

DISCUSSION

*P. Sargent*¹ (*written discussion*)—In your discussion of the many different shapes that *post facto* indentations are observed to take, you mention that these are all caused by elastic recovery as the indenter is removed (with some plasticity in a few cases). You also give the impression that you think the surface surrounding the indentation is flat as the indenter is pressed in. Could you comment on the observation of alternating pileups and sink-ins surrounding indentations made in bismuth, which is very soft? Surely these changes in topography around the indentation must have been formed as the indenter was pressed in, not afterwards, as the degree of elastic recovery in bismuth must be very small.

L. E. Samuels (*author's closure*)—My proposal was only that it is *possible* that effects of the type mentioned by Dr. Sargent, or at least many of them, could develop during recovery of the indentation instead of during the loading phase. I also suggested that it is not possible to determine with reasonable certainty which will develop by examining recovered impressions, and therefore the question warrants investigation by more direct means. Personally, I have an open mind on the matter.

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