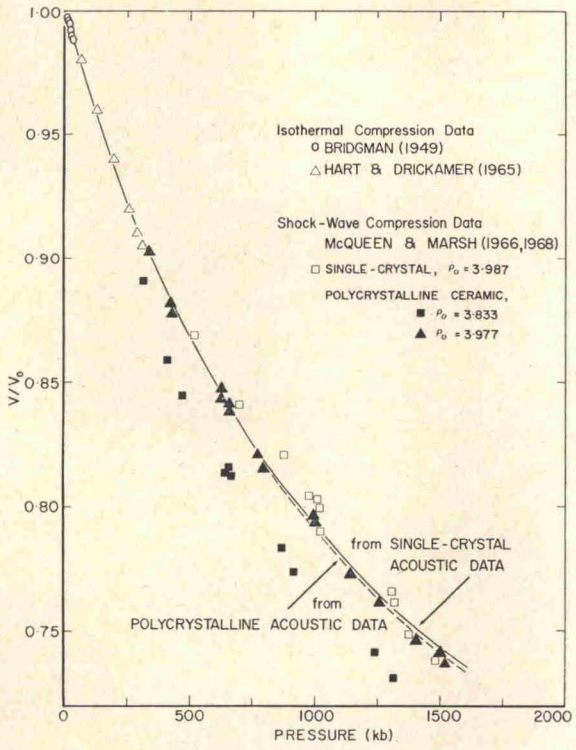

FIG. 5. The compression of single-crystal and polycrystalline alumina.

temperature for alumina was found as 1044(±3)°K, and it may be noted that this value of the elastic Debye theta agrees very well with thermal Debye theta obtained from the low-temperature specific heat data.[5] The thermal Debye theta, according to the Barron–Berg–Morrison scheme, is 1045(±6)°K.[7]

The equivalent values of the Debye temperature of alumina as a function of pressure were also evaluated at the constant temperature of 298°K, and these results have been entered in Table III. It may be noted that a linear increase of about $\frac{1}{2}\%$ in the Debye temperature due to a pressure of 10 kbar is seen here. This increase of the Debye temperature with pressure can be understood by considering the Grüneisen theory of solids in which the frequency of lattice vibrations ν is assumed to be a function only of volume. Thus, we write

$$\nu \sim V^{-\gamma_G},$$

where γ_G is the Grüneisen parameter. Introducing the definition of the Debye temperature and taking the ratio of the theta at a pressure p to that at the reference pressure p_0, we find that

$$\ln[\Theta_D/\Theta_{D(0)}]=\gamma_G \ln(V_0/V). \qquad (5.19)$$

According to this relation, Θ_D increases parabolically with pressure for all the solids of which $(V_0/V)>1$.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank J. H. Gieske for providing his single-crystal data reproduced in Table IV prior to his own publication. R. L. Coble is acknowledged for his most authoritative discussion on Lucalox alumina. This work was started by one of us (DHC) at Materials Research Laboratory of The Pennsylvania State University with support received from U.S. Office of Naval Research Contr. No. Nonr-656(27). The work was completed at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was supported by National Aeronautics and Space Administration Grant No. NGR-22-009-176.