

MEMORIAL OF ARTHUR STARR EAKLE

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Arthur Starr Eakle, President of our Society in 1925, suddenly passed away at the St. Francis Hospital in Honolulu at 5:30 a.m., July 5, 1931, from pneumonia, resulting from a mild attack of influenza contracted the month previous. Only shortly before he had



ARTHUR STARR EAKLE
1862-1931

retired from his Professorship at the University of California and had gone to Honolulu for a well deserved rest after nearly 30 years of teaching at Berkeley. It had been his plan to spend his remaining years in Washington, D. C., where he was born on July 27, 1862, and where many of his former students have located.

His friendly smile and lovable character endeared him to all. His graciousness and unflinching kindness, always tempered with sound advice, in no small way influenced the present writer—his first student at Berkeley to make mineralogy his life work—to likewise follow the fascinating study of minerals. One of his out-

standing characteristics was the great interest with which he followed the later progress of his students, whether they pursued mineralogy or not. He was able to recognize them at eight years after they had left his tutelage. Dr. Eakle's earnest desire to popularize mineralogy and to increase the interest in it formed the subject of his Presidential address delivered at New Haven in 1925.

Graduating at Cornell in 1892, where he was induced to take up mineralogy and petrography by Kemp, he obtained his doctorate under Groth at Munich in 1896, being a co-student there with Palache and Jaggar. He taught at Cornell and at Harvard before coming to California.

Crystal measurement and the subsequent interpretation and illustration in crystal drawings always interested him greatly and his extreme accuracy in such measurements is well attested by A. Hutchinson of Cambridge, England, who wrote (on neocolemanite) that his angular relations were: "valuable testimony to the accuracy of Eakle's goniometric observations." The crystallographical data Eakle accumulated for many minerals still serve as standards. He was one of the pioneers in the introduction of two-circle measurement and calculation in this country and his paper on the crystallography of colemanite contained so lucid an exposition of the method that it has been copied in a well known textbook.

His contributions are marked by a high standard of excellence and he is the author of: "Mineral Tables for the Determination of Minerals by Their Physical Properties" and "The Minerals of California." He described the new minerals: erionite, esmeraldaite, palacheite, neocolemanite, vonsenite, wilkeite, jurupaite, foshagite, crestmoreite, riversideite, and probertite.

Several of his students now hold Professorships in different universities and many have held important positions in the Government service at Washington.

He is survived by his widow, Fanny Kinney Eakle; a daughter, Mrs. Ronald Long, both living in Berkeley; his sister, Miss Etta B. Eakle, and brother, George H. Eakle, of Washington, D.C.