through several editions, the American volume first appearing in 1556, and being revised in 1657, 1662 and 1667 (?). The copy has a title-page dated 1662, but the maps all bear the date 1657. It may be noted that the volume contains an early mention, in the chapter on Paraguay, of the great Guayra falls on the Paraná river. Copies have also been secured of the first English edition (1708) of François Leguat's "New Voyage to the East Indies," containing a detailed account of his experiences in the islands of Rodriguez and Mauritius, with descriptions and quaint cuts of their remarkable fauna and flora; and of Le Huen's adaptation (with additions describing his own experiences) of Breydenbach's famous "Perigrinationes in Terram Sanctam." This copy is of the third edition, 1522. Lastly, a complete set has been acquired of the great French "Description de l'Egypte," based upon the work of the French scientific men sent to Egypt by Bonaparte at the time of his intervention in that country.

QUICKSILVER DEPOSITS IN THE PHOENIX MOUNTAINS, ARIZ.

THE present exceptional demand for quicksilver in the manufacture of fulminate gives the domestic deposits of this war metal particular interest. Deposits recently discovered in the southern part of the Phœnix Mountains, 10 miles northeast of Phœnix, Ariz., are described in a short paper prepared by F. C. Schrader, just published by the United States Geological Survey. The deposits are easy of access, and being near the rich agricultural region of Salt river valley are otherwise favorably situated for mining. They are being exploited on six or more properties or groups of claims, which lie in a belt, about 3 miles wide, that extends northeastward diagonally across the range.

The rocks in the region are metamorphosed sediments of pre-Cambrian age, chiefly schist, slate argillite, limestone and quartzite. They crop out in narrow parallel zones and dip steeply to the southeast. They are horizontally sheeted and are crosscut by faults, fractures and cleavage. The deposits are in the zones of schist, notably quartz schist and kyanite schist. They are lodelike deposits, some more than a mile long and in places 80 feet wide, which occur along zones of shearing or fracture that are parallel with the lamination of the schists.

The ore minerals are cinnabar and cinnabarite. They are found mostly along the planes of schistosity, forming ore bodies several inches wide and 3 or 4 feet long, but they also occur sporadically in quartz stringers and veinlets. A little native quicksilver has also been reported. Associated with the deposits are copper minerals, especially malachite, chalcicite, and chalcopyrite. The gangue minerals, the chief constituents of the stringers and veinlets, are quartz, calcite hematite, limonite, specularite, kyanite and tourmaline.

The deposits were probably formed by heated solutions or vapors which, ascending through the shear zones, penetrated the interstices of the rocks and deposited their mineral burden as veinlets and films by impregnation and replacement. They are provisionally referred to the Tertiary period, during which volcanism was general in the southwest. Tertiary volcanic rocks occur at several places in the surrounding region.

Although the deposits are but slightly developed, the deepest shaft being but 60 feet in depth, three of the properties yield workable ore that carries 3 per cent. or more of quicksilver. The persistence of the lodes and downward improvement of the ore in the shafts indicate that the ore extends to considerable depths, especially in the oxidized zone.

As the deposits are easily accessible, ore averaging as low as 1 per cent. in quicksilver can no doubt be profitably worked with the metal at its present market price. On one of the properties a retort furnace has been installed and a small amount of commercial quicksilver produced.

The paper describing the deposits, which is published as Bulletin 690-D, under the title "Quicksilver deposits of the Phœnix Mountains," may be obtained by applying to the

Director of the United States Geological Survey.

THE SELECTION OF PRESIDENTS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE following report of the committee on election of President, and changes in the constitution, were unanimously adopted at the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society:

The committee appointed to consider a possible revision of the current procedure of the election of a president of the society begs leave to make the following report:

Your committee is of the opinion:

(*a*) That there is need for an increased interest on the part of the membership at large in the selection of presidents of the society, and (*b*) that there should be some procedure adopted which will ensure the presentation of four nominees to the electing body as provided for in the constitution.

After correspondence, consultation and discussion, the majority of your committee makes the following recommendations which they believe will greatly improve the situation, and which, they also believe, can be given a trial without involving changes in the constitution, which are undesirable in these times of stress, notably because of the clerical labor which they require.

These recommendations are:

(1) That the secretary be empowered to request each local section of the society to submit to him, not later than October 15, the name of some person from the membership at large of the society whom they consider suitable for nomination for the office of president of the society. It should be made clear that the selection is to be made from the entire society, and not necessarily from the membership of the Section making the suggestion.

(2) That the Secretary be empowered to send out, with the nominating ballots sent to the members of the society on November 1, as required by the constitution, the names thus suggested by the local sections, the list to be alphabetical and without indication of the section or sections from which any name may have been submitted. This list should be accompanied by a statement indicating that other nominations by individual members are in order, and that the list is suggestive only.

(3) That the secretary be requested to ascertain by telegraph from each member whose name is thus suggested by the local sections, and before the list is sent out, whether, in the event of nomination by the members at large, he will allow his name to be presented to the council as a nominee for the office of president.

(4) That the subsequent procedure be the same as at present.

Two members of your committee (Major Frankforter and Dr. Richardson) dissent from the foregoing recommendations. They favor a return to a procedure abandoned some years ago, under which nominations would be made by the council and submitted to the entire membership of the society for election. The majority of your committee has carefully considered this proposal, but is of the opinion that it is not advisable to revert to the older custom. They favor a trial of the procedure as outlined above before making changes in the constitution. They are of the opinion that this procedure will serve to increase the interest of members in the election of a president, and that it will prove satisfactory. It can be put into immediate operation and avoid constitutional changes at a time when they present unusual difficulties.

Your committee has reviewed the constitution and, while there are some clauses which might be modified in wording to some advantage, there appear to the majority of your committee to be no matters of serious import at this time. They recommend that no alterations be made at present.

Respectfully submitted,

H. P. TALBOT,
M. T. BOGERT,
by H. P. T.
B. F. LOVELACE,
by H. P. T.