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PREFACE

It is a very pleasant duty to preface this issue of the Canadian Mineralogist, the DONNAY ISSUE, dedicated to J. D. H. Donnay to commemorate his 75th birthday (June 6, 1977). We have known Professor Donnay through his publications since we became interested in crystallography and mineralogy and it has been a very great honor and pleasure to count him as a personal friend during the last decade.

We are somewhat at a loss as to what to include in this short preface to render tribute to J. D. H. Donnay: he has been exceptionally productive in scientific papers, his interests cover a rather wide spectrum and we render tribute today particularly to his productivity over more than half a century. Add to this our personal acquaintance with Professor Donnay, and the scores of delightful episodes that come with such a friendship, and you will share our embarrassment at what to choose!

Joseph Désiré Hubert Donnay was born in Grandville, Belgium on June 6, 1902. He received his early schooling in Belgium and graduated as *Ingenieur civil des Mines* at the University of Liège in 1925. He received his Ph.D. from Stanford in 1929. His career as university professor includes many points; principal amongst these is Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, U.S.A., where he spent most of the years between 1931 and 1972. He also has held appointments at Stanford, Laval, Liège, Harvard, Utah, U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Sorbonne, Marburg, Montréal and McGill. The list of research appointments is also extensive and includes Hercules Powder Company, Auburn Research Foundation, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Geophysical Laboratory, U.S. National Bureau of Standards and others.

Published accounts of his research accomplishments are numerous: 100 abstracts, 148 papers, 36 books or chapters in books, 38 reviews and numerous computer programs, memorials, presentations and translations. In addition, he has published several non-scientific papers. Professor J. D. H. Donnay has been honored by numerous scientific groups. Principal amongst these are: médaille de l'Université

de Liège (1959), Roebling medal of the Mineralogical Society of America (1971), and the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal (1977).

In 1970 Dr. Donnay entered a new phase of his career and Canadian mineralogy was greatly enriched when the Donnay family moved to Montreal to enable Gabrielle, his wife and co-worker, to become Professor of Crystallography at McGill University. To make this possible, he arranged to commute between Montreal and Baltimore for the first year so that he could complete his commitment to Johns Hopkins University where he was Professor of Mineralogy and Crystallography. In recent years he has been guest professor at the Université de Montréal and is now Research Associate at McGill University. He emphasizes the importance of optical mineralogy and crystal morphology and their relationship with crystal structure; he decries the lack of interest presently shown in these important subjects. Strongly committed to the use of precise, elegant English and French, he also has applied his talents to assist the editors of the Canadian Mineralogist with the supervision of abstracts in the two languages.

The Donnay family now makes its home in Westmount in a beautiful Victorian house large enough to accommodate groups of students and scientists. Soon after arriving in Montreal, J. D. H. and Gabrielle Donnay founded *Krystallos*, an interdisciplinary organization of crystallographers. Dr. Donnay also has found time to become an expert judge of French restaurants in Montreal and enjoys relaxing during the summer at the family cottage near Sutton in the Eastern Townships.

Our colleagues at Ecole Polytechnique, l'Université de Montréal, and McGill join us in extending to Professor Donnay wishes of good health in the continuation of his career.

Guy Perrault
Ecole Polytechnique
Université de Montréal

John S. Stevenson
McGill University

Montreal, May 15, 1978

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