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# In Memoriam

## W.B. Pearson (1921-2005)

W.B. Pearson, C.M., DFC, MA, D.Sc. (Oxon), FRSC, died peacefully at home in Ariss, Ontario, Canada, on February 23, 2005. He was born in London on July 1, 1921. He moved with his parents when they emigrated to Canada in 1927. He was educated at Kingston Consolidated School in New Brunswick and at Christ's Hospital, Horsham (1931-1940; Senior Grecian 1939-1940). Thereafter he attended Oxford under the tutelage of Dr. W. Hume-Rothery, the well-known pioneer in the theory of alloys. His graduate work was interrupted by WW II, when he served in the RAF as a pilot in the Ferry and Transport Commands; as part of that service he made several trips across the Atlantic Ocean in single engine aircraft from Natal, Brazil, to Dakar in Africa with a refueling stop in the Azores. He was a very active man who was uncomfortable when idle. It is reputed that the work unit for students at Oxford and Cambridge is measured in milli-Pearsons.

Bill was the author of several books and many scientific papers on low-temperature physics, physical metallography, Fermi surface, the chemistry of semiconductors, and crystallography while working at the National Research Council, Ottawa, Canada (1952-1969) and the University of Waterloo (1969-1984) as Dean of Science and Professor of Physics and of Chemistry. In addition, he edited 26 volumes of *Structure Reports* for the International Union of Crystallography.

What pleased him greatly, in a lifetime of ignored opportunities due to pressures of current interests, was the award of an honorary D.Sc. from the Royal Military College of Canada in 1984—based on his previous military capability and on his very visible and active participation in the Canadian Metals Physics Conferences held at R.M.C. since its inception in 1952. From 1952-1969, he was Research Scientist, at the National Research Council of Canada, and from 1969-1984, he was Dean of Science and Professor of Chemistry and Physics, Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Hon. D.Sc., at the University of Waterloo.

He was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and held "Hume-Rothery Awards" from the Institute of Metals (London) and from The Metallurgical Society of the AIME. He was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 1996. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Ellen Mary (Pipe) (Ariss); son, Cedric, daughter Cecily (Billy Loper), and their mother, Lois Jeannette Pearson (Ottawa), and sisters Jean Stuart (Corpus Christi, TX) and Christine Garnet (Ottawa). Bill frequently participated in conferences sponsored by ASM International and/or TMS, and he was a long-time member of the TMS Committee on Alloy Phases.

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## Leo Brewer (1919-2005)

Leo Brewer was a member of the chemistry faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, for nearly 60 years. He died of natural causes on February 22, 2005, in Lafayette, California, at age 85. Over time he made contributions to a variety of fields including organic chemistry, astrochemistry, ceramics, and metallurgy. His emphasis was on high-temperature chemistry and materials. At one time or another he worked with almost all of the elements in the periodic chart.

He was born on June 13, 1919, in St. Louis, Missouri. He received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology and his graduate degree from University of California at Berkeley in 1943. Upon graduation he was asked to join the Manhattan Project, where his first assignment was to predict the probable high-temperature properties of plutonium, a transuranic element that at the time had been produced in only very small amounts. The assignment also included choosing a crucible material to contain molten plutonium without introducing contamination. An approach to problems utilizing a combination of theory and experiment characterized this early period, and such an approach persisted in his work throughout his career. Though his research involved a very wide range of endeavors and used a variety of techniques, his major interests were concentrated on high-temperature chemistry and materials science, especially aspects involving metallic phases and metallic bonding. One of his favorite recreations was tending his rose garden.

In 1946 Brewer was made assistant professor of chemistry at University of California at Berkeley and rose through intermediate steps to become full professor in 1955. Concurrently with his professorial duties, he held a position as an investigator at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. While there, he was appointed to head the Inorganic Materials Research Division when that division was organized in 1961, and he continued as head until 1975. Brewer is survived by his three children: Roger of Portland, Oregon, Gail of La Cafiada, California, and Beth Gaydos of Cupertino, California, and six grandchildren. His wife, Rose Strugo Brewer, died in 1989. Through the years he served on a number of ASM and TMS committees, and he was an Alloy Category Editor in the ASM-NIST Alloy Phase Diagram Program. He was a Life Member of ASM, and a Fellow of ASM (FASM).