# BULLETIN



# HOUSTON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Houston, Texas

Volume 13, No. 3 November, 1970

# HOUSTON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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|                             |                            |             |

# BULLETIN



# THE BULLETIN OF THE HOUSTON GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY Office—234 Esperson Bldg.—Houston, Texas 77002—CA 3-9309 Subscription Price \$3.00 per year

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#### EDITOR - FORREST J. FIEDLER - 227-4371

| Associate Editors                                  |            |
|--|------------|
| In Memorium Edward G. Lipp, Crown Central          | 222-6285   |
| News of Societies Craig C. Barclay, Pan American   | . 227-4371 |
| Distaff Side Mrs. Hal H. (Sally) Bybee             | . 686-6494 |
| Geo Science Notes James G . Ward, Jack Colle Assoc | . 227-6266 |
| Special Features Edward H. Rainwater, Tenneco      | . 229-3142 |
| Items of Interest William G . Elliott              | . 771-3861 |

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#### MEETING NOTICE

There will be two meetings of the Houston Geological Society again in the month of November.

#### REGULAR EVENING MEETING



TIME: Monday, November 9, 1970

Cocktail Hour - 5 P.M., Dinner at 6 P.M.

PLACE: Houston Club, 10th Floor of the Houston Club

Building.

SUBJECT: "The Geology and Discovery of Prudhoe Bay

Field, Eastern Arctic Slope, Alaska".

SPEAKER: Dean L. Morgridge, Distinguished Lecturer of

AAPG and Alaska District Geologist for Humble's Western Division Exploration Depart-

ment in Los Angeles.

COST: Dinner \$5.50 - Drinks \$1.00 each.

BIOGRAPHY – Dean L. Morgridge graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1955 with an M.S. Degree. His professional experience reads: Field Geologist with Humble Oil & Refining Company in Eugene, Oregon (while studying for his Master's) in 1954–1956. He was assigned to Alaska as a Field Geologist for Humble in 1962–1967, was moved up to Alaska Zone Supervisor for them in 1962–1967 and has since served as Alaska District Geologist for Humble's Western Division Exploration Department in Los Angeles.

Mr. Morgridge is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and a member of the Geological Society of America.

# URGENT

YOUR 1970 HGS-GSH PHOTO DIRECTORY NEEDS FINANCIAL SUPPORT! The Deadline for Receiving advertising has been extended to November 30th.

For suppliers, contractors and consultants the advertising exposure is excellent since it is highly selective and lasts for years. This publication makes available much needed information for all Houston area oil and gas and associated industries.

Your advertising support is urgently solicited!

# THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS Distinguished Lecture Tour

# THE GEOLOGY AND DISCOVERY OF PRUDHOE BAY FIELD, EASTERN ARCTIC SLOPE, ALASKA

bу

Dean L. Morgridge

#### **ABSTRACT**

The Prudhoe Bay Field is recognized as one of the largest oil fields in North America with estimated reserves of five to ten billion barrels. Reconstruction of the geologic history suggests that the combination of geologic controls on the field will be difficult to find duplicated elsewhere.

Hydrocarbons are present in Jurassic and Permo-Triassic sandstones and Pennsylvanian-Mississippian carbonate reservoirs. These strata, locally folded into a westerly-plunging, faulted anticlinal nose, are truncated by a pre-Cretaceous unconformity resulting in the subcropping of progressively older reservoirs to the northeast. Most of the hydrocarbons are trapped below the unconformity and are contained in the permo-Triassic Sadlerochit formation. This reservoir is present in the field area as a uniform wedge of alluvial-deltaic sandstone and conglomerate.

The pre-Cretaceous clastic reservoirs were derived from the ancient Beaufort Arch, north of the present coastline. In contrast, the unconformably overlying Cretaceous and Tertiary sandstone and marine shale were derived from uplifts on the steep south flank of the basin, near the present Brooks Range.

In 1944, during World War II, the U.S. Navy initiated the first extensive Arctic exploration program. This program was carried on for ten years at a cost of over \$55 million. Drilling was conducted principally in two areas, the Barrow High and the Arctic Foothills belt. The Umiat Field, located on a foothills anticline, was the largest oil discovery with estimated reserves of 20 to 100 million barrels in Cretaceous sandstones. The high finding costs experienced by the Navy tended to discourage industry exploration.

In 1963, several wells were drilled jointly by BP Exploration Company (Alaska) Inc. and Sinclair Oil and Gas Company, in an attempt to extend the Navy foothills Cretaceous play. BP-Sinclair and Union Oil Company of California each later drilled unsuccessful Paleozoic tests near the Arctic coast.

