FIRST DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW MINERALS FROM SLOVAKIA

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Slovakia is a relatively small but, from mineralogical point of view, a very rich region. We can-name 16 new minerals described from 10 occurrences. 15 minerals of them are accepted and confirmed by the International Mineralogical Association (IMA) as new minerals. The approval of the latest one is not finished yet.

Rutile was the first described mineral found in the neighbourhood of Muráň (formerly Murány, Hungary) by Born in 1772 as basaltes ruber. The type locality is most probably Revúca (formerly Nagyrőce). The name rutile (from the Latin rutilus "reddish") was established by Werner in 1800, and published by Ludwig in 1803. Libethenite, originally named according to Leonard (1812) as "phosphorsaure Kupfer" was later (in 1823) renamed by Breithaupt as a "libethenite" after the German name of the village where it was found (Lubietová/Libethen). Breithaupt (1823) determined at this deposit (Svätodušná locality) another new Cu-arsenate, euchroite. It was named after the Greek word euchroes, "having a beautiful colour". Tetradymite (original name: "prismatischer Wismuthglanz") was first described as a new mineral from Župkov (formerly Zsubkó/Schubkau) by Wehrle in 1830. Its detailed mineralogical research was done in 1831 by W. Haidinger. It was named after its four-fold twins. K. Adler mining engineer found a new mineral in the sulphur mine of Vígľašská Huta-Kalinka (formerly Kalinka) in 1846, which was described by W. Haidinger (1847) as hauerite. It was named in honour of geologists Joseph and Franz von Hauer from Vienna, Austria. Evansite was first described as a new mineral from Železník, near Sirk (Zseleznik, later Vashegy) by Forbes in 1864. It was named after Brooke Evans (1797-1862), mining geologist and nickel trade in Birmingham (England), who had brought the specimen from Hungary. Two minerals of extraterrestrial origin, schreibersite (Haidinger, 1847) and cohenite (Weinschenk, 1889) were determined in the "Magura" meteorite, found in 1840 at Slanická Osada, near Námestovo. The following new minerals were described by Krenner from the Smolník (Szomolnok) deposit: kornelite (1888), rhomboclase (1891) and szomolnokite (1891). Vashegyite was described from Železník (formerly Zselezník. later Vashegy) by Zimányi in 1909. It was named after the Hungarian name of the locality. Schafarzikite was at first described as a new mineral from Pernek by Krenner in 1915. It was named in honour of F. Schafarzik (1854-1927), professor of mineralogy and geology in Budapest. Hodrushite was discovered in Banská Hodruša (now part of Hodruša-Hámre) by professor M. Koděra with colleagues (Koděra et al., 1970). Mrázekite was named in honour of Zdeněk Mrázek (1952-1984) and described from Ľubietová (Podlipa locality) by Řídkošil et al. (1992). The last new mineral from the area of Slovakia is telluronevskite (Bi sulphotelluride), described from the Poruba pod Vihorlatom occurrence (Řídkošil et al., 1998).