EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
July 17-18, 1970

The third quarterly meeting of the 1970 Executive Committee was held July 17 and 18, 1970, at The Craggs, Estes Park, Colorado. All committee members were present except Andrew G. Alpha. Also attending were four candidates for national office.

With the approval of the national nominating committee, the Executive Committee accepted the nomination of Richard C. Fountain for national president. Fountain had been nominated by mail petition of the Florida Section. Considering the difficulty that is being experienced in obtaining candidates for office, President Neel will ask the nominating committee to submit to the Advisory Board the advantages and disadvantages of having two nominees for each national office.

Following a discussion of a list of category designations for the membership directory, submitted by the New York Section, and acting on a recommendation of the Advisory Board, the Executive Committee agreed that each AIPG member should be permitted whatever specialty listing he wishes to have appear in the directory. There will be no charge for one line of 30 characters, but if a second line of 30 characters is desired, the member would pay $5 at the time of submission of his listing. It was also agreed that some method of indicating availability for consulting would be incorporated in the directory. State Sections will distribute copies of the directory to interested nonmembers in their states, and Headquarters Office will send extra directories to national agencies.

As requested at the April meeting of the Executive Committee, Brunton had prepared an "optimum budget" of $167,600. Neel presented a modification totaling $120,850. In the discussion numerous questions arose, especially relating to AIPG's responsibility in public relations in the field of geology. The consensus was that AIPG should publicize aspects of geology that are related to its own objectives and functions. It probably is the responsibility of the American Geological Institute to publicize the entire field of scientific geological activity.

Relating to hearings prior to sales of offshore oil and gas leases, the Executive Committee authorized an officer or officers to attend hearings relating to development of mineral resources; help coordinate this development with proper regard for environmental problems, and introduce appropriate AIPG policy in the testimony. It was also agreed that Neel would appoint an ad hoc subcommittee to suggest an Institute policy statement on development of mineral resources with proper regard for environmental problems.

Letters from AIPG members have raised concern about possible oversupply of competent geologists and apparent indiscriminate hiring and firing by exploration departments of some petroleum companies. Neel was authorized to approach AAPG, and if AAPG agrees, to refer these questions to a joint AIPG-AAPG committee. Neel was also authorized to appoint an AIPG member to this committee.

A possible public-relations program was considered, and it was pointed out that AIPG either could engage in a single broad-based endeavor covering all phases of geology or try to publicize only segments of major interest to AIPG. The Executive Committee was in general agreement that only the principal objectives of the Institute should be publicized by AIPG. The committee on public relations was asked to prepare a set of instructions for two or three pages, to be placed in the AIPG instructional manual for use of public-relations committees of the State Sections.

After a review of the Western Conference held in Salt Lake City on May 9, 1970, the Executive Committee ratified President Neel's acceptance for AIPG of the responsibility for coordinating the efforts of AIPG State Sections, and other interested geological organizations, in their efforts to obtain legal registration of geologists.

The State Section Affairs Committee reported that as of the beginning of the year, 27 State Sections had been chartered. Ten additional states having more than ten resident members are eligible for Section status.

Truman H. Kuhn, Secretary-Treasurer
Volume 7, No. 7

EDITORIAL

In the SIPES Newsletter for June, President C. R. Pope comments on the Western Regional Conference on the Professional Status of Geologists, held in Salt Lake City in May. Pope takes a rather dim view of the proceedings. It may be instructive to look briefly at some of his remarks.

His main point seems to be that state registration of geologists, even with mutual recognition (reciprocation), would be bad. A geologist working in several states would be charged an annual fee by each state, which would be an "almost insurmountable" barrier. Besides, there might be delays by the various state boards in issuing permits, seriously hampering a man engaged to do a job in another state on short notice. Finally, the California Geologists Act is a poor model to work from.

A major object of the Salt Lake City conference, as we get it, was to establish a climate in which geologists of the western states can try to act in concert, in their own and the public's interest, in meeting and directing a trend that is clearly in the future. No doubt there will be problems of the sort that Pope suggests. Even assuming that some of his dire warnings come true, however, what would he have western geologists do --- nothing? If the California Geologists Act proves to have weak spots or inequities, we are certain that it won't be blindly followed by geologists in other states --- or in California, for that matter --- but that it will be improved and adapted as time goes on. It seems clear that registration is coming, that geologists had better prepare to meet it, and that if we didn't have the California Geologists Act we would have to invent one like it.

