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## PRESIDENTIAL REMINISCENCES\*

L. G. BERRY

*Department of Geological Sciences, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6*

Having been deeply involved with our Association from the time of organization, and with *The Canadian Mineralogist* as it evolved from its predecessor, I felt a review of their development would be in order. First I must thank all of you interested in the Mineralogical Association of Canada, officers and all members, for your continual support which has made possible the publication of *The Canadian Mineralogist* and especially for the great honor resulting from the dedication of Volume 14, Part 4, to me. I particularly wish to thank fellow past-presidents Ron Graham and Joe Mandarino for proposing this special issue and having it approved during my temporary absence from the Executive Meeting at Waterloo on the pretext that I should represent MAC at the opening ceremonies for the concurrent Annual Meeting. I hope that Ron is correct in expecting that such issues will attract a wider interest in *The Canadian Mineralogist*. Currently, a national broad-interest journal is in stiff competition from the increasing numbers of international, more specialized journals. I also thank our

President, Bob Ferguson for so willingly taking office prematurely, in July 1976, when I took sabbatical leave in Perth, Australia.

Prior to the T. L. Walker's 1921 founding of *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy*, papers on mineralogical subjects were published in journals outside of Canada, or in Canadian government publications by the Department of Mines. The first of the *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy* appeared in 1921 as No. 12 of the *University of Toronto Studies, Geological Series*. This has since been designated Volume 1, Part 1 of *The Canadian Mineralogist*. One earlier paper (No. 10, 1918) "Mineralogy of the H.B. mine, Salmo, B.C." by T. L. Walker could well have been included in the *Contributions*. All later issues of the *Contributions* as designated in the *University of Toronto Studies* are included in Volumes 1 to 4 of *The Canadian Mineralogist* as noted in its earlier issues.

This year (1977) marks an interesting personal anniversary for the development of mineralogy in Canada, for in 1937 I graduated along with Alan Prince and John McBean at Toronto in Mineralogy and Geology. A. L. Parsons actively succeeded T. L. Walker as head that year and had persuaded Martin Peacock to join the Toronto staff that fall. Funds were provided for the establishment of an X-ray diffraction laboratory, the first serious effort

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\*Introductory remarks of the MAC Presidential Address delivered at the MAC Luncheon on April 27, 1977, in Vancouver, British Columbia. The main address, *Recent Studies on Nickel Carbonates*, will appear separately.

to do this in a geological or mineralogical department in Canada.

The years 1935-8 were a time of great expansion in the use of X-ray diffraction for studying minerals. Papers by Waldo (*Amer. Mineral.* 20, 575-597, 1935), Hanawalt *et al.* (*Ind. Eng. Chem. Anal.* 10, 457, 1938), Boldyrev (Leningrad) and Harcourt (*Amer. Mineral.* 27, 63-113, 1942) clearly established its value as a means of identification, but other studies showed the importance of a fuller study of each mineral before accepting powder data alone. The *American Mineralogist* index for 1916-35 (Vol. 1-20) contains very few references to X-ray study whereas the index for 1936-45 (Vol. 21-30) includes more than four pages of such entries. This period marks the wider availability of reasonably dependable and convenient X-ray diffraction source-units, and standardized cameras for powder and single-crystal studies.

In the fall of 1937, A. L. Parsons revived an evening seminar for Mineralogy staff and students. At the first meeting Alan Prince and I, as new graduate students, gave brief reviews of papers from the *American Mineralogist*. I recall discussing the paper describing woodhouseite (Lemmon, *Amer. Mineral.* 22, 939-948, 1937). This was chosen because Peacock wished to call attention to the modern treatment of rhombohedral crystallography which had been understood imperfectly by earlier crystallographers. These seminars were merged with the meetings of the Walker Mineralogical Club upon its organization on January 13, 1938. The Club served as a means of bringing together those interested in mineralogy at the university, as well as individuals from government and mining companies. The Club also made possible financial support, and wider distribution of the *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy*. Professor Parsons carried on as Editor until 1941, when he persuaded Professor Peacock to assume the duties.

In 1948, the University of Toronto withdrew all support for publication of the *Studies*. At the 1948 Council Meeting of the Mineralogical Society of America, Professor Peacock, as President of MSA, reported on the financial difficulties in continuing publication of *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy*. MSA council approved the assignment of one of six annual parts of the *American Mineralogist* to "*Canadian Contributions*" to be assembled and edited by Martin Peacock in consultation with the MSA editor. This arrangement never received unanimous support of MSA council, but it continued until 1955 when pressures increased in MSA for publication space. The 1955 *Con-*

*tributions* formed only part of the July-August number of the *American Mineralogist*. At Professor Peacock's request I had helped him with editing the 1950 issue and took on the duties following his untimely death. In 1955 Canadians requested MSA to discontinue the favor granted to us in 1948. During this period (1949-1955) the Walker Mineralogical Club had purchased separate copies of the Canadian part of the *American Mineralogist* for distribution to their members, and these 7 parts are collected as Volume 5 of *The Canadian Mineralogist* in many library files.

