

MEMORIAL OF CARL FAESSLER

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With the death of Carl Faessler in Quebec City on October 1st, 1957, the American Mineralogical Society lost a most distinguished member, at the same time the Faculty of Science of Laval University was losing the dean of its professors and Canada, a great citizen.

Born on the 24th of September 1895 at Steinen in Switzerland, Carl Faessler received his fundamental education in the schools of Feusisberg and Steineberg. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts at the College Maria Hilf of Schwyz in 1916. In 1917 he registered at the University of Fribourg where he was especially interested in Chemistry, Botany and Min-



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eralogy and where he obtained in 1923 a Doctorate of Science *Summa Cum Laude*.

It was in 1923 that Dr. Faessler came to Canada to act as assistant professor of Chemistry and to take charge of the courses in Mineralogy and Geology at the newly founded *Ecole de Chimie* of Laval University in Quebec.

In 1931, Dr. Faessler was appointed full professor, responsible for the teaching of Mineralogy, Crystallography and Petrography. He also gave courses in General Geology, Mineral Technology, and even in German.

His capacity for working was tremendous. He had a very systematized mind and every minute available was used for something useful.

Besides his teaching assignment Faessler spent a good part of his time and energy doing field work for the Department of Mines of the Province of Quebec. He was one of the first field geologists for the Province and his association with the Provincial Government extends from 1928 to 1945. All those who worked with him in the field recall his untiring energy and his devotion to his work. His sense of discipline and order was carried to the most minute details, and in the most difficult situation one could not help feeling a sense of security radiating from his strong and powerful personality.

He was a leader and yet he was first and above all a teacher and professor. Everyone that was associated with him at the University, in the field or in a social gathering was fascinated by the tremendous knowledge that he had acquired through abundant reading, personal experience and profound philosophical thinking.

Dr. Carl Faessler during his 34 years of active life as a geologist has taken part in the activities of a great number of Scientific Societies.

All his publications cannot be listed here due to lack of space, but his last work should be mentioned, *The Cross Index to the Geological illustrations of the Geological Survey and the Mines Branch; the Ontario Department of Mines and the Quebec Department of Mines*. These are extensive pieces of work which took years to complete and which are considered by everybody as a great contribution to Canadian Geology.