

shift in the temperature dependence of  $\Delta T$  is observed at the melting point. Repetition of isobaric runs at a number of pressures allows a determination of the effect of pressure on the melting point of the sample. The Rb samples were surrounded by mineral oil during loading in order to prevent oxidation. The Rb stock was obtained from the Fairmount Chemical Company and was stated to be double distilled.

The experimental data points obtained in the present study are shown in Figure 2, along with the data of Bundy<sup>1</sup> and Newton, et al.<sup>2</sup> The data are seen to agree quite well with those of Newton, et al.<sup>2</sup>, and no maximum is observed. The fact that our melting points lie a few percent below those of Newton, et al.<sup>2</sup> could be explained on the basis of impurities introduced into our samples by the presence of the mineral oil surrounding the Rb. The close agreement of our results with Newton, et al.<sup>2</sup> seems to indicate quite definitely that if a maximum exists in the melting curve of Rb, it occurs at a pressure higher than 60 kbar.

#### REFERENCES

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2. R. C. Newton, A. Jayaraman, and G. C. Kennedy, J. Geophys. Res. 67, 2559 (1962).
3. F. A. Blum, Jr. and B. C. Deaton, Phys. Rev. Letters, 12, 697 (1964).