A more detailed paper on the occurrence and genesis of these vermiforms is in preparation.

**Reference**


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**THE AMERICAN MINERALOGIST, VOL. 45, JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1960**

**LOW TEMPERATURE PHASE TRANSITION OF COLEMANITE**


In recent years several workers (1, 2, 3) by means of pyroelectric, ferroelectric, and nuclear magnetic resonance measurements have obtained evidence that colemanite, CaB₂O₄(OH)₃·H₂O, room temperature space group P2₁/a (4, 5), undergoes a transition near 0° C. to a noncentrosymmetric phase. This phase change can also be observed with x-ray diffraction techniques.

Precession photographs of the h0l and 0kl reciprocal lattice nets at room temperature and at -30° C. were taken using MoKα radiation with a Zr filter. The single crystal fragment was from a colemanite specimen from Death Valley, California, kindly supplied by Dr. C. L. Christ of the U. S. Geological Survey.

Within the limits of error there was no change in the cell dimensions, which agree with the published values (5), and no changes were observed on the 0kl net. However, the low temperature h0l net contained very weak reflections from the 701, 502, 905, and 706 planes which establishes that the glide plane does not exist in the low temperature form. The transition between the room temperature P2₁/a phase and the low temperature P2₁ phase is readily reversible.

**References**