Mr. Clarence S. Bement acquired and displayed one of the world’s largest and finest private mineral collections. It was disposed of around the turn of the century due to his failing eyesight and his difficulty in caring for and showing his collection in his Philadelphia Pennsylvania home. The collection went to the American Museum of Natural History.

Mr. Bement then concentrated on amassing a micromount collection with the help of George W. Fiss, who was credited by Dr. Charles Palache with advancing the art of making micromounts.

Bement acquired mineral specimens mostly by purchase and the mounting was done by Fiss. Weekly meetings were held for many years in Bement’s home with George Fiss, Elwood Hancock, Frank Keeley and Lazard Cahn prominent among those regularly present, during which time specimens were viewed and micromounts made.

Gradually his micromount collection increased, built upon a nucleus of choice mounts purchased from the Reverend George Rakestraw micromount collection.

Clarence Bement did not make micromounts. His activities made possible the collecting and preservation of early micromounts. His weekly meetings kept interest high. It is noteworthy that Fiss, Cahn and Keeley are members of the Micromounters Hall of Fame.

Bement’s micromount collection was sold to A. F. Holden, and was later bequeathed to Harvard University.