In 1964, Humble Oil and Refining Company joined Richfield Oil Corporation (now Atlantic Richfield) in evaluation of Federal acreage south of Prudhoe Bay. Regional seismic data and Federal leasing policy in existence at that time caused Humble to shift the exploration effort from the Federal acreage to the eastern Arctic coastal area. The major portion of the Prudhoe Bay structure was leased jointly by Humble and Richfield, and by BP at the State of Alaska Sale in July, 1965. The ARCO-Humble Prudhoe Bay No. I State was completed as the discovery well in June, 1968.

#### NOON LUNCHEON MEETING

This year's second special noon meeting of the Houston Geological Society will be held on November 18th, 1970.



TIME: Wednesday, November 18, 1970

12:00 NOON

PLACE: Rice Hotel, Grand Ballroom

SUBJECT: "Photogeologic Applications for the Subsurface

Geologist in the Gulf Coast."

SPEAKER: Mr. Edward F. Haye, President of the Photogravity

Company.

COST: Luncheon - \$3.50

BIOGRAPHY – Edward F. Haye graduated from the University of Texas in 1951 with a Bachelor of Science degree in geology. He was employed by Standard Oil Company of Texas until 1959 when he resigned to start the Photogravity Company.

His experience has been in both geology and geophysics, having worked as a subsurface and production geologist in the Permian Basin, South Texas and North Texas. He supervised Standard Oil of Texas' field gravity crews, as well as engaging in analytical gravity and magnetic work.

He is President of the Photogravity Company, which is an independent gravity and photogeology contractor, with offices in Houston and Calgary. Mr. Haye's company has completed geomorphic and photogeologic interpretations over approximately two-thirds of the Gulf Coastal Plain, from Florida to the Rio Grande River.

#### PHOTOGEOLOGIC APPLICATIONS

#### FOR THE SUBSURFACE GEOLOGIST IN THE GULF COAST

This talk presents the practical approach to air photo interpretation for subsurface geologist and geophysicist on the Gulf Coastal Plain. The dynamic nature of Gulf Coast surface movement is documented, and surface-subsurface relationships such as the up and down-to-coast fault situations and their surface expressions are discussed. An explanation is given for the surface indications of deeper structure where it is not reflected in the upper beds with seismic and well data.

The specific photogeologic criteria used for recognition of surface structure in the Gulf Coast is demonstrated with air photos of oil fields from South Texas, North and South Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. Air photo examples from areas of current exploration interest such as Flomaton in Southwest Alabama, the Cretaceous reef trend in central Louisiana, the Suniland field in South Florida, and also undrilled prospect situations, are shown.

Practical ways in which surface information can be used to advantage in geophysical and geological prospecting are outlined; and there is a summary of the latest technical developments in the field of air photography.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Delta Study Group

The Delta Study Group is planning to publish a "Preliminary Bibliography on Deltas" to be ready for the forthcoming AAPG-SEPM annual meeting in Houston next spring. This bibliography, including both modern and ancient deltas, will list approximately 1,000 citations, which have been collected during our work on the Delta Data Sheets. The references will be indexed according to location and delta. This precursory listing is to be published in order to give the many geologists working with deltas an insight into the available literature and, additionally, to attract more members to our study Group. A greatly expanded bibliography will be published with our data sheets.

The Delta Study Group meets on Wednesday evenings. If you would like to become an active participant in our project call Mike Barnes at 771-3861, ext. 65, or Martha Lou Broussard at 665-4428 for time and location. If you can't meet with us on Wednesdays, but have some references which you feel should be included in our first listing, please send them to Art E. Smith, 9118 Concho, Houston, Texas 77036. If you can't help in either way, please show your support of our continuing projects by buying a copy of our bibliography when it goes on sale in March.

--- Martha Lou Broussard, Chairman

#### Entertainment Committee

The response to a questionnaire sent to the H.G.S. membership last year revealed a lack of interest in our Christmas dance. As a result, a well received shrimp peel replaced the dance. Again this year the Christmas dance will be scratched in favor of a spring shrimp peel.

A fall or Christmas social function was considered, but each of several possibilities investigated met with adversity. This was discovered too late to re-schedule the shrimp peel for the fall. So the H.G.S. will sponsor no fall or holiday entertainment.

The following three events are scheduled for the spring:

Shrimp Peel
Combination Golf Tournament - Barbeque-Bingo Party
Ladies Night

The Entertainment Committee welcomes your ideas and suggestions.

