OBSERVATION ON "AN INTERGROWTH BETWEEN ALBITE AND SODALITE"

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We have read with interest the account by K.V. Subbarao (1969) concerning vermicular intergrowth of albitic plagioclase and sodalite in nepheline syenites from Andhra Pradesh, India. The author unfortunately claims that such intergrowths have never previously been described. We wish to draw attention to the previous description and illustration of such textures from nepheline syenites of the Breivikbotn alkaline complex in Northern Norway (Sturt & Ramsay 1965). A broadly similar explanation for the origin of these intergrowths was given in this memoir, namely as the result of post-magmatic hydrothermal metamorphism, to that employed by Dr. Subbarao.

References

SUBBARAO, K.V. (1969) : "An intergrowth between albite and sodalite". Can. Mineral. 9, 721-723.

STURT, B.A. & RAMSAY, D.M. (1965) : "The alkaline complex of the Breivikbotn area, Söröy, Northern Norway". Norg. Geolog. Under. 231, 1-142.

BOOK REVIEW

PROCEEDINGS OF THE APOLLO 11 LUNAR SCIENCE CONFERENCE edited by A.A. LEVINSON, Supplement I of Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta, Pergamon Press Inc. (1970) xxi + 2492 pages, 180 articles, 3 volumes, \$40.00 (U.S.)

The Scientific results of the investigation of the lunar samples returned by the Apollo 11 astronauts have been brought together in these three volumes edited by Prof. Levinson of the University of Calgary. The first volume includes those articles dealing with the detailed petrography and mineralogy of the lunar samples. The new minerals armalcolite and pyroxferroite are described in detail and there are hundreds of electron microprobe analyses and bulk analyses of coexisting minerals, glass spherules and lunar "fines".

The second volume includes those articles which are generally concerned with bulk chemical and isotopic analyses. The division of articles between volume 1 and 2 was of necessity somewhat arbitrary and it is sometimes difficult to locate those articles dealing with a particular topic. For instance I found it very difficult to find out about the distribution of sulphur in the lunar samples. Some kind of an indexing system would have been very useful considering the number of separate papers (180) and pages (2,500).

The third volume is concerned with the physical properties of the lunar rocks. This volume is in many ways the most interesting since it deals with such diverse topics as solar flare paleontology, mössbauer spectroscopy, thermoluminescence, adhesive properties of lunar material, rate of surface turnover using cosmic ray tracks, spectral reflectance and continental drift-rate from the laser retro-reflector measurements.

Most of the scientific investigations seem to have been conducted carefully and the results written in a very clear and concise manner. As stated by the editor there was no attempt to enforce uniformity in nomenclature or terminology except in the use of new mineral names. This freedom does result in some confusion to the reader who has to decide whether different authors are describing the same or different rocks and textures. It is also difficult to determine the relationship between the samples described by one group and those described by another group.

One of the most useful aspects of these volumes is that it gives the geologist and student an appreciation of the many different laboratory techniques available in 1970 for the study of geological samples. It will be interesting to see how the various petrological models which have been developed from this intensive investigation of samples from a few square meters of the moon's surface stand the test of time.

The editor and all those contributing to these volumes should be commended for this very fine effort and for publishing these results so quickly with so few errors.

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Proceedings of the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Mineralogical Association of Canada

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Mineralogical Association of Canada was held, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Geological Association of Canada, from August 30 to September 2, 1970, in Winnipeg. The technical sessions were held in the Armes Building of the University of Manitoba. 28 papers of mineralogical content were presented in 4 technical sessions, one of which was a special session devoted to pegmatite minerals. There was also a special session on Canadian Investigations of Apollo 11 Lunar Materials and an exhibit, showing documents on the flight of Apollo 11, and a sample of lunar rock was on display. Field trips before and after the technical sessions included visits to the northern Manitoba nickel belt, the Bird River area, and the Flin Flon-Snow lake area.

Following the Winnipeg meeting, there was a Conference of the Canadian Probe Users at the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment, Pinawa, Manitoba.

The M.A.C. Luncheon was held on Sept. 1 at the University of Manitoba; C.T. Williams, manager of the Tanco Mine was the guest speaker, and gave an address entitled "A miner's encounters with mineralogy". In the evening of Sept. 1, the annual dinner was held, jointly with the G.A.C., in the Fort Garry Hotel. Prof. G.M. Brownell gave at this occasion an illustrated talk about the early history of the Winnipeg area and some reminiscences about his geological experiences.

The Hawley Award for 1970 was conferred on Dr. J.L. Jambor of the Geological Survey of Canada. The award was made on the recommendation of two judges — Drs. M. Fleischer and A. Pabst — for the best paper published in The Canadian Mineralogist during the years 1968-1970 : "New Lead Sulfantimonides from Madoc, Ontario", vol. 9, 7-24, 191-213, 505-521.