

GULF COAST SECTION
SOCIETY OF ECONOMIC PALEONTOLOGISTS AND MINERALOGISTS

President's Report to the Section
October 20, 1960

The reports of our officers and committee chairmen have outlined our activities of the past year in some detail; therefore, my report to you will be a brief summary.

We have done the following:

(1) conducted a field trip, November 14 and 15, 1959, jointly with GCAGS in which, "Recent Sediments of the North-Central Gulf Coastal Plain," were studied. Our members played a very prominent part in organizing and conducting this field trip.

(2) amended our constitution to give associate members the right to vote. A copy of the amended constitution has been sent to each member and associate.

(3) published a directory of the Gulf Coast Section of SEPM and the Gulf Coast Micropaleontologists. This has been distributed to our members, without charge.

(4) published Unit I of our Type Localities Project.

(5) increased our membership to its highest point in our history.

(6) contributed substantially to the program of this annual meeting with GCAGS.

(7) sponsored our Well Sample Committee Chairman at local meetings in Lafayette, New Orleans and Houston, to discuss means of securing better well samples.

These local meetings proved to be very successful and were enjoyed by all who attended. The Lafayette and New Orleans meetings were stag luncheons, while the Houston meeting was held in the evening with wives invited. This is believed to be the first time that such meetings were held in Lafayette and Houston. The New Orleans group has had several luncheons at intervals during the past year, at the suggestion of Bill Akers; and, we plan to continue these. I strongly recommend such meetings for any city with sufficient members to make it practical. The program, if any, can be formal or informal, according to the wishes of the group; and, different labs or groups can rotate in making the necessary arrangements and acting as hosts.

Our members voted at our last business meeting to conduct a field trip this year in southern Mississippi. We were unable to carry this out because the Mississippi Geological Society had already made plans for such a trip. Even though we did not conduct our own field trip this year, your Council has approved the formation of a