-- R. W. Jackson, Jr., Chairman

#### 1971 AAPG Field Trip Committee;

Just published by Texas Bureau of Economic Geology, "A Field Guide to the Brazos Alluvial and Deltaic Plains and the Galveston Barrier Island Complex", by H. A. Bernard, C. F. Major, Jr., B. S. Parrott, R. J. LeBlanc, Sr.

The FOREWORD to this important publication, by W. L. Fisher, now Director of the Bureau of Economic Geology, is given below:

"This guidebook is a reprinting of a field guide prepared by Shell Development Company as a part of a three-day industrial short course for full-time college teachers in geology, conducted March 30 - April 1, 1970 by Shell Development Company, Houston, Texas, in cooperation with AGI Council on Education in Geological Sciences. The guidebook includes excellent summaries and well-illustrated documentation of clastic depositional environments and related facies of the southeastern Texas Coast. The models presented herein by the Shell group - based on several years of detailed investigation and three-demensional reconstruction - should be of considerable interest to individuals concerned with the interpretation and study of ancient depositional environments and modern counterparts. For this reason, the Bureau of Economic Geology is pleased to publish this guide as Guidebook No. 11 in its regular guidebook series."

Contents of this Guidebook No. 11 are:

#### INTRODUCTION

PART 1. SUMMARY OF THE LATE QUATERNARY GEOLOGY OF THE COASTAL PLAIN OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS (figs. 1-2)

PART II. BRAZOS ALLUVIAL PLAIN ENVIRONMENT (figs. 3-29)

PART III. BRAZOS DELTA ENVIRONMENT (figs. 30-44)

PART IV. COASTAL INTERDELTAIC AND MARINE ENVIRONMENTS

APPENDIX. RESUME OF THE QUATERNARY GEOLOGY OF THE NORTH-WESTERN GULF OF MEXICO PROVINCE, by Bernard and LeBlanc Reprint (figs. 1-40)

The Guidebook is illustrated with 97 maps, photographs, cross sections, block diagrams, clumnar sections, and charts.

The book will be used as a guide for a 1971 AAPG-SEPM Convention field trip, Thursday, April 1, to be led by C. F. Major, Jr. Geologists who wish to learn more about sedimentation in several important coastal environments, criteria for recognition of the environments, and the importance in petroleum exploration and exploitation of understanding Recent sediments should obtain a copy of the book and plan to attend the field trip.

-- E. H. Rainwater, Chairman

#### Personnel Placement Committee

Our files contain almost 100 names of Geologists, Geophysicists and Paleontologists. Almost every age and experience level is represented. Hiring was particularly slow this past summer and no real pickup has occurred as yet this fall. However, numerous job rumors have been heard and various conversations point to a pickup when the 1971 budgets are determined. A predicted critical gas and fuel oil shortage should encourage the hiring of additional people to staff exploration programs world wide and more specifically in the domestic U. S. H.G.S. members are encouraged to advertise the H.G.S. Placement Committee not only in Houston but in any oil centers encountered in your travels.

-- Chuck Noll, Chairman

#### Editor's Note:

George Sealy has built the H.G.S. Placement function into a sizable and useful position. Chuck Noll, a Geologist with Pan American, has now relieved George of the job. Chuck is a member of the Pan American recruiting team, is the Interviews Committee Vice-Chairman for the 1971 AAPG-SEPM Convention here in Houston and has been active for years in enrollment work for Dartmouth College. He is the current president of the local Dartmouth Alumni Club. You can write Chuck at Box 3092, Houston, 77001, or phone 713-227-4371, Ext. 235. He welcomes your inquiries.

#### Transportation Committee

#### WORLD PETROLEUM CONGRESS - MOSCOW

Due to the fact that only 93 members have shown an interest in a charter flight to Europe next June (we need 140 for competitive cost and 165 to fill the plane), the Transportation Committee is presently investigating the possibility of co-chartering a plane with groups from either Kansas, Dallas or Tulsa. We have also invited members from the Houston Geophysical Society and the S.P.E. of Houston to participate with us.

A travelitinerary with the popular support of many of our members entails departing Houston June 11 on a direct flight to Moscow, arriving there the day before the Congress and returning July 4th from either Amsterdam or Vienna. The charter cost for such an itinerary would be approximately \$375 with a full plane.

More definite plans will be announced in the December Bulletin. For any questions or suggestions please contact Arthur Christensen at 748–2800, Ext. 351.

