

# THE CANADIAN MINERALOGIST

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## PREFACE

In dedicating this special issue to Professor *L.G. Berry* the mineralogical community is expressing its appreciation to 'Len' for forty years of splendid and unselfish service as scientist, teacher, technical-society executive and editor. Len has earned the respect of his friends and colleagues for the sustained effort that he continues to display in all his activities; it is truly remarkable how he copes simultaneously with a fluctuating teaching load, with national and international committee work, with the increasing amounts of detail contingent in mineralogical and other scientific editorships, and with the tremendous world-wide correspondence accruing from these activities. The productive part he has played over the years in many of the world's local and international scientific organizations, including the positions of treasurer of the International Mineralogical Association, the past presidency of the Mineralogical Society of America, and the current presidency of the Mineralogical Association of Canada, have brought honor and recognition. It is fitting therefore that the Mineralogical Association of Canada also should recognize and honor Len's contributions with this number of the "Canadian Mineralogist". Our journal owes much of its quality and world-wide circulation to the twenty-five years of his editorship.

Undergraduate and graduate years at the University of Toronto allowed Len access to the mineral collections of the University, and especially to the world-renowned collection of the Royal Ontario Museum. Even more important at this time, his chief mentor, Professor Martin A. Peacock, established early contacts for him with scientists throughout the world engaged in descriptive mineralogy and crystallography, contacts Len strengthened through respect for his own work.

While Len was completing his formal education to the doctorate level, teaching assistantships in the winters, and geological field work in the summers with both the Geological Survey of Canada and the Ontario Department of Mines, provided financial support and brought

teaching experience, insight into field applications of geology and mineralogy, and lasting personal friendships.

Graduation in 1937 brought Len his first major honor, the Coleman Gold Medal awarded jointly to him and to his friend and fellow mineralogist Alan T. Prince (now Chairman of the Canadian Atomic Energy Control Board). Each graduate served as the other's 'best man' at their marriages. May and Len Berry and their two children, now adult, retain close family ties as expected from a successful marriage partnership.

During the Second World War, the need of a new facility, to supply advanced optical devices no longer obtainable from Britain, drew Len for four years into Research Enterprises Limited, in Toronto, as an engineer in the Optical Division. In 1944 he was appointed lecturer in mineralogy and crystallography at Queen's University, with such well-known geoscientists as Hawley, Bruce, Rose, and Ambrose. Len remained at Queen's, continually adding his share of prestige to a distinguished faculty. He is currently chairman of his division of the School of Graduate Studies and for several years has held the position of Miller Research Professor.

Len's teaching methods, as would be expected from his usually tranquil disposition, are not flamboyant. Those who actively seek knowledge find that his guidance is sound, and that his mastery of his discipline is only exceeded by his regard for mineralogy in all its aspects.

Len is a classical mineralogist, pursuing his studies in the tradition of such notables as Goldschmidt, Spencer, Schaller, Palache, and Peacock. He has earned his place with active scientists eminent in descriptive mineralogy and crystallography. Like his contemporaries Nuffield, Ferguson and Thompson, Berry emphasizes precision and accuracy in detail.

Peacock's Atlas, completed by Berry and Thompson in 1962, remains an authoritative work invaluable for identifying ore minerals by their X-ray powder-diffraction patterns. The

merit of this great contribution was recognized by the Geological Society of America, who published it as their Memoir 85, with the aid of the Penrose Fund.

In assuming editorship of the Canadian Mineralogist in 1950, Len displayed literary and technical precision and skill from the beginning. He also developed the ability to persuade uninformed and sometimes inert Association executives to help him raise money, increase circulation, fend off importunate creditors, deal with sometimes balky printers, proofreaders, abstractors, and referees, and tactfully to improve authors' manuscripts without antagonism. In many ways, these were thankless tasks. They are now rewarded by the steadily increasing prestige and circulation of the Canadian Mineralogist, dating from its repatriation in 1956 to the present. In this journal the improving quality of mineralogy in Canada is recorded.

While maintaining a steady pressure to keep the journal rolling, Len somehow has found time for a variety of other activities. Not least of these was the organization of abstractors of Canadian papers for "Mineralogical Abstracts", a duty accepted from 1957 until recently. Many abstracts he eventually prepared and supplied himself, even when delayed by other commitments. Not mentioned are his numerous field

trips and short business visits in Canada and in many foreign countries, each planned carefully for maximum exchange of information, and for the continuing contacts which he promotes by his quiet interest in everyone's pet project. His outstanding ability to supply and organize information makes his collaboration welcome, and many scientific papers with and without his name as co-author owe their quality to Len's generous help.

Len presents today the same erect and youthful stance of thirty years ago. He shows little visible change in appearance, or in the humanity of his attitude toward his associates. His quiet and direct manner invites the confidence and friendship of student and contemporary alike. To the world, Len shows continuing industry, competence and outstanding achievement in his services to science. To his many friends in all countries, he shows the warmth, tranquility and quiet generosity which have earned him their regard.

All Len's friends, Canadian and around the world congratulate him as Editor Emeritus, and now President of the Mineralogical Association of Canada, and wish him many more years of satisfying achievement.

A. R. GRAHAM

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