The Hawley Award was established by the Mineralogical Association of Canada in 1967 as a Centennial Project to mark the 100th Anniversary of Canadian confederation. At that time it was decided that the Award would be made every three years to the author of the best paper published in The Canadian Mineralogist during the preceding three years. As a tribute to Professor J. E. Hawley (1897-1965), longtime Miller Memorial Research Professor at Queen's University, Kingston and eminent mineralogist, this recognition of merit was named the Hawley Award. The original triennial Award consisted of a scroll and a life membership in the Association, but in 1973 the scroll was replaced by a silver medal suitably engraved. The selection of the best paper in a given period is entrusted to a panel of impartial, highly respected mineralogists who report their decision to the MAC Executive.

Past recipients have been, for 1967 E. H. Nickel, for 1970 J. L. Jambor, and for 1973 D. C. Harris and E. H. Nickel. In 1975, the MAC Executive decided to modify the original terms of the award because of the recent substantial increase in the number of papers published annually in *The Canadian Mineralogist*. The sole modification was a change from a triennial to an annual Award, with a 1976 Award to be made for the best paper in the period 1973-74, a 1977 Award for the best paper in the period 1975-76, and thereafter an Award be made annually for the best paper published in *The Canadian Mineralogist* in the previous year.

The 1976 AWARD WINNER is RALPH KRETZ, Professor of Geology at the University

of Ottawa for his paper entitled "Kinetics of the Crystallization of Garnet at Two Localities near Yellowknife" (The Canadian Mineralogist, 1973, 12, 1-20). Ralph Kretz was born in Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, July 3, 1930. He graduated from the University of British Columbia in 1953, received the M.Sc. degree from Queen's University in 1955 and the Doctor of Philosophy in Geology and Geochemistry from the University of Chicago in 1958. His thesis, prepared under the supervision of Professor Hans Ramberg, was entitled "The Chemical Petrology of Garnet, Biotite and Hornblende Gneisses from Southwestern Quebec"; the field work was sponsored by the Quebec Department of Mines. The thesis is considered a milestone in chemical petrology with several publications resulting from this work having been referred to by students of metamorphic petrology the world over.

Ralph Kretz has spent six summers as a field geologist for the Geological Survey of Canada, and three seasons for the Quebec Department of Mines. In 1961-65 he served as Assistant Professor at the University of Queensland, Australia, and he spent 1965-6 in the Department of Chemistry, Imperial College as a Postdoctoral Fellow. He joined the teaching staff in Geology at the University of Ottawa in 1966, and was appointed Professor in 1971. During 1975-6 he was on sabbatical leave at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. Ralph Kretz, who has 26 publications to his credit, continues to work on thermodynamic problems in metamorphic petrology, and recently he has concentrated on the kinetics of crystal growth. By his outstanding contributions to mineralogy and petrology, Professor Kretz is in the tradition of previous recipients of the Hawley Award.