

Harcourt L. Cameron, 1912-1965

Professor Harcourt Leslie Cameron, Head of the Department of Geology at Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, a scientist who gained international recognition in fields of research involving high altitude aerial photography, died in Halifax on October 3rd, 1965, following major heart surgery.

A native of Westmount, Que., Professor Cameron graduated from Acadia University in 1937 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology. During the Second World War he was on the staff of the Department of Munitions and Supply. In 1945 he graduated from McGill University with a Master of Science degree in Geology, and returned to Acadia the following year as an instructor, advancing in due course to become head of the Department of Geology in 1958.

Being an authority on photogrammetry involving high altitude photographs, and on the science of aerial photograph interpretation in general, he served as director of the Photogrammetry Division of the Nova Scotia Research Foundation from 1948 onwards.

Publications by Professor Cameron included papers on geology, archaeology, photogrammetry, and historic sites. He developed a timelapse method of water current speed determination.

For the past two years Professor Cameron headed up research in Wolfville under a University contract with the National Aeronautical and Space Administration of the United States. He also carried out projects for the National Research Council and the Defence Research Board.

He was a member of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, the American Society of Photogrammetry, New York Academy of Sciences, American Geophysical Union, Canadian Committee of Archaeology and Meteorology, Canadian Institute of Surveying, American Association for the Advancement of Science and a fellow of both the Geological Association of Canada and the Geological Society of America.

Professor Cameron is survived by his wife, the former Kathryn Davis of Hantsport, a daughter Jocelyn, and his two sons Peter and John. His untimely death at the early age of fifty-three cut short a most promising career. All who were privileged to know him and to work with him will mourn the loss of a friend and colleague.

Merle F. Bancroft, 1890-1966.

As we go to press, we learn of the death at the age of 75 of Professor Merle Fowler Bancroft, retired head of the Geology Department at Acadia University and author of the above appreciation. Professor Bancroft was an Acadia graduate in 1911, and later from Yale University with a B.A. and M.Sc. In 1923, after seven years as a geologist for the Department of Mines, Ottawa, he became Professor of Geology at Acadia University, retiring as head in 1960.

In addition to teaching, Professor Bancroft led many surveys in many parts of Canada, and contributed more than a score of publications on Canadian geology. He was called on on many occasions to act as an adviser to both government and industry.