



CHARLES EDWARD WEAVER

PRESENTATION OF THE 1958 MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA AWARD TO CHARLES EDWARD WEAVER

RICHARDS A. ROWLAND, *Shell Development Company, Houston, Texas.*

*Mr. President, Fellows, and Members of The Mineralogical Society of America, and Guests:* It is a double pleasure to have the privilege of presenting to you my friend and colleague, Dr. Charles Edward Weaver, as the recipient of the seventh annual award of the Mineralogical Society of America, because he is a clay mineralogist and is associated with an industrial research laboratory. In the past decade there has been a rapid awakening throughout the industry, and especially the petroleum industry, to the valuable contribution which mineralogists are able to make in industrial research. To the individual mineralogist undertaking a career in industrial research the problem has been twofold; first to solve a scientific problem and second to sell the solution by showing its actual application and usefulness. It is therefore, most gratifying that the recipient of this year's award has been able to fulfill both of these requirements and in so doing to make scientific contributions worthy of recognition by our Society.

A graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, whose young Ph. D's are as well known for their aggressive attitude as their superb scientific training, Chuck Weaver joined the Exploration and Production Research laboratory of the Shell Development Company during a period of expansion to work on a specific operational problem. Until then clay mineralogists spoke of kaolinite, illite and montmorillonite. Soon we all knew about K-bentonite, 2-1, 4-1, 7-3, and other mixed layers. These are pretty good odds.

Because so little was known about the distribution of clay-minerals in sedimentary basins, an immense data gathering program was first necessary. This involved the use of x-ray diffraction and other determinative techniques on more than 20,000 samples. With his quick perception, hard work, and crusader's spirit, it was not long before the clay mineral literature in the form of company reports had more than quadrupled. Stock rose fifty per cent and oil reserves reached an all-time high. I am not certain that Chuck was responsible for all of this, but I know that for a while he wrote about every third company report. And this while, by his own admission, he was learning to write the English language, an art for the teaching of which there is not time at his alma mater. Because of an enlightened and sympathetic management, much of the best and most fundamental of Dr. Weaver's work was soon made available for publication in scientific journals.

President Goodspeed, it is a pleasure to present Dr. Charles Edward Weaver, as the recipient of the seventh annual award of the Mineralogical Society of America.