-- Arthur F. Christensen, Chairman

#### **NEWS OF MEMBERS**

L. Bruce Forney has been named Chief Geologist for Roy M. Huffington, Inc., in Houston. He was previously with P. R. Rutherford of Houston before entering consulting practice.

Landman Walter E. Belt, Jr., has joined the Houston office of Macpet (McKnight Petroleum Trust) as regional land manager. Prior to this position, Belt was Division Land Manager, Texas, Louisiana, and southeastern U. S., for Inexco Oil Company.

Belt, a 24-year veteran of petroleum land work, received his B.S. degree in geology from the University of Texas at Austin, where he was a member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, honorary geological fraternity. He is a member of Houston Geological Society, Houston Association of Petroleum Landmen, and American Association of Petroleum Landmen.

Belt is a native of Wallis, Texas. He and his wife Virginia now live at 5634 Wigton, Houston.

Leo Pugh has been appointed Assistant Manager for Gulf Coast Exploration Data Corporation. His new address is 1202 Americana Building. Phone 227-4812.

#### THE SOCIETY WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Charles E. Plant Robert E. Murphy, Jr. Harold V. Hilton Wilton M. Booker Max Hightower Paul T. Younger David W. Lee Charles Foster Twell Kepler Paul Ducote Darrel W. Boyd M. B. Hansen Bernard W. Reiss John Zoran Tomich William L. Palmquist Gene T. Faulk Robert N. Arrington Edwin A. Fritz, Jr. Benjamin Tarver Faulk Paul M. Tucker James G. Sullivan, Jr. L. D. Robbins George T. Chaney Milton J. "Pete" Jistel Elgin G. Diedrick William J. O'Sullivan David Gardiner Hunt Q. David Clanton R. David Pliler Michael P. Prescott

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#### **NEWS OF OTHER SOCIETIES**

#### American Association of Petroleum Geologists

Communist China has become nearly self-sufficient in crude oil production, but the lack of pipelines, refineries, and related logistics support is seriously hindering its pertoleum industry development, according to a report published by the AAPG.

In its current AAPG Bulletin, monthly technical journal, the world's largest geological society has published papers that cover oil and gas industry developments during 1969 in Europe, Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific.

It was pointed out that since 1948, mainland China geologists, with assistance of geologists from other communist bloc countries, have explored the hydrocarbon-bearing basins, delineated more than 600 surface and seismic anticlines, and discovered 48 fields; 8 fields discovered before 1949 have been expanded. Of the total 54 Chinese fields, at least 13 have 100 million barrels or more of recoverable oil and 5 have one trillion cubic feet or more of recoverable natural gas.

Total proved plus probable reserves have increased from less than 100 million barrels in 1948 to about 19.6 billion barrels as of January 1, 1969. Production has increased from 883,000 barrels in 1949 to about 90,540,000 barrels in 1968. Current (1969–1970) production probably exceeds 100 million barrels a year.

Petroleum production increased in Colombia, Brazil and Argentina, but decreased in all other producing countries of South and Central America and the West Indies. Important was the discovery of the Caimancito field of northern Argentina, a discovery that established production in a new part of the stratigraphic column. Substantial quantities of gas, condensate and crude oil were discovered off the east coast of Trinidad, and a number of companies expressed interest in offshore exploration of the northern coast.

Western European natural gas production increased nearly 40 per cent in 1969, but Yugoslavia, Austria and Spain were the only western European nations to show increases in oil production. The general leveling off of European oil production was attributed to lack of significant discoveries in recent years.

Offshore exploration outside the U.S. was widespread. The North Sea continued to be the most active exploration area, although the northern Adriatic had an increase in exploratory drilling. For the first time, new exploration permits were granted for the southern Adriatic, as well as the Ionian and Tyrrhenian seas. Extensive offshore exploration rights were granted by Italy, Greece and Spain. Portugal invited bids for offshore rights.

Important oil and gas discoveries were made in several areas of the Soviet Union, including the West Siberian basin and the eastern Ukraine. Oil and gas production rose as several major Russian pipelines reached completion. The completion of the "Northern Lights" pipeline provided the first success of Arctic gas to major markets. Another important line linked the oil fields of the Mangyshlak Peninsula to a refinery at the north end of the Caspian Sea.

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| JAMES M. WILSON Geophysical Consultant 246 Main Bldg. 225-2145   |  |

Gas production in the Netherlands increased 58 per cent as a result of newly operative pipeline systems. Italy and Germany also showed increases in gas production.

The event of greatest potential significance for the North African oil industry was the overthrow of the monarchy in Libya. The new government indicated that it would increase state control over development of the country's oil resources. In 1969 Libyan oil production constituted 70 per cent of total North African production.

