

sulphate was calculated as calcite or calcium carbonate. Whenever there was a large percentage of calcium carbonate the presence of magnesium hydroxide was assumed. This assumption was based mainly on the results contained in a very interesting paper by Johnston and the hypothesis that the deposits under discussion have been formed at or very close to the surface of the ground, under temperature and pressure conditions approximately that of the atmosphere (see pages 38 and 39). Although ferrous carbonate is a very usual impurity in magnesium carbonate, the amount of ferrous iron in these earths is so low that it has, for the sake of convenience, been omitted from the calculations. (3) Any carbon dioxide, magnesium, and water of crystallization remaining after satisfying conditions (1) and (2) above was assumed to exist as basic magnesium carbonate. In order to arrive at the probable compositions of the hydrous magnesium carbonates use was made of the diagram, Figure 4, in the following way. The molecular proportions of magnesium, carbon dioxide, and water of crystallization remaining were plotted in the relative proportions on the diagram. In the same diagram the minerals magnesite $MgCO_3$, hydromagnesite $4MgO \cdot 3CO_2 \cdot 4H_2O$, nesquehonite $MgCO_3 \cdot 3H_2O$, and brucite $Mg(OH)_2$ have been plotted according to their respective molecular proportions. The points representing the available MgO , CO_2 , and H_2O of the analyses lie, with very little variation, on a smooth curve, the nesquehonite-hydromagnesite-magnesite curve, and lie between hydromagnesite and magnesite. The compounds whose presence is thus indicated may belong to an isomorphous series of which hydromagnesite and magnesite are end members or they may be distinct compounds of compositions intermediate between hydromagnesite and magnesite.

TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL RELATIONS.

The deposits of pure hydromagnesite all lie on flat ground near the lowest part of the valleys in which they occur. The main deposit at Clinton lies at the foot of a steep slope on the east side of the valley (Figure 3, locality 3). Between it and the creek is a stretch of swamp a few feet lower in elevation than the hydromagnesite. At Watson lake the deposits occur on the same flat as the lake and the surface of the main deposit is about one quarter mile south of and 4 feet or so above the level of the lake (Figure 6). At Meadow lake (Figure 5) the deposits are in a valley that forms part of the depression in which the lake lies and is without visible outlet. Both the deposits at Riske creek lie on the flat valley floor near the stream and a few feet above it.

At Clinton, unconsolidated sand and clay underlie the deposit. The hill lying east of the Clinton deposit is mostly drift-covered, but such outcrops as were found were actinolite-schists and carbonaceous argillites of the Cache Creek series, and rocks of the same character outcrop about one mile to the south, and above the epsomite lake in elevation (Figure 8). In the railway cuts a mile or two to the north and several hundred feet above the flat, there are many outcrops of serpentine and other rocks of Cache Creek age. These are capped by Tertiary basalts, but there is no reason to doubt that the flat under the hydromagnesites and the hills adjacent for several hundred feet above it, are underlain by Cache Creek rocks. At Meadow lake the presence of angular basalt boulders in pro-