We salute the western geologists for acting together on a matter of high professional importance.

MEMORIAL NOTE

PAUL G. LUCKHARDT, AIPG, died on April 3 at Evansville, Indiana. He was 55 years old. A graduate of the University of Chicago, he worked for the Illinois Survey, Sohio Petroleum Co., and Oilfield Research, Inc., before joining with Tom Reid to form Luckhardt and Reid, Inc., consulting petroleum engineers. He is survived by his wife, six children, and four grandchildren.

NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

NEW YORK

Largely as a result of joint efforts by the New York Section of AIPG and the New York-Philadelphia Section of AEG, a part of the New Jersey Sanitary Code, "Sanitary Landfill Design," was changed to include a requirement for topographic, geologic, and hydrologic maps of the site. An earlier version of the code contained no reference to the need for geologic information.

The New York Section recently petitioned Governor Rockefeller to appoint a geologist to the newly created State Environmental Board as one of the six members from the public sector. The letter stressed the application of geology to environmental problems, and included the names of three prominent geologists for the Governor's consideration. Although this effort was unsuccessful, the Section plans to continue its efforts to place a geologist on the board when terms of the present members expire.

CALIFORNIA

The 6th annual meeting of the California Section takes place on September 25, 1970, at the Royal Palms Motor Hotel in Bakersfield. Theme will be "Controversial Subjects That Confront the Geologist in the 1970's." Speakers and their topics will include George P. Shirley, on legislation affecting geologists and the value of a legislative service; David J. Leeds, on earthquake studies and the geologist's versus the engineer's point of view, and Mason L. Hill, on employment practices by major oil companies. At 3:45 there will be a panel discussion on the effects of registration on the future practice of geology in California. Panelists will be Wilfred W. Peak, Glenn A. Brown, and Ian Campbell. Speaker at the evening dinner will be William H. Park, AIPG, candidate for the state senate, who will talk on "Politics Is Everyone's Business, Particularly Geologists."

OPTIMUM BUDGET

A "tentative budget for financing optimum Institute programs," along with other items that are to be discussed at the Advisory Board meeting in Oklahoma City, is in the hands of Section presidents and delegates to the Advisory Board. These gentlemen are reminded that this optimum budget should be considered in relation to the budget for this year (see March TPG) and for past years. Past-President Dana Russell, who will preside at the Advisory Board meeting, makes a plea for previous discussion of this and all other issues scheduled to come before the Board.
THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

A PARTIAL ANSWER

It is sometimes difficult to answer the oft-repeated question, "What does AIGP do?" To anyone who attended the Western Regional Conference on the Professional Status of Geologists, there is little doubt about at least a partial answer to that question.

The conference was instigated as a result of the consideration by the Idaho legislature in February of a bill calling for the registration of geologists. Although the bill was a reasonable one, it came as a surprise to many geologists in neighboring states who have occasion to work in Idaho.

Largely as a result of the initiative of the Utah Section of AIGP, action on the bill was put off until next year. However, just delaying action on a bill is no solution, so the Utah Section decided to call a meeting of geologists from neighboring states to discuss the question of registration.

This modest beginning, due to the drive of the Utah Section under the presidency of Richard Chojnacki, grew into the Western Regional Conference, held at Westminster College in Salt Lake City on May 7 and 8. The Section invited the AIGP Sections in all the western states to send delegates who would be qualified to speak for their Section. In those states with no AIGP Section, representation was sought from other geological organizations, or from AIGP members at large.

The result was overwhelming. AIGP delegates were there from Arizona, California, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Washington, and Utah, and from the Idaho Association of Professional Geologists and the Four Corners Geological Society. At the request of the Utah Section, invitations were issued on a national level to AAPG, AEG, SIPES, and AIME. AAPG, AEG, and SIPES sent delegates. Observers attended from Kansas, AIME, and the Intermountain Association of Geologists.

The entire conference from conception to adjournment was a model of State Section initiative. The national organization of the Institute served only in an advisory capacity, and to extend invitations to other national organizations such as AAPG, SIPES, AEG, and AIME. All proceedings were tape recorded, including some of your president's profanity, for later distribution. The degree of cooperation and agreement among participants was nearly enough to destroy one's faith in the legendary rugged independence of geologists.

