

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DECEASED MEMBERS

GEORGE VIBERT DOUGLAS

George Vibert Douglas, a founding member of the Mineralogical Association of Canada, died suddenly in Toronto on October 8th, aged 66. Montreal born and a McGill University M.Sc. he later did research at Cambridge and Harvard Universities. Gallant in the true sense of the word he won the Military Cross and was mentioned in despatches in World War I. Never happier than when in the field, his geological investigations took him to Antarctica with Sir Ernest Shackleton, to Rio Tinto, Africa, the Caribbean and many areas in Europe, United States and Canada. In 1932, he was appointed Carnegie Professor of Geology at Dalhousie University and held that chair until his retirement in 1957. He had moved to Toronto and established himself as a consultant geologist. An inspiring teacher and untiring researcher he enthusiastically endeavoured to guide his students on a never-ending search for truth. Professor Douglas is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters, to them go the Association's deepest sympathies.

N. R. GOODMAN

CARL FAESSLER

Carl Faessler was born September 24, 1895, at Steinen, Canton Schwyz, Switzerland. He received his baccalaureate in 1916 and then entered Fribourg University, which awarded him a doctorate in chemistry and mineralogy in 1923. He pursued some post-doctoral studies in mineralogy under Heinrich Baumhauer. He was attached to the School of Chemistry, Université Laval, from 1923 until 1937, becoming Professor of Mineralogy in 1931. He held the same position in the School of Mines from 1937 until his death on October 1, 1957.

In Quebec, he did considerable fieldwork for the Quebec Department of Mines. He did extensive library work leading to the "Faessler indices" to geological publications. Towards the end of his life he became very interested in mathematical and graphical methods in crystallography and left several long manuscripts on these topics.

F. FITZ OSBORNE

CECIL GEORGE HEWLETT

Cecil George Hewlett, Associate Geologist with the British Columbia Department of Mines, died as a result of a fall while engaged in geological mapping, on August 14, 1957.

Dr. Hewlett was born in Kelowna in 1926. After graduating from the University of British Columbia he pursued post-graduate studies at Queen's University and at the University of Wisconsin where, in 1954, he received his doctorate. He started geological mapping in the Mineral King mine area in 1957 and it was during this field season that he met with his untimely death.

S. KAIMAN

ELMER CLARENCE SPEERS

Canada lost one of its most promising younger geologists in the death of Elmer Clarence ("Al") Speers, who was killed in an aeroplane accident in the Northwest Territories on August 29th, 1958. Dr. Speers was born near Barrie, Ontario, in 1922, was a graduate of the University of Toronto and Queen's University, and served with the R.C.A.F. from 1942 to 1945. At the time of his death he was a research geologist for the International Nickel Company of Canada. In addition to other geological researches, he made a distinct contribution to the geology of Sudbury in his comprehensive field and laboratory studies of the Sudbury breccias. Dr. Speers was a member of the Mineralogical Association of Canada, the Sudbury branch of the C.I.M., the Geological Association of Canada, and the Geological Society of America.

J. S. STEVENSON

TAISIA MAXIMOVNA STADNICHENKO

Taisia Maximovna Stadnichenko, born in Taganash, Crimea, Russia, on October 9, 1894, died in Washington, D.C., on November 26, 1958. Following graduation from the University of Petrograd in 1917, she took part in the Russian Geological Survey expedition to Sakhalin. After World War I, Miss Stadnichenko came to the United States as an interpreter for the Russian Peace Mission, and between 1922 and 1925 she was an instructor in chemistry at Vassar College. In 1931 Miss Stadnichenko joined the U.S. Geological Survey where, until her death, her time was largely devoted to research on the distribution of germanium and other elements in coal.

IRVING A. BREGER