American Mineralogist, Volume 69, pages 993, 1984

Memorial of Earl V. Shannon 1895–1981

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The death of Earl V. Shannon in Hampton, Virginia on October 23, 1981, marked the passing of one of the more talented and energetic mineralogists of the early part of this century. Earl Shannon was born in Idaho on February 16, 1895, and resided in Kellogg, Idaho for most of his youth. His interest in minerals developed early in life, as evidenced by his collecting in the Couer d'Alene mining district between 1908 and 1913. In 1917, he moved to New Haven, Connecticut, where, with a brief interruption of military service, he was enrolled at Yale University. He was a "special student", a category of admission for those interested in pursuing a discipline without the objective of obtaining a degree. Following his studies there, he was appointed an assistant curator of geology at the U. S. National Museum in Washington, D. C. He remained at the National Museum from 1919 until his hospitalization for several illnesses in 1929. Little is known of his life since then inasmuch as he was hospitalized for psychiatric care for the last 52 years of his life and thus removed from interaction with the mineralogic community.

Earl Shannon's interests were in descriptive and chemical mineralogy and he applied himself with vigor to both of these endeavors. In spite of the brevity of his professional career, he contributed, within a 17-year period, 115 papers to the literature and numerous chemical analyses to studies authored by others. His name is closely associated with the investigations of many famous American mineral localities, including Franklin, New Jersey, and the phosphate deposits near Fairfield, Utah. His interests were broad, as evidenced by the wide range of mineralogical problems he investigated. In addition to the papers noted above, he also authored several monographs including one on the *Minerals of Idaho* (Shannon, 1926), and one on the mineralogy and petrology of intrusive Triassic diabase at Goose Creek, Loudoun County, Virginia (Shannon, 1924). A review of his contributions provides the reader with a sense of a mineralogist/chemist, of extraordinary diversity of interests, who applied himself with vigor and enthusiasm to the problems he encountered. Although best known for his chemical analyses, he also was a highly skilled goniometrician and his description of the datolite crystals from Westfield, Massachusetts, is superb. Earl Shannon was a skilled writer; there is a tension and aliveness in his prose which makes his papers very interesting to read. In his day, much emphasis was placed on specimen descriptions, and Shannon's are among the best ever done.

Earl Shannon was a Charter Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America, and one of the most productive mineralogists of his time. A new mineral has recently been named *earlshannonite* in his honor.

Selected Bibliography of Earl V. Shannon[1]

Additional notes on the crystallography and composition of boulangerite. Am. Journ. Sci. 5th Series, 1, 423–426 (1921).

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A crystallographic study of the datolite from Westfield, Massachusetts. U. S. Nat. Mus. Proc. 59, 479–530 (1922).

Mineralogy of some black sands from Idaho, with a description of the methods used for their study. U. S. Nat. Mus. Proc. 60, 145. 3, 33p. (1922).

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Mineralogy and petrography of Triassic limestone conglomerate metamorphosed by intrusive diabase at Leesburg, Virginia. U. S. Nat. Mus. Proc. 66, art. 28, 31p. (1926).

The minerals of Idaho. U. S. Nat. Mus. Bulletin 131, 483p. (1926).

On the determination of alkalies in rocks and minerals. Am. Mineral., 12, 411–413 (1927).

(with W. Cross) The geology, petrography, and mineralogy of the vicinity of Italian Mountain, Gunnison County, Colorado. U. S. Nat. Mus. Proc. 71, art. 18, 42p. (1928).

The oxidation of meteoritic irons with comparative descriptions of two new examples of magnetic iron oxides from terrestrial sources. U. S. Nat. Mus. Proc. 72, art. 21, 15p. (1928).

(with M. N. Short) Violarite and other rare nickel sulphides. Am. Mineral., 15, 1–22 (1930).

(with E. S. Larsen) The minerals of the phosphate nodules from near Fairfield, Utah. Am. Mineral., 15, 307–337 (1930).

[1] To receive a copy of the complete bibliography, order document AM-84-252 from the Business Office, Mineralogical Society of America, 2000 Florida Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20009. Please remit $5.00 in advance for the microfiche.

0003–004X/84/0910–0993$02.00

NOTICES

Second International Symposium on Hydrothermal Reactions August 12–14, 1985

The Second International Symposium on Hydrothermal Reactions, including applications in geochemistry, crystal growth, hydrometallurgy, and materials synthesis based on the physical chemistry of high pressure and temperature aqueous and related systems will be held at The Pennsylvania State University, Keller Conference Center, University Park, PA 16802 on August 12–14, 1985. For further information, contact either co-chairmen: H. L. Barnes, The Pennsylvania State University and R. A. Laudise, A.T.&T. Bell Laboratories.

Set 34 of the Powder Diffraction File

This year, the Powder Diffraction File features Set 34 which contains 1,500 inorganic patterns and 500 organic and organometallic patterns.

The complete Powder Diffraction File, used as the standard reference source for powder diffraction analysis, consists of 34 sets of data containing over 44,000 numeric patterns of crystalline materials.

Each set of data is divided into an inorganic section, consisting of inorganic compounds, metals, alloys and minerals, and an organic section consisting of organic and organic-metallic compounds. Powder patterns for materials are easily located in the File by the use of Search Manuals in which the eight strongest lines with relative intensities are listed and the three most intense permuted. Reference is made to a corresponding data card. The File is available in Card Form, Microfiche, Magnetic Tape and APD Disk. Subfiles for Minerals and Metals/Alloys are also available.

Applications of Electron Microscopy in the Earth Sciences May 13–14, 1985

A short course sponsored by the Mineralogical Association of Canada to be held immediately prior to the 1985 Joint Annual Meeting of the Geological and Mineralogical Associations of Canada. The program will concentrate on transmission electron microscopy, but will include reviews of scanning electron microscopy and associated microanalytical techniques. Program: Instrumentation and Principles of Contrast in TME—A.C. McLaren, Monash University; Interpretation of Electron Diffraction Patterns and Weak Beam Techniques—D.L. Kohlstedt, Cornell University; Exsolution in Minerals—J.N. Boland, University of Utrecht; High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscopy—D.R. Veblen, Johns Hopkins University; Deformation-Induced Defect Structures—S.H. White, Imperial College, London; Review of Instrumentation, Techniques and Applications of SEM in Mineralogy—G.E. Lloyd, University of Birmingham; Quantitative Energy Dispersive Microanalysis—W.H. Chauvin, University of Western Ontario. Registration: $225.00. Student Registration (Limited): $125.00. For further information contact:

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Canada E3B 5A3

Mineralogical Abstracts

Volunteer abstractors are needed for assignments. Especially critical is Soviet Physics Crystallography which is available in English translation in some libraries.

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Mississippi State, MS 39762
(601) 325-3915

Applied Mineralogy in Science and Technology May 14–17, 1985

Symposium to be held at the combined Geological and Mineralogical Associations of Canada (GAC/MAC) Convention at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, May 14–17, 1985.

Applied Mineralogy, the use of mineralogical information to explain and to understand physical and chemical phenomena and processes, is important in many areas of technical endeavor: agriculture, archaeology, civil and chemical engineering, forensic investigations, fuel science, geology, health, material science, medicine, metallurgy, mineral exploration, and processing, etc.

Papers are invited which will show the role of applied mineralogy in solving scientific and technical problems in various industrial and other fields of activity.

Contributors are invited to submit titles as soon as possible. An abstract will be needed by December 1984 and a final draft of the paper prior to March 31, 1985 for inclusion in a symposium publication.

D. Abbott, Convenor
Applied Mineralogy Symposium GAC/MAC 1985
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