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NEWS

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD

Dr. Clarence Samuel Ross received the Distinguished Member Award at the Annual Clay Minerals Conference at Dallas, Texas, October 21, 1969. The following is part of a citation read by Paul F. Kerr, Newberry Professor Emeritus of Mineralogy, Department of Geology, Columbia University, New York, New York:

"Clarence Samuel Ross was born in Eldora, Iowa, September 20, 1880. In 1908, he entered the University of Illinois where he began an educational program which culminated in the doctorate in geology in 1920. During portions of his final years, he served as a geological aide on the U. S. Geological Survey, which led to his appointment as an assistant geologist in 1920 and promotion to geologist in 1923. In 1947, he became principal geologist. In the early twenties, he developed an interest in clay minerals. This led to a classic paper on bentonite, published in cooperation with Dr. Earl Shannon of the U.S. National Museum, in the Journal of The American Ceramic Society in 1926. Shortly after the publication of the work on bentonite, Dr. Ross became interested in the koalin group and initiated what, for that time, was an elaborate study of a group that contained many conflicting names and had never been thoroughly characterized. After initiating the studies of clays, Dr. Ross served as Chairman of the committee investigating clays for the National Research Council, 1928 to 1933. After 1933, Dr. Ross directed his energies to the closely related fields of petrology and mineral genesis. In this work, he devoted a great deal of time to the study of the environment of the copper deposits of the southern Appalachians. This study ultimately led to an outstanding professional paper which includes the Ducktown copper deposits. He was also interested in the deposits of Nelson and Amherst Counties, Virginia, which also led to an excellent professional paper on the genesis of one of the outstanding rutile areas of the world. More recently, Dr. Ross has been interested in the petrology of areas of recent volcanism, particularly in northern New Mexico. In 1961, in cooperation with Dr. Robert L. Smith, he published a truly excellent U.S.G.S. Professional Paper outlining the nature of ash-flow tuffs and the conditions under which they are formed. The publications which Dr. Ross has created, covering each of his areas of major interest, are set forth in many papers but particularly in professional papers of the U.S. Geological Survey. All are high grade but each professional paper is a classic in its own particular area. In recognition of his scientific work, Dr. Ross has been honored on a number of occasions. He has received the Distinguished Service Medal of the Department of Interior. He was President of the Mineralogical Society of America, and has received the Roebling Medal, the highest honor awarded by the Society. He was invited to give the Orton Lecture. At one time, he was President of the Geological Society of Washington. He has described a number of new minerals and in turn, the new minerals, rossite and metarossite, were named after him. As a distinguished Allumnus of the University of Illinois, he returned to the University to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Science. It brings pleasure to all here this evening to participate in this tribute to Clarence Ross. He is clearly our senior clay Mineralogist and abundantly qualified to receive the Distinguished Member Award of the Clay Mineral Society."

DALLAS–FORT WORTH CLAY CONFERENCE

The 18th Annual Clay Minerals Conference was held at The Inn of The Six Flags at Arlington (Dallas–Fort Worth area), Texas, October 19–22, 1969. This conference was sponsored jointly by the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Christian University, Texas A & M University, Stephen F. Austin State University and Baylor University. To these sponsors, to Philips Electronics Instruments and Core Laboratories Inc., who so generously provided refreshments throughout the sessions, to the Tarrant County Chamber of Commerce and to the Local Committee, The Clay Minerals Society is very grateful.

The Society also expresses its appreciation to the Bureau of Economic Geology of the University of Texas for preparing its Guidebook Number 9, *Field Excursion East Texas*, especially for this Conference and to the Sun Oil Company, Atlantic-Richfield Company, Core Laboratories, Inc., and The University of Texas at Dallas for well arranged and informative laboratory tours.

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Local Committee

Chairmen:	E. C. Jonas and A. J. Ehlmann
Program:	W. F. Bradley, G. W. Kunze, J. L. McAtee, G. B. Asquith
Arrangements:	J. L. Walper
Registration:	S. B. McCaleb
Finance:	R. Steinmetz
Field Trips:	T. E. Brown, L. W. Newland, A. J. Ehlmann, D. H. Campbell
Entertainment:	G. B. Asquith, R. E. Jenkins, D. C. Bush.

Approximately 200 scientists from U.S.A., Canada, and Europe representing all areas of clay science and technology attended, many with their families.

PAUL G. NAHIN
President, The Clay Minerals Society

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