

A



C



B



D





Plate 17A. A photomicrograph of highly fibrous talc showing paragenic relations. The blades of tremolite (TR) are largely replaced by fibers of anthophyllite (A) which in turn is partly replaced by microcrystalline aggregates of the mineral talc (TC). when this talc is ground the anthophyllite fibers fluff up and produce an asbestiform mass. If ground to a minus 250 mesh this talc has an oil absorption of about 50. Photo X50.

Plate 17B. Tremolitic talc partly replaced by microcrystalline grains of the mineral talc. The light colored boundaries of each tremolite grain, and cleavage lines are altered to the mineral talc. This variety of talc is not fibrous and has an oil absorption of about 34 when ground to a minus 300 mesh. Photo X16, crossed nicols.

Plate 17C. Slightly serpentinous and talcose commercial talc. This material averages about 80 percent tremolite, 5 percent serpentine, 14 percent talc and 1 percent calcite. It has an oil absorption of about 36 when ground to a minus 300 mesh. Photo X50, crossed nicols.

Plate 17D. Commercial talc composed of diopside, tremolite, serpentine and talc. Tremolite and very rare diopside (light and dark laminae) comprise about 18 percent of this talc, serpentine about 50 percent, and the mineral talc (the very light colored spots) about 32 percent. This talc ground to minus 300 mesh has an oil absorption of about 48. Photo X16, crossed nicols.