

Memorial to Leonard Gascoigne Berry

1914–1982

ROBERT B. FERGUSON

Department of Earth Sciences, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2



Geology and mineralogy lost one of their best-known and respected mineralogists with the sudden death on June 29, 1982, of Leonard G. Berry, Professor Emeritus of Mineralogy and Crystallography in the Department of Geological Sciences, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

Berry's research and published papers were mainly in mineralogy/crystallography rather than geology, but he has left his stamp on large numbers of geologists through 35 years of teaching geology students at Queen's University and through two widely used textbooks on introductory mineralogy that he co-authored with Brian Mason.

Although primarily a mineralogist, Berry always retained an interest in geology, principally metallic mineral deposits, which complemented his foremost mineralogical research field, the sulfide and sulfosalts minerals. His considerable contributions to the understanding of these kinds of minerals culminated in his co-authorship with R. M. Thompson in 1962 of a compendium of X-ray powder data for ore minerals, which was published as Memoir 85 of the Geological Society of America, perhaps his closest direct association with the Society.

Through his researches and his deep involvement in mineralogical organizations, Berry was well known on the world mineralogy scene. His major activities and offices included: Editor, *Contributions to Canadian Mineralogy* (from 1950) and its successor *The Canadian Mineralogist* (1957–1975); founding member and Treasurer, International Mineralogical Association (1960–1982); President, Mineralogical Society of America (1964); Editor, *Powder Diffraction File* published by the Joint Committee on Powder Diffraction Standards (1969–1976); and President, Mineralogical Association of Canada (1976).

His outstanding achievements in mineralogy won him numerous awards and honorary society memberships in North America, Europe, Japan, and Brazil, including Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada (1951) and that Society's Miller Gold Medallist (1963); Guggenheim Fellow (1953–1954); Miller Memorial Research Professor of Geological Sciences, Queen's University (1956–1976); Fellow, Geological Society of America (1945); Honorary Fellowship in the Soviet Mineralogical Society (1982); and the inaugural Past Presidents' Medallist of the Mineralogical Association of Canada in May, 1982, a mere six weeks before his untimely and unexpected death.

Berry was a gentle, modest, friendly person of youthful appearance whose appealing personality and absorbing interest in mineralogy and geology drew professional friends and colleagues to him at scientific gatherings in many parts of the world. He will be sorely missed by many as scientific counsellor and good friend.

Born and educated in Toronto and taking his geological and mineralogical degrees at the University of Toronto (Ph.D., 1941), he was appointed to the position of Professor in Mineralogy at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, in 1944, a position that he retained until his retirement in 1979; and then was appointed Professor Emeritus until his death in 1982. In the scholarly setting of that lovely old city and university with their sturdy limestone buildings and overshadowing elms, Len Berry lived out a professionally rewarding and personally enriching life with his gracious and beloved companion May Catherine Milthorpe, whom he married in 1941, and his two children Paul and Susan (Bower).

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF L. G. BERRY

- 1951 Observations on conicalcite, cornwallite, euchroite, lirononite and olivenite: *American Mineralogist*, v. 36, p. 484-503.
- 1959 (and Mason, Brian) *Mineralogy: Concepts, descriptions, determinations*: San Francisco, W. H. Freeman & Company.
- 1962 (and Thompson, R. M.) X-ray powder data for ore minerals: *The Peacock atlas*: Geological Society of America Memoir 85.
- 1965 Recent advances in sulfide mineralogy (presidential address): *American Mineralogist*, v. 50, p. 301-313.
- 1968 (with Radcliffe, D.) The safflorite-loellingite solid solution series: *American Mineralogist*, v. 53, p. 1856-1881.
- (with Mason, Brian) *Elements of mineralogy*: San Francisco, W. H. Freeman & Company.