The conference went on record as favoring registration of geologists by legislative action in each of the western states, provided that mutual recognition of geologists be promoted by using the requirements for education and experience as stated in the California Geologists Act, together with the definitions included in said Act, and further provided that State Boards of Registration be controlled by geologists. The conference further resolved that the geologists of each state shall determine the time when a bill to accomplish the above should be advocated and submitted for legislation.

The final action of the conference was a request that the Regulatory and Legislative Committee of the Institute accept the responsibility of coordinating the AIGP State Sections and other geological organizations in their efforts to obtain legal registration. Significantly, the motion for this last action was made, not by an AIGP delegate or even a member, but by the delegate of the Association of Engineering Geologists.

I have heard many favorable comments concerning the conference. In addition, there were comments from people who apparently misunderstood the purpose of the conference. These ranged from accusations of a "power play" on the part of AIGP, to meddling in the affairs of the individual states, to an attempt on the part of California to foist registration on the rest of the country. None of these are true.

The original impetus of the conference was not to obtain registration, but to forestall registration in Idaho until the neighboring states could discuss the matter. The national AIGP took no part in the preliminaries except to give advice on request of the Utah Section and to issue invitations on a national level to other organizations.

At the start of the conference, Art Brunton outlined the Institute's position on the matter of registration and stipulated that we do not wish to influence any state one way or the other. It was only at the conclusion of the conference when as a result of a vote the Institute was requested to act as a coordinating body that I accepted this request and the national Institute became involved in any way.

Our policy remains the same. The Institute stands ready to offer aid and assistance to any State Section with regard to the subject of registration. But first the geologists in the state must make their own decision as to what they desire. When they have made their position known and ask the Institute for assistance it will be gladly given.

As to whether the Western Regional Conference could be considered a "power play" on the part of AIGP, this is subject to individual interpretation. If the fact that AIGP is the only organization which has the stature and initiative to concern itself with such matters can be considered a "power play," then so be it. Certainly AIGP cannot be accused of taking the initiative away from any other organization, since no other organization had the initiative in the first place. Power falls to him who will exercise it.

Henry H. Neel
CORRECTION

It has been pointed out that I was guilty of an error in the President's Column in the May-June issue. In that column I stated that AIPG "has been appointed by the AGI House of Society Representatives as the member organization to represent AGI in professional matters." The facts of the case are that at the April 29, 1965, meeting of the AGI House of Society Representatives a report of the Committee on Professional Standards was submitted. This report included, among other recommendations, the following: "That the American Institute of Professional Geologists be designated as the member society of AGI to which all questions concerning professionalism shall be referred for study, and that AIPG shall report the results of such studies to the House of Society Representatives for appropriate action by the member societies." The House voted to accept this report. Acceptance did not constitute a resolution on the part of the House to designate the AIPG as the "representative" of AGI.

At the meeting of the House of Society Representatives in St. Louis on April 24, 1966, the subject again came up in connection with the problem of certification. At that time a motion was made "that the House of Society Representatives of AGI designate the AIPG as that member society to which questions involving general certification should be referred." After considerable discussion this motion was tabled, and no further action has been taken.

I apologize for my earlier erroneous statement and hope that this explanation will clarify the matter. AIPG does not wish to claim any authority to which it is not entitled.

In the meantime, the need for some organization to represent geology and geologists in professional matters continues to increase. In the absence of any other organization which is legally constituted to handle such affairs, the AIPG will continue to do so with or without portfolio.

H. H. N.

PROGRAM, 7TH ANNUAL MEETING, AIPG

Skirvin Hotel, Oklahoma City - October 14-17, 1970

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Executive Committee Meeting ........ 8:00-12:00, 1:00-5:00

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Registration .................................. 8:00-5:30
1970 Advisory Board Meeting ....... 8:30-12:30
1971 Advisory Board Meeting ....... 12:30
Annual Business Meeting .............. 3:00
"Boomer" Cocktail Party ................. 6:00

PROGRAM (continued)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Registration .................................. 8:30-5:30

9:00 - General Session I - THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE INSTITUTE

Participating Committees
Finance ........................................ Gordon Gulmon
Membership .................................... Vito Gotautas
Ethics .......................................... Fred Stead
State Section Organization and Affairs .... Frank Exum
AAPG-AIPG Liaison ......................... Larry Sloss

12:00 - Luncheon
Speaker: Dean A. McGee, "Fuels and People"

