

# Alfred Leonard Anderson

*November 19, 1900 — January 27, 1964*

Alfred Leonard Anderson, Professor of Geology since 1952, died on January 27, 1964, in the Robert Packer Hospital at Sayre, Pennsylvania. He had been taken to the hospital for a brain operation after collapsing on the path above the Suspension Bridge over Fall Creek while on his way to his home in Cayuga Heights.

Professor Anderson was born in Moscow, Idaho, and studied at the University of Idaho where he received the degrees of B.S. Chemical Engineering, *cum laude*, 1921, and M.S. in Geology in 1923. He was awarded the Ph.D. degree in geology by the University of Chicago in 1931. Meanwhile he had been from 1924 to 1926 Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the Idaho Technical Institute at Pocatello. He was geologist for the Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology in 1927-1928, and in 1928 went to the University of Idaho where he became head of the Department of Geology in 1939.

That year he came to Cornell as Assistant Professor of Economic Geology.

For many summers Professor Anderson worked in the field for the Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology and the United States Geological Survey.

He was a fellow of the Geological Society of America, the Mineralogical Society, and the Society of Economic Geologists, and a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, the Geochemical Society, the American Geophysical Union, Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi, and Delta Tau Delta.

Professor Anderson was of a retiring disposition. His graduate students thought highly of his ability as a teacher.

His research career was devoted quite exclusively to the geology of his native state. His published titles number nearly 100. It happens that no one of this committee is especially familiar with the area of his special interest, the discovery and mapping of deposits of metallic minerals of igneous and metamorphic origin and their genesis. It is reported that he was responsible for the location in Idaho of some of the largest reserves of cobalt in the United States.

In recognition of his theoretical and practical contributions to the study of Idaho geology he was awarded, in 1961, a citation of Outstanding Northwest Scientist by the Northwest Scientific Association.

He looked forward to his summers of fieldwork in Idaho for the Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology and endeavored through the year to keep physically fit for the strenuous climbing over the Idaho mountains this activity entailed.

Professor Anderson was a very enthusiastic and able amateur photographer; the subjects of his pictures: Idaho scenery and geologic phenomena. He showed the geologic color slides that resulted to his university classes and thus provided his students with a first-hand contact with striking illustrations of geologic features as encountered in the field.

In 1934 Professor Anderson married Evelyn Bennett. Mrs. Anderson regularly accompanied him on his field expeditions to Idaho. Of their two children the daughter, Patricia Evelyn, has an A.B. and an M.A. degree from Cornell and is at present (1964) teaching English in the American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts. The son, Alfred Bennett, is majoring in chemistry at Cornell.

*W. Storrs Cole, J. W. Wells, O. D. Von Engeln*