

asked what my profession is. My answer may be, that I always use 'The metallurgist of the unusual'".

In reference to the above quotation, Kroll was mainly interested in the unusual or rarer metals. He goes on further to state that, "good metallurgists are not born. They are made with the ample money of the companies which hire them, and since they usually make their mistakes on a grand scale, they are the nightmares of business management".

A further quotation which indicates Dr. Kroll's approach to research and his belief in the independent researcher is also recorded here: "the fight of the individual with an independent mind against the collectivity in which he lives is as old as humanity, they will never cease to exist".

During the course of this presentation, I will use further quotations which indicate Kroll's humor and dedication to his work.

Kroll the Itinerant

Dr. W. J. Kroll was also somewhat of an itinerant in that he was born in Luxembourg in 1889, and studied at University at Charlottenburg in Germany from 1910 to 1917. He was employed by Metallgesellschaft in Frankfurt/Main from 1917 to 1919, moved to Vienna in 1919, and then Hungary between 1920 and 1921. He moved to Baden-Baden in 1922 and returned to Luxembourg in 1923. In 1940 he emigrated to the U.S.A. to escape Hitler's invasion of Luxembourg. He remained in the U.S.A. until he retired to live near his brother in Brussels. Dr. W. J. Kroll died in 1973.