

TALC

By J. W. McCammon

J&J PROPERTY (921/4E)

Pacific Talc Ltd., of 404, 604 Columbia Street, New Westminster, owns 10 claims, J&J 1 to 10 inclusive (latitude $50^{\circ} 00.1'$; longitude $121^{\circ} 34.6'$), on a talc deposit situated between 227 and 308 metres elevation on the south bank of Nahatlatch River, 4.3 kilometres west of Fraser River and 18.7 kilometres north and west by gravel road from North Bend. The two original claims, JJ 1 and 2, were recorded by J. Massey in March 1970. Visible exposures of talc all appear to be on the JJ 1 claim.

Talcosed rock is exposed just east of a small creek, down the wooded, steep, bluff northwest end of a low hill. Outcrops are scarce. The best talc showings are visible in cuts on the road and at the base of a bluff 60 metres south of the road.

The talc rock forms a band 35 to 45 metres wide in phyllite. A strongly developed schistosity strikes northwest and dips vertically to steeply east. The band is revealed by intermittent outcrops from the road at 227 metres elevation southeasterly for 190 metres to a trench at 308 metres elevation. None was seen between the road and Nahatlatch River at 205 metres elevation 100 metres to the north, nor in the drift-covered area within a 150-metre diameter semicircle south of the trench at 308 metres elevation. Map 1010A (*Geol. Surv., Canada, Ashcroft Sheet, 1951*) shows the rocks to be Triassic or earlier in age and Map 737A shows them as Carboniferous and later.

The rock containing the talc consists essentially of talc and carbonate (probably mainly magnesite), with lesser chlorite, limonite, magnetite, and pyrite. Analyses quoted by the company show the talc content to range between 30 and 50 per cent. The rock varies from light to dark greyish green and weathers buff to brown stained. It is schisted and platy. Composition and texture vary considerably and rapidly from place to place.

Development work at the end of August 1974 consisted of an east-west cut 45 metres long parallel to the road along the base of a knoll at the south edge of the road, an east-west cut 40 metres long across the base of the main bluff at 245 metres elevation 60 metres south of the road, a northwest-trending cut 70 metres long at elevation 308 metres 120 to 190 metres south of the road, and a pit 3 metres diameter halfway between the second and third cuts.

Extraction and beneficiation tests are being done on a bulk sample of material from the cut 60 metres south of the road.