Informal discussions, commenced in 1953, culminated in a meeting of sixteen interested Canadian mineralogists on August 23, 1954, in Ottawa under the chairmanship of Dr. A. T. Prince, with Sol Kaiman as secretary. The following motions were proposed and carried:

1. A motion was made by S. C. Robinson, seconded by R. B. Ferguson, (carried):  
That the subjects of papers to be published in *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy* continue to include descriptive mineralogy, crystallography, petrography, geochemistry and related fields, and the decision as to whether any specific paper fulfils these requirements shall rest with the editor and such other advisers as he may consult.  
A discussion was held on which organization is to be the source of a request for this journal. The Geological Survey of Canada, Walker Club, N.R.C. and National Advisory Committee on Research in Geological Sciences were considered. E. W. Nuffield was of the opinion that there should be a national Canadian mineralogical group or society which would meet regularly to discuss problems of mutual interest.
2. A motion was made by R. B. Ferguson, seconded by A. R. Graham (carried): This group proposes the formation of an association of Canadian mineralogists to be called the *Mineralogical Association of Canada*.  
Consideration was given to the affiliation of other Canadian associations with this new association. Steps to be taken to implement the decisions made at this meeting were considered.
3. D. M. Shaw made a motion, seconded by E. W. Nuffield (carried):  
That a committee be formed to:
  1. Investigate national interest in the proposed association.
  2. Investigate the financing of *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy* for 1955, and the possible future sponsorship of the *Contributions*.
  3. Draft a constitution and bye-laws.
  4. Set a date for an organizational meeting.
 Nominations were made for the membership of an interim steering committee.

4. A motion was made by R. B. Ferguson, seconded by D. A. Moddle (carried): That the central (steering) committee consist of E. W. Nuffield, L. G. Berry, J. S. Stevenson, S. C. Robinson, S. A. Forman, A. R. Graham, D. M. Shaw, and that five of the above constitute a quorum.

5. A motion was made by D. M. Shaw, seconded by L. G. Berry (carried): That E. W. Nuffield act as Chairman of the steering committee. It was suggested that the proceedings of this meeting be circulated by the central committee.

A suggested list of corresponding members was drawn up to include people representing all of Canada. These members are to serve as regional contacts, to disseminate news and to stir up local interest in the proposed association. The steering committee was instructed to initiate discussions with the National Advisory Committee on Research in Geological Sciences on the matter of financing of the *Contributions*.

The chairman of the steering committee, Professor Nuffield, with a sub-committee consisting of D. A. Moddle and A. R. Graham, drew up a first draft of Bye-Laws for MAC. These Bye-Laws, after study by the steering committee, were approved in amended form by that body at a meeting on June 6, 1955. The name was changed to "The Canadian Association for Mineral Sciences" and was incorporated August 5, 1955. In a letter to the members on September 26, 1955 the secretary, S. Kaiman, further advised that the membership had reached 100, that a nominating committee had been appointed, and that a "brief" requesting financial assistance for printing of a mineralogical journal was under consideration by the executive of the National Advisory Committee on Research in the Geological Sciences. In a memorandum, March 1, 1956, the secretary announced the election of the first executive with E. W. Nuffield as President and S. Kaiman as Secretary. The first business meeting was called for April 9, 1956 in Quebec City during the regular meeting of the Geological Association of Canada and the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

The minutes of this first business meeting reveal further discussion on the name and a decision to change it to *Mineralogical Association of Canada*, and the journal to *The Canadian Mineralogist*. These names were later approved by letter ballot. It was also recommended that the journal might have a sub-title "Contributions to Canadian crystallography, geochemistry, mineralogy, petrology and allied sciences". A committee was appointed to design

a seal for the Association. Discussions on relations with the Geological Association of Canada resulted in confirming the plan to continue separate publication, but to meet together. The request for a publication grant had been recommended by NACRGS to the Geological Survey of Canada and members were advised that manuscripts, in either English or French, should be sent directly to the Editor.

The Second Annual Business Meeting of the Association was held in the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, April 24, 1957 under the chairmanship of the President, E. W. Nuffield. It was reported that the first part of *The Canadian Mineralogist* was in press. The cover design, incorporating the new seal, was displayed to the members. Membership lists of the Mineralogical Societies of America and Great Britain had been obtained, and application cards would be sent to these members. Further discussion on affiliation with the Geological Association of Canada indicated that the terms would leave the two groups independent except for purposes of joint annual meetings. The possibility of the formation of an International Union of Mineralogy was noted by S. C. Robinson, but generally members were not enthusiastic because of our new commitments in Canada. An informal meeting to discuss such a Union was slated for Montreal in July, 1957.

A Special General Meeting, under the chairmanship of vice-president H. R. Steacy, was held in Ottawa May 22, 1957 for the purpose of sanctioning the change in name to *Mineralogical Association of Canada* and formally accepting a bye-law to that effect. A motion was also made to petition the Honorable Secretary of State for issuance of Supplementary Letters Patent covering this change. Other discussions dealt with the preparation of a scroll recognizing the work of Mr. Derwin Bell in designing the MAC seal, and with the handling of library requests for copies of *The Canadian Mineralogist*.

The activities of the Association since 1957 have been reported in Proceedings, published annually from 1958. We are grateful to the National Advisory Committee on Research in the Geological Sciences which recommended grants from the Geological Survey of Canada for assistance in publication of the first several parts and also for later special issues on Sudbury Ores, Monteregian Hills, and Cobalt — the last was also substantially supported by the Canadian Geological Foundation. Publication since 1973 also has been partly supported by National Research Council publication grants.

I personally wish to pay tribute to Professor

J. E. Hawley of Queen's University for his support of my work over the years and of *The Canadian Mineralogist* through his membership in the NACRGS. I also thank many who lightened my editorial duties: Wilson Moorhouse and Gordon Smith, who edited 2 or 3 issues in 1968-9 during my absence in Europe; Guy Perrault for editing the Monteregian Hills issue; Bill Petruk and John Jambor for the

Cobalt issue; and John as Co-Editor for Volumes 11 and 12. Volume 12 saw a major change to a 2-column format and regular publication of 4 issues per year, which could not have been accomplished without John's help. John and Louis Cabri have been responsible for the journal from Volume 13, Part 3.

*Received August 1977.*