

(REVIEWS AND ABSTRACTS OF TEKTITE LITERATURE).

PART ONE: FIVE IMPORTANT PAPERS RELATING TO THE BILLITONITES.

van der VEEN, R.W.

1. "Origin of the Tektite Sculpture and some Consequences".
In Verh.V.h.Geol.-Mijnbouwkundig Genootschap voor Ned.
en Kol., (Geol.Series). Vol. VII, Pt.I (s'Gravenhage.
1923), pp. 15-41, and 6 plates.

An elaborate study of the tektite body and its sculpture, by a distinguished scholar now deceased. It is divided into three parts and an appended note, each of which will be discussed separately:

Part I: Glass or Hydrogel: This is devoted to a discussion of N.Wing Easton's new theory of tektite origin. The author starts out with the proposition that hydrogels and true glasses are essentially different substances, each having its own properties which can be studied and identified. He objects to Easton's speaking of "a gel which vitrifies", as a confusing and scientifically incorrect statement. He then proceeds to carefully examine the physical properties and behaviour of the tektites, and comes to the conclusion that they are really true glasses and not hydrogels. Easton's theory is therefore discarded, as possible.

Part II: Behaviour of glass when etched: Records the author's experiences and results in etching Billitonite, Moldavite, and several varieties of artificial glass, with HF acid. Also the results of heating and cooling, etc.