

H.C. Gunning and Donald Carlisle Vanadium on the west coast of
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As much as 3% V_2O_5 and 2% Cu occur in thin wavy laminated layers < 1/8" thick of hard black sediment between flows of basaltic lava in the Valdes Group of probable Triassic age on the west coast of British Columbia. The laminae consist of alternating black opaque material and tiny spherules of quartz. The black sediment is locally replaced by epigenetic chalcocite and cut by tiny quartz veins containing specks of chalcocite. The V appears syngenetic, either concentrated by organic material or precipitated chemically with the sediment. Some of the basalt flows with the sediments contain as much as 0.3% V_2O_5 . Analyses of the sediment show (in percent): SiO_2 75.31, FeO 2.29, Al_2O_3 3.70, TiO_2 0.15, MnO 0.10, CaO 4.08, MgO 0.53, Cu 2.88, V_2O_5 2.16, S 0.72, P_2O_5 tr, U and Cr nd, H_2O 2.61, C and CO_2 present (C about 5% by calculation; no hydrocarbons detected).