

REMARKS ON THE DEATH OF DR. C. C. COFFIN.

by F. R. Hayes.

Tonight we mourn the loss of our friend Professor Carl Cowan Coffin, F.R.S.C., Head of the Department of Chemistry in Dalhousie University. He was a former President of the Institute of Science and contributed many papers to our meetings.

His main fields of work, perhaps, were in the development and application of his new type of calorimeter, and in surface phenomena which he latterly studied with radioactive tracers. His interests as a teacher are reflected in a paper on a method of presenting the thermodynamic functions to students. In the thirties, when research funds were difficult to come by, there was a demonstration of plantinized glass as a substitute for massive platinum.

Dr. Coffin combined a mastery of laboratory skills with an imaginative quality which lead to the design of fundamental and beautiful experiments. With his great gifts he possessed true intellectual humility. He was kindly and unassuming and beloved by his friends. His personal and scientific qualities combined to yield him a scholar's reward in the form of a succession of excellent students. These students provide his memorial as they continue his work in the great laboratories of the world, adding lustre to their own names, and to his.