2:00 - General Session II - THE INSTITUTE AND THE GEOLOGICAL PROFESSION

Participating Committees
Professional and Scientific Standards ... Hal Fothergill
Professional Employment Standards ... Ellis Krlniitzky
Interprofessional Relations .............. John Ivey
Regulatory and Legislative ............... Art Spaulding
Consultants Register ...................... Clark Millison
Definitions .................................... A. F. Banfield

6:00 - "Sooner" Cocktail Party

7:30 - Banquet
Speakers:
Gene P. Morrell, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Interior
Henry H. Neel, AIPG President, "The State of the Institute"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

8:00 - Breakfast
Speakers:
Hon. Dewey F. Bartlett, Governor
Jackson M. Barton, "Funds, Ethics, and Professionalism"
Richard Chojnacki, "Resume, Western Regional Conference on Registration"

9:30 - General Session III - THE INSTITUTE AND THE PUBLIC

Participating Committees
Public Relations ......................... Thomas A. Simpson
Man's Geologic Environment .......... James Dunn
Oceans ........................................ Dick Faggioi
Taxation of Overriding Royalty ...... LeRoy Gatlin
Evaluation of Geological Departments for California ........ Howard Pincus
Steering Committee for the President's Conference on Environmental Geology .. John Galey
INVITED SPEAKER

HELP WANTED

It seems a paradox that today a "help wanted" notice could just as well be displayed by a geological scientist as by an employer. At a time when many companies and other organizations are looking for qualified geologists and geophysicists, some of our colleagues are out of work and need help in obtaining professional employment. Why is it that job opportunities for geologists can remain unfilled when some of them are looking for work?

There's no simple answer to this question, for it involves many factors: the geographic distribution of vacancies and of geologists seeking employment, job requirements in contrast to the qualifications of the unemployed, salaries offered and salaries asked, and preferred age range of new employees vs. average age of job seekers, to name a few. A capricious employment policy is sometimes a factor, too; we all know of cases in which a company has fired all or part of its geological staff, only to replace them with other people a short time later. Nevertheless, the underlying reason why some geological scientists are unemployed despite existing job opportunities is that, in the personnel marketplace, they're not a very good buy.

To an employer, salaries and wages are one of the costs of doing business, and he's always concerned to keep this cost as low as possible. If he can obtain the same level of scientific creativity or productivity at a reduced cost, good business judgment compels him to do so. It follows that the geologist who earns his salary is retained, but the one who does not is likely to be discharged.

With few exceptions, it's not the recently graduated geologist who's out of work. For the past several years, department chairmen have reported fair to excellent employment opportunities for their students. The manpower surplus at the bachelor's-degree level, forecast in the AGI report "Manpower Supply and Demand in Earth Science: 1969-1974," apparently is not yet realized, nor is there an acute shortage of jobs for the new Ph.D. in geology, as is reported for mathematics and physics. A review of the "positions wanted" advertisements in the last three issues of Geotimes shows that the average age of those looking for jobs is 36, and that most of them claim at least several years of experience. Recent graduates are a minority among these advertisers.

If a key factor in determining a geologist's chances for employment is the ratio of his potential productivity to his annual salary, the recent graduate, presumably well versed in the latest scientific theories and trained in the latest techniques, is the best buy. Quantitatively it's hard to prove, but it's commonly said that the useful half-life of professional knowledge is steadily decreasing. It makes more economic sense to fill a job with a newly trained man at perhaps $10,000 a year than with a 40-year-old geologist who may require $20,000 and whose professional knowledge is 15 years out of date.

We can conclude, then, that the geological scientist who wants to remain employable needs to continue his education throughout his professional career. He needs to read -- not just to subscribe to -- the journals in his field, he needs to attend scientific lectures and meetings, and he needs to enroll in continuing-education courses. This will help prevent his possible replacement by a young eager beaver and the need for him ever to display a "help wanted" sign.

Linn Hoover, AIPG
Executive Director
American Geological Institute

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

In the May-June issue of TPG the findings and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Taxation of Overriding Royalty Interests (ORRI) were published. As pointed out by the Committee, the tax law in this respect is inequitable and should be corrected. The Committee recommends that a nonproducing ORRI be valued (for income-tax purposes) at its fraction of the whole times the original purchase price of the lease (ident 1/16th ORRI would be valued at 1/16th of the cost of the lease).

Income taxes were meant to be paid on profits resulting from business transactions -- not on estimated or arbitrary values which are meaningless. The actual value of a retained nonproducing ORRI can only be determined by what someone is willing to pay for it at the time of its sale. Many times there is no market for such an ORRI, and its value is zero. If such an interest is sold, its value is the price paid by the buyer, and any resulting profit received by the seller should be subject to income tax. If such an interest is not sold and it later proves to be productive, any resulting profits from such production should be subject to income tax.

