

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM HENRY COLLINS.

Geology has recently sustained a severe loss in the death of William H. Collins, Director of the Geological Survey of Canada since 1920. He was born at Chatsworth, Ontario, on October 26, 1878, and died in Ottawa on January 14, 1937. He entered the University of Toronto in 1900, and graduated with high distinction in geology in 1904. Subsequently he continued his studies at Heidelberg, Germany, at the University of Chicago, and at the University of Wisconsin, from which he received the degree of Ph.D. in 1911.

He had already, in 1906, joined the Geological Survey of Canada and begun what proved to be his life work. His investigations were centered on the Pre-Cambrian geology of the Canadian shield, and he soon became one of the foremost authorities on this difficult field.

His most notable achievement was the study of the vast area of Huronian rocks that extend from Sudbury, Ontario, to Sault Ste. Marie. This area includes the original Huronian district of Murray and Logan. Three field seasons (1914-1916) were spent in this study of the classic north shore of Lake Huron; and the results are set forth in two outstanding memoirs—*North Shore of Lake Huron*, published in 1925, and *The Disappearance of the Huronian*, published jointly with T. C. Quirke in 1930. To this work we owe the present concept of the Huronian—that it consists of two series, the Bruce overlain by the Cobalt, with the Mississagi quartzite, comprising the lowermost member of the Bruce series and thus constituting the base of the Huronian.

In 1920, Dr. Collins was appointed Director of the Geological Survey, a post of great scientific distinction, for the prestige of the Survey dates back to the days of its founding in 1842, when the illustrious Logan was its first Director. Many other honors came to him. He was president of Section IV of the Royal Society of Canada. The esteem in which he was held by the geologists of America was demonstrated by his

election as president of the Geological Society of America for the year 1934. The degree of D.Sc. was conferred on him in 1936 by his Alma Mater, the University of Toronto.

Twelve years ago Dr. Collins underwent a severe operation, and though fully aware that his life was hanging by a thread, his productivity continued unabated. A series of notable papers on the Sudbury district were among his very last contributions. The final months of his life, when he was already too weak to write, were utilized in dictating the manuscript of a work on the Canadian shield that he was preparing in collaboration with some of his associates.

Struck down at the peak of his powers, he has gone from us leaving an irremediable loss to geology and especially to Pre-Cambrian geology.

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OBITUARY NOTES.

PROF. WINFRED W. BRAMAN, one of the leading authorities on animal nutrition, having served thirty-three years on the staff of Pennsylvania State College, died on March 24 in his sixty-third year.

MR. JACQUES CAVALIER, director of higher education in France since 1926, died on March 22 at the age of sixty-seven. An authority on metallurgical chemistry, he contributed frequently to the publications of the French Academy of Sciences and the French Chemical Society.

DR. W. MALDWYN DAVIES of Bangor, North Wales, the well known economic entomologist, died on February 17 at the age of thirty-four. In 1927 he became the adviser at the University College of North Wales in agricultural zoology for North Wales.

Nature reports the death of PROF. J. H. F. DOUVILLÉ, formerly professor of palaeontology in the National School of Mines, Paris.

DR. WILLIAM HARDING LONGLEY, professor of biology at Goucher College since 1919, in administrative charge of the Marine Laboratory in Tortugas of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, died on March 10 at the age of fifty-six.

PROF. A. PICTET, honorary fellow of the Chemical Society and formerly professor of organic chemistry in the University of Geneva, died on March 12, aged eighty years.

DR. GEORGE HERBERT SHERWOOD, honorary director of the American Museum of Natural History, died on March 18 in his sixty-first year. Dr. Sherwood resigned as director of the museum