

AN APPRECIATION OF R. P. D. GRAHAM

In the death of Richard P. D. Graham in 1965, Canadian mineralogists have suffered the loss of one of a small group of dedicated teachers and research workers who helped to advance our science in Canada in the early years of its development.

Dr. Graham was born in County Kildare, Ireland, in 1880 and graduated from Oxford University with an Honours BA in Chemistry and Mineralogy in 1905. While at Oxford he served as assistant to Sir Henry A. Miers, and was largely responsible for the arrangement of the Oxford University Mineral Museum. A photograph of the young mineralogist working with a reflecting goniometer in Sir Henry's laboratory is familiar to the many students who have studied Mier's well known text, "Mineralogy".

In 1905 Dr. Graham came to Canada and joined the faculty of McGill University, where he received his M.Sc. and D.Sc. degrees. After forty-five years of teaching at McGill, Dr. Graham retired from his post as Professor of Mineralogy in 1950, but continued his work as Technical Editor of the Bulletin of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy until 1962. While at McGill, Dr. Graham was instrumental in developing the mineral collection at the Redpath Museum, and was the author of several papers on new occurrences of Canadian minerals; he specialized particularly in precise goniometric measurements of crystal faces. He will also be long remembered by his many students as a patient and devoted teacher who imparted a respect and appreciation for minerals.

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