The mere fact that a part of a mineral lease is separated from the original lease though the creation of a retained ORRI when the lease is sold is not a just reason for the levying of an income tax. The existing law in this respect is inequitable. However, it is believed that the recommended action of the Ad Hoc Committee is not the final solution to this problem. Instead, it is a compromise measure which, if adopted, will result in the present inequitable law being replaced by a law that will be less onerous but nevertheless will also be inequitable.

We should devise a suggested change in the present incometax law that is based on profit -- not on arbitrary or estimated values.

Burns M. Crotty, AIPG
Lafayette, Louisiana

June 15, 1970
MEMBERSHIPS TERMINATED

It has been brought to the editor’s attention that Section 7-D of the Bylaws requires periodic publication of the names of members who have resigned or been suspended. Your membership directory should be updated by making the following deletions for 1970.

Members who have resigned:
Harold L. Ambler, Edwards, Calif.
Olin G. Bell, Houston, Texas
Robert L. Bentley, Lafayette, La.
Wesley G. Bruer, Sacramento, Calif.
Warren L. Calvert, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Lehi F. Hintze, Provo, Utah
Donald N. Hodges, Morrison, Colo.
John P. Lavery, Jr., Bakersfield, Calif.
Robert E. McDonald, Golden, Colo.

Members who have been suspended:
Raymond T. Burns, Arcadia, Calif.
Robert F. Dewey, Oklahoma City, Okla.
John H. Gatchell, Oklahoma City, Okla.
F. Beach Leighton, Hacienda Heights, Calif.
Gerald G. Loucks, Broomfield, Colo.
Leonard F. McCollum, Houston, Texas
T. L. Myrick, Metairie, La.
Ed S. Pickett, Whittier, Calif.
Charles H. Sandy, Princeton, Ind.
Francis Stewart, Oursay, Colo.
Phil C. Withrow, Norman, Okla.

PROFESSIONAL PARAGRAPHS

JOHN A. WOLFE, AIPG, has joined with Howard C. Schoenike to form Schoenike, Wolfe & Associates, a Houston firm offering geological and engineering service in exploration for mineral resources.

At the Calgary meeting of AAPG in June, five honorary memberships in AAPG were conferred. All the recipients are members of AIPG: ORLO E. CHILDS, FRANK B. CONSELMAN, JOHN E. ELLIOTT, ROBERT E. KING and GROVER E. MURRAY.

DONALD P. MEISS, AIPG, formerly with the oil development department of the Northern Pacific Railway at Billings, has been promoted to chief geologist, Burlington Northern, Inc.

JAMES E. BARKDULL, AIPG, has moved his consulting practice from Ohio to Wyoming. He may be addressed at BARPEX, Box 91, Jackson, Wyo. 83001.

RICHARD W. LEMKE, AIPG, has been appointed by Governor Love to the Colorado Environmental Commission. Lemke is currently national president of AEG.

JON L. RAU, AIPG, is co-editor with Louis F. Dellwig of the recently issued two-volume proceedings of the Third Symposium on Salt, sponsored in April 1969 by the Northern Ohio Geological Society.

JORDAN C. BRAUN, AIPG, has been appointed manager of Petroleum Reserve Corp.'s exploration office in Oklahoma City. He was formerly district geologist with Flag Oil Corp.

R. M. KNEBEL, AIPG, until recently chief geologist with Lone Star Gas Co., is now manager of the company’s Dallas exploration district.

SUZANNE TAKKEN, AIPG, is an independent petroleum geologist in Oklahoma City. She was formerly with Mobil Oil Co.

JACKSON M. BARTON, AIPG, has been appointed executive vice-president, land and exploration, for Champlin Petroleum Co. His offices are in Fort Worth.

Officers of the Oklahoma City Geological Society for 1970-71 include HERBERT G. DAVIS, AIPG, president, and CHARLES E. BRANHAM, AIPG, library director.

RICHARD R. BLOOMER, AIPG, is general chairman of the 1971 meeting of the Southwest Section, AAPG, to be held in Abilene next February 7-9.

FREDERIC F. MELLEN, AIPG, recently delivered a paper before the Mississippi Academy of Sciences entitled "Cirriped Biostratigraphy in the Eastern Gulf Coast Region."