In the Ohio State faculty roster for 1910-11, Nathaniel Wright Lord was shown as professor of metallurgy and mineralogy and director of the School of Mines. According to the later witness of his colleagues, he was much more than that. At a memorial service for him held June 11, 1912, Joseph A. Holmes, director of the U.S. bureau of Mines, testified that Lord was "a mining engineer worthy of his profession, a mining engineer by education and by large, successful professional experience. In the same sense, though to a less degree, Professor Lord was a chemical engineer, a metallurgical engineer, a sanitary engineer, and an agricultural engineer." Holmes called him "an engineer in the broadest sense" who, later would have qualified as an ecologist.

For thirty-three years Prof. Lord let his light shine not only on the Ohio State campus but widely elsewhere. A native Ohioan, he was graduated in 1876 from the School of Mines, Columbia College. He spent the next year with the Monte Grande Gold Mining Company in Nicaragua, an experience which, it was said, "nearly cost him his life." He came to the University under Board action of November 6, 1878 at a salary of $500 to make chemical analyses required under state law. By further action of May 6, 1881 he was put in charge, at a salary of $1,000, of the School of Mines and the work "in assaying, metallurgy and mining," including chemical analyses submitted to him under state law by the president.

As of November 1, 1877 John A. Church had been elected professor of mines, mining engineering and metallurgy. But by mid-June, 1879 the Trustees decided it was "no longer deemed expedient" to continue the work under a professor and an assistant. Church was let go despite his "able and scholarly services." Lord was
put in charge with the rank of assistant professor at $1,200. This was the real start of Lord's long connection with the University, ending in his sudden death from heart failure, May 23, 1911 at the age of fifty-seven.

The mining department, of which he had charge, caused academic problems. It was created by the state legislature in 1877 which provided $4,500 for equipment but none for teaching personnel. This was solved by abolishing the department of political economy and civil polity and diverting its teaching appropriation to the new department. This led in turn to a law suit by the ousted professor (Colvin) to recover his job. In this he failed.

In 1896 Lord was chosen as the first dean of the College of Engineering. He continued as professor of metallurgy and mineralogy, Frank A. Ray taking over the chair of mining engineering. But by 1901 Lord had had enough of the deanship of which he was relieved at his own request. He was succeeded by C. Newton Brown, of civil engineering, who died in March, 1902.

In the campus memorial service for Prof. Lord referred to earlier, colleagues, alumni, former students, and others took part. The principal tribute to him, as indicated, was by Joseph A. Holmes, of the U.S. Bureau of Mines. Another who spoke was Dean George B. Kauffman, of the College of Pharmacy, a colleague of more than twenty-five years. Two other events followed: the presentation of an oil portrait of Prof. Lord, done by his sister, Caroline Lord, and by the formal naming of the mines building as Lord Hall. The portrait was hung there along with a bronze tablet. The latter bore his name, with the inscription that it had been placed there "by his former Pupils in Grateful and Loving Remembrance of the Sympathetic and Inspiring Teacher, the Broad and Thorough Scholar, the Keen Investigator, the Sagacious Engineer, the Public-Spirited Citizen, the Kindly Gentleman."
Similarly lavish sentiments about him were echoed by Holmes, Kauffman, President Thompson, the Board of Trustees, and the general faculty. As its first dean, the Engineering faculty said that he had "left an enduring mark" upon that college. Dean Kauffman called Lord "a man of strength." Prof. Ray, in presenting the portrait, declared that Lord's "spirit and influence will live forever." President Thompson, who accepted the portrait, described Lord's death as "an irreparable loss to the University."

Dean Edward Orton, Jr., of Engineering, hoped that Lord's "name should be forever associated with the work which he did so much to elevate and ennoble." Guy W. Mallon, who spoke for the Trustees, said that Lord "gazed searchingly upon many things which are hidden from most men, and he saw some things which no other man had seen." The Trustees' resolution called Lord "a rare teacher" and said that "His career was one of increasing usefulness." He was the older brother of Henry C. Lord, (q.v.), longtime professor of astronomy and director of the McMillin Observatory on the campus.
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, OHIO, JUNE 12, 1911.

The Board of Trustees met at the University at the call of the Chairman. Present, O. E. Bradfute, Chairman, John T. Mack, F. E. Pomerene, Guy W. Mallon, Walter J. Sears, O. T. Corson, and Julius F. Stone.

* * * * * * * * *

The President announced to the Board the death of Professor Nathaniel Wright Lord which occurred May 23, 1911, whereupon the following minute was adopted, and on motion of Mr. Stone a copy was ordered sent to the family:

The Board of Trustees of the Ohio State University places on record its high appreciation of the character and professional services of the late Professor Lord in his long career in the University. He graduated at Columbia in 1876 and entered the service of the University in 1878 and served continuously until his death. At the time of his death he was Professor of Metallurgy and Mineralogy and Director of the School of Mines. His career was one of increasing usefulness. From time to time he rendered valuable public service in the Geological Survey and in various capacities as an expert chemist and metallurgist.

He was one of the organizers of the School of Mines and for seven years served as Dean of the College of Engineering. It fell to his lot to direct the early organization of the College of Engineering, in which he showed a clear grasp of the educational problems involved.

He was a rare teacher who taught for the love of teaching. This devotion and love for teaching determined his action when repeatedly lucrative commercial opportunities were offered and declined.

He was beloved and esteemed by all his associates, and enthusiastically admired by his students.

His death at the early age of 57 was a great shock to his friends and an irreparable loss to the University.

* * * * * * * * *