More exploratory wells were drilled in North Africa in 1969, but there were fewer producers. Major exploration efforts were concentrated in Libya and Algeria. With the exception of Morocco, all North African countries showed a substantial rise in crude oil production.

Exploratory drilling declined in central and southern Africa, but total combined production rose a dramatic 175 per cent over 1968. Nigeria, Angola and Gabon showed the largest individual production gains. Settlement of the Nigerian civil war allowed the country's production to be restored to pre-war levels.

In the Middle East, production of crude oil increased 10 per cent over 1968, with highest production in Iran and Saudi Arabia.

Five exploratory wells were drilled in Israel, but no commercial discoveries resulted.

Petroleum activity rose in the Far East in 1969, primarily because of increased exploration in Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei. Four significant discoveries were made in Indonesia, and eight companies received exploration rights to nine new areas. Atlantic-Richfield made two new discoveries in the Java Sea. Another important field was discovered off the coast of Brunei. In the after math of several oil seeps in the Tonga Islands, twelve companies filed for exploration rights in 1969.

The report on mainland China was based on publications from the U.S.S.R., Japan, Taiwan, and the Chinese mainland, as well as previously unpublished data from several other sources.

#### # # # # # #

#### The New Orleans Geological Society

The New Orleans Geological Society has recently elected officers for the 1970-1971 term. They are as follows:

President, Robert F. Barrell-Davis Oil Co.,-340 Oil & Gas Bldg. - New Orleans-Louisiana - 70112.

1st Vice-President, Robert J. Ingram - Chevron Oil Co. - 1111 Tulane Ave. - New Orleans, Louisiana - 70112.

2nd Vice-President, Shelby W. Smith - Texaco, Inc. - P. O. Box 60252 - New Orleans - Louisiana - 70160.

Secretary, George D. Severson - Exchange Oil & Gas Corp., - 1200 Oil & Gas Building - New Orleans - Louisiana - 70112.

Treasurer, David G. Bowen - Coastal Production Co. - 810 Saratoga Bldg. - New Orleans, Louisiana, 70112.

#### Gulf Coast Section - Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists

The Gulf Coast Section SEPM will hold its final meeting for the year 1970 at Wyatts Sharpstown Cafeteria. Please try and attend to make a good showing in appreciation to all those who have participated and contributed their time and talents to make our meetings successful. Come through the line and proceed to the designated meeting room and enjoy good fellowship while eating.

DATE: November 16, 1970

PLACE: Waytts Sharpstown Cafeteria
TIME: Dinner - 5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

SPEAKER: James Lamb will introduce the film on "Galveston Island Sand

Barriers".

SUBJECT: Color and Sound movie film on chronological and morphological

events of Galveston Island during approximately the past 5,000

years.

This is not a new film but it is very interesting and entertaining even for those who have seen it before. So please try to come and enjoy the free movie.

-- E. H. Stork, Jr. Houston Business Representative

# # # #

#### West Texas Geological Society

You are cordially invited to attend a three day symposium that will focus on the Chihuahua Tectonic Belt – an area that has significant economic potential as well as an interesting and complex geologic history. The two day technical program provides a complete synthesis of the tectonic setting, geologic history and economic resources of the Chihuahua Tectonic Belt. Recent accelerated exploration activity on both sides of the border for petroleum and other mineral resources has added significant new information on this relatively unknown geologic province.

The symposium is dedicated to Professor Ronald K. DeFord, who through his own study and research as well as that of his graduate students at the University of Texas, has provided the geologic framework for present and future exploration activity of the area. A special dinner honoring Professor DeFord will be held at the Midland Country Club on the evening of November 5th.

The registration fee will include two days of technical sessions, expanded abstracts of the papers presented, and an ice breaker cocktail party. The Permian Basin Geological and Geophysical auxiliary is sponsoring two fun-filled days of entertainment for the ladies, so send in your reservations now for you and your wife.

Headquarters for the symposium will be at the Scharbauer Hotel. Registration will begin at 11:30 A.M., Wednesday, November 4, in the lobby of the Scharbauer. Registration fee: \$17.00, Student fee: \$8.50, Wife: \$8.00. For additional information contact Larry Wagner, West Texas Geological Society, P. O. Box 1595, Midland, Texas, 79701.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

#### Wednesday, November 4

11:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M. - Registration - Hotel Scharbauer
6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. - Icebreaker Cocktail Party - Petroleum Club. (late registrants may register at the Icebreaker)

#### Thursday, November 5

- 8:15 A.M. 12:00 noon Technical Sessions Yucca Theatre
  Precambrian Basement framework of the southwest . . . . . R. E. Denison
  The Texas Lineament . . . . . . . . . . . M. A. Wiley & W. R. Muehlberger
- 7:00 P.M. 9:00 P.M. Dinner honoring Ronald K. DeFord
  Midland Country Club.

