felsite dyke contains anorthoclase insets which cannot have grown in a liquid represented by the glass. The glass, which shows no outward sign of alteration and exhibits strain birefringence, has taken up soda and water and lost potash and silica. Glasses are more liable to metasomatic change than crystalline rocks.

Dr. A. E. Mourant: "The spherulitic rhyolites of Jersey."

The spherulites present a variety of structures. These are described and their origin is discussed, and particular attention is paid to rhythmic growth, of which there are good examples in some of the spherulites.

Dr. Frederick Walker: "An albitite from Ve Skerries, Shetland Isles."

A specimen collected from this inaccessible group of rocks proves to consist of albite 90 per cent, chlorite (replacing biotite?) 2 per cent, quartz 2 per cent, with accessory titaniferous magnetite and apatite. Texture granitoid. Specific gravity 2.64. Chemical analysis compares closely with those of albitites from the Ural Mountains, and from the Assynt district, Sutherland.

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INQUIRIES.

### VARIATION OF AMERICAN GLACIERS.

It has just been announced that an agency has been organized for the systematic study of the advance and recession of American glaciers. This is the Committee on Glaciers of the Section of Hydrology of the American Geophysical Union. It corresponds in its functions to the Commission des Glaciers of the International Geodetic and Geophysical Union. Two members of the Commission will serve on the new Committee, and the organizer and chairman of the latter is Mr. François E. Matthes, Senior Geologist, Section of Glacial Geology, U.S. Geological Survey.