Economic Geology

The application of geology to economic uses fundamentally requires a sound knowledge of all the geological sciences, and, depending upon the branch of economic geology selected, a more thorough knowledge of one or more of those sciences supplemented by a good background in chemistry, physics, mathematics, geometry (descriptive, solid, and analytical) and mining engineering.

Ordinarily the economic geologist specializes on deposits

of the metals; on deposits of non-metals; on coal; on oil; on

water supply; or on the geology of soils, fertilizers, etc. as

applied to farming. Besides these, many economic geologists

are primarily petrographers, mineralogists, structural geologists,

physiographers, stratigraphers or paleontologists, and they apply
they special knowledge in solving particular industrial problems

of one or other of the industries.

The efficiency of the course or courses in economic geology depends to a large extent on the thoroughness of the instruction in the various branches of geology, as well as on training in the application of their knowledge to various economic uses; the equipment for teaching and research in every branch is, then, equipment in this branch also, and is utilized as such, since most students at present are more interested in the applied science than in any one of the pure sciences.