  Cocktail Hour (dutch treat) 7:00 to 8:00

  Dinner, \$5.00 per person 8:00 to 9:00 (limited to 300)

#### Friday, November 6

#### Local AAPG Committee Members

Anyone who has ever held a position of responsibility in organization, be it a civic club, sportsman's association, or professional society, knows that it takes a lot of work by a lot of different people to make it go. William H. Currey, AAPG President, has said it well.

"The committee is where the basic work of the Association is performed and where we best cement our relationships with the petroleum industry, and with the educational and scientific community which serves it."

The Houston Geological Society is well represented on AAPG Committees. The Society wishes to recognize these people:

Bellaire: Tommy M. Thompson, Committee on Statistics of Drilling.

Houston: Thomas D. Barber, Industrial Advisory Committee; Hugh A. Bernard, Marine Geology Committee; Robert W. Bybee, AAPG Representative on Council of American Association for the Advancement of Science: L. W. Calahan, Industrial Advisory Committee; Fred H. Christian, Jr., Committee on Statistics of Drilling; Harry M. Dahl, Marine Geology Committee; Morgan J. Davis, Sr., Trustee of AAPG Foundation; William E. Gipson, Industrial Advisory Committee; Steve L. Giradot, Committee on Statistics of Drilling; Howard R. Gould, Marine Geology Committee and Chairman of Research Committee; Merrill W. Haas, Industrial Advisory Committee; Michel T. Halbouty, Research Committee, Chairman of Industrial Advisory Committee and Chairman, U. S. Organizing Committee, AAPG/AEPEA/BIP Meeting; William O. Ham, Jr., Industrial Advisory Committee; Charles F. Iglehart, Chairman, Committee on Statistics of Drilling; James R. Jackson, Jr., Environmental Geology Committee; E. Alan Lohse, Chairman, Marine Geology Committee; Milton E. Loy, Industrial Advisory Committee; Edward McFarlan, Jr., Stratigraphic Correlations and Research Committee; Robert H. Nanz, Jr., Industrial Advisory and Research Committee; M. S. Newby, Public Information Committee; William B. Oliver, Mineral Economics Committee; William L. Parchman, Jr., Stratigraphic Correlations Committee; John M. Parker, Chairman, Publication Committee; William A. Poe, Committee on Statistics of Drilling; Elliott H. Powers, Industrial Advisory Committee; Neal J. Smith, Continuing Education Committee; Frank Sonnenberg, Research Committee; Paul H. Dudley, Ind Advisory Committee.

#### ITEMS OF INTEREST

#### 1970 Zumstein Katalog

Planning on going to Europe for the World Petroleum Congress? Consider taking along the Zumstein Katalog. The 1970 Zumstein Katalog is the most comprehensive source of information on the latest maps and travel guides from all over the world. The catalogue, with explanations in English and French, is a bound edition of 560 pages and more than 170 map index sheets. The index covers 5700 items including geology, aeronautical charts and guides to hotels and restaurants. The Zumstein Katalog is a handy and rapid reference.

Copies may be ordered from Zumsteins Landkartenhaus, D-8000 Munchen 22, Liebherrstrasse 5, Germany. Price is DM24,80 or approximately \$6.20.

- - W. G. Elliott, Associate Editor

#### SHORT COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT

A short course in geologic applications of gamma-ray spectrometry is being offered December 14-18, 1970, by the geology department of Rice University. The course will deal in detail with theoretical, practical, and economic aspects of the application of gamma-ray spectrometry to exploration, reconnaissance surveying, and laboratory analysis. New and recent developments in equipment and system design, as well as preliminary test results from several promising systems, will be described and their operation demonstrated. Earth scientists concerned with terrain analysis and its economic and operational planning and who hold a Bachelor's degree in engineering, science, or equivalent are invited to enroll. Enrollment deadline is November 20. For further information and application forms, write to: Dr. John A. S. Adams, Department of Geology, Rice University, P. O. Box 1892, Houston, Texas 77001. Phone: (713) 528-4141, Ext. 443.

# # # # # # # #

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### OLIN GROGAN BELL

On July 31, 1970, one of Houston's best-known and most esteemed petroleum geologists passed away. Olin Grogan Bell, age 76, who lived at 3802 Linkview Drive, Houston, Texas, was this man. Olin was born in Lone Oak, Texas, but attended college at the University of Oklahoma, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology in 1920, just after the close of World War I, in which he served with distinction. Always interested in military affairs, Bell offered his services to his country again in June, 1942, and served in World War II until May 22, 1944, in the U. S. Air Force. He entered the Air Force as a Major at Colorado Springs, Colorado, and attained the rank of Colonel before his discharge.

Col. Bell belonged to several military organizations, including the Air Force Association, the Air Reserve Association (elected President in May, 1947), the Reserve Officers Association, the American Legion and the Society of American Military Engineers. He also belonged to Houston Engineers Club, AIME, and Texas Society of Engineers.

Notwithstanding his interest in military affairs and in engineering, Olin Bell's main interest was in the science and practice of geology. He took great pride in this, his chosen profession. He was a Past President and Life Member of the Houston Geological Society, a member of the Society of Economic Paleontologists & Mineralogists, Society of Exploration Geophysicists, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Geological Institute, American Association of Petroleum Geologists and American Petroleum Institute.

Beginning in September, 1920, and in connection with graduate work at Cornell University, Bell became an instructor in Cornell University, where he was employed on a parttime basis until July, 1925. During this same period, on a short-term basis, he acted as a geological consultant to the Pennsylvania Geological Survey (Pittsburgh, Pa.) and to the Florida Geological Survey. Also, during the latter part of this period, he accepted some contemporaneous assignments from the Standard Oil Company of Venezuela on special geological problems.

On July 1, 1925, Olin G. Bell enrolled with Humble Oil & Refining Company as a geologist, and immediately thereafter, was assigned to Compania Petroleos Tamaulipas, S.A. (Mexico), which operated in Mexico for several years as an affiliate of Humble Oil & Refining Company. Bell was General Manager of this company.

After Olin returned to Humble from his Mexico experiences, he had many and varied assignments. He was stationed in Laredo, Texas, Kingsville, Texas, and came to headquarters in Houston in January, 1936, as Division Production Geologist. Upon his retirement in August, 1958, Bell had served nearly 32 years with Humble Oil & Refining Company and had been associated with geological activities for nearly 40

years.

While the professional accomplishments of Olin G. Bell were large and his contributions to his employers were significant, he will be remembered longest by the geologists and other technical men he helped, as he was tireless in his efforts to find the proper jobs and work assignments for young men throughout his career. He was probably instrumental in placing more young technical men in petroleum industry jobs than anyone else in the Gulf Coast area.

Olin Bell was a religious man and an enthusiastic member of the Masonic Lodge. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church and served as an elder in the Second Presbyterian Church in Houston. He was a member of the Acacia Fraternity and Houston Lodge No. 1189 AF & AM. He was also a devoted family man and is survived by his wife, Mrs. Willie C. Bell, his daughters, Mrs. E. A. Baumgartner, of Beaumont, and Mrs. Margaret Thompson, of Houston, by his son, Alan C. Bell, Lafayette, Louisiana, three grandchildren, a brother, Mr. L. P. Bell, and sisters, Mrs. Floyd Burris and Mrs. Reubene Wood.

Less than two weeks ago, Mrs. Bellreceived a Certificate signed by Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States, which has on it the following inscription:

"The United States of America honors the memory of Olin G. Bell. This certificate is awarded by a grateful nation in recognition of devoted and selfless consecration to the service of our country in the armed forces of the United States."

-- Morgan J. Davis 9/11/70

# On The Distaff Side

#### **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

The "Distaff Side" was omitted last month because of an editorial oversight. The present issue carries those items from November which are still pertinent, as well as the current distaff news.

November, 1970

Fellowship and food at the Houston Geological Auxiliary party for husbands made this September 20th affair a great success. About 160 gathered in the shelter house at the Executive Country Club on a Sunday afternoon to enjoy barbecue, beer and bingo games.

Party chairman, June (Mrs. Paul) Farren and Donna (Mrs. Ross) Dawson and their efficient committee had collected some unusual door prizes and bingo prizes. Jean (Mrs. Ralph) McLeod was the donor of the beautiful bromeliads that the bingo players were winning.

Our official photographer, Betty Gahagan, and husband Don had returned from a trip to Scotland and Scandinavia safely without being skyjacked on the way. She was proudly exhibiting her new wicker gadget bag trimmed with a needlepoint panel to proclaim her "Our Photographer" that was designed, embroidered and presented to her by thoughtful Belen (Mrs. Fred) Schall. Belen's ortistic talent was certainly evident in the way she drew the camera on the canvas and put in all those thousands of stitches.

The Schalls were almost ready to leave for a "hard rock" geology meeting in Denver, followed quickly by a trip to New York. Teddine and John Loftis were also to meet them at the Denver convention. By an interesting coincidence, Belen and Teddine are both from Louisiana, and they certainly are two of the best cooks I ever knew. Must be that Crowley and New Orleans training showing results.

Ruth Ann and Jim Grady had enjoyed their trip through Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama this summer and were anticipating their upcoming trip to Dallas for the Texas-Oklahoma game. Ruth Ann is doing an excellent job this year as president-elect and program chairman for the Geo Club Ladies Association. She's a very busy lady!

Pauline and John Inkster were telling some of the highlights of their trip through some of Western United States with their teen-age grandchildren. It's hard to tell whether the grandparents or the grandchildren had more fun.

October and November are always filled with fund drives for worthy causes like United Fund, cystic fibrosis, the ballet, muscular dystrophy and many others as well as the Theta Antique Show, Delta Zeta Hobby Hilites, Alpha Phi Magic Needle and so on and on and on. Geologists' wives have been involved in all of these in such numbers I couldn't begin to list them all. Anyway, a word of thanks to all our footsore and weary fund raisers for their contribution to Houston civic progress.

Fall months also have a great number of golf and tennis activities that include some of our members. When the winners were declared in the Greater Houston Women's Golf Tournament in mid-September, Elizabeth (Mrs. Robert) Bybee won an impressive gold trophy. Doubles tournament play at the Racquet Club successfully teamed Bette (Mrs. William) Hawk with Suzanne Howell's husband, Bill. Bette also entertained some of her neighbors at the review of the musical "1776" after the tennis clinics taught by the lady professionals competing in the tournament.

Welcome back to Houston to Robbie (Mrs. Bill) Bramlette. We'll be so glad to have her back with us, but regret that the piano ensemble in Southport, Fairfield and Darien, Connecticut, will not enjoy her talents for this season's concerts.

The Geo-Wives have a very interesting year planned for our newcomer members. Fifty-two attended the opening meeting on September 16 at Ten Fathoms West when Allen Fox, administrative manager of Philip Carey Corporation, spoke on "Unidentified Flying Objects". He was requested to make this same talk at NASA just before the moon landing. Their next two events are a couples ice skating and pizza party on October 17 and then a needlework program on November 18.

This group has just held a contest for the best permanent insignia representing Geo-Wives. The winning design appears on the 1970-1971 Geo-Wives Yearbook cover and was drawn by Mary Ann (Mrs. Robert) Mayse. She is currently attending University of Houston courses in design.

Avis (Mrs. George) Thomas, president of Geo-Wives, now has some of her paintings and sculptures in the art gallery at the Farmers' Market in Town and Country village.

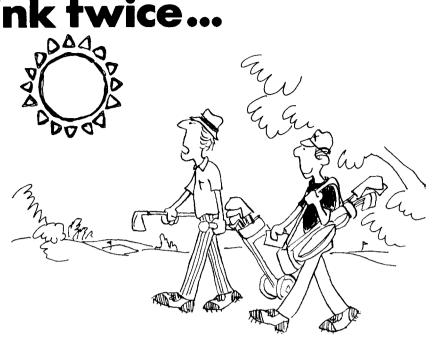
Midge and Robert Schrock have been giving the grand tour of Houston from NASA to the Astrodome to his parents the A. R. Schrocks, visiting from Scotts Bluff, Nebraska.

CORRECTION: The new auxiliary yearbook lists AAPG Convention committees working on ladies' entertainment for March, 1971. Betty Gahagan, Ladies' Entertainment Chairman, a pologizes for an omission in the Brunch at Brennan's Committee under Dixie (Mrs. J.D.) Bartell and Ann (Mrs. Reece L.) Berry. She asks that you correct your yearbook by adding these seven names.

Mrs. Wendell L. Lewis Mrs. Donald F. McNamee Mrs. John L. Read Mrs. David S. Remick Mrs. James Sims Mrs. Ray Thompson Mrs. A. E. Woodard

-- Sally Bybee

# Think twice...



The United Fund Drive must be starting today.

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| \$2.50      | per week      | four weeks of foster care for a child   |
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| \$3.00      | per week      | ten sessions of occupational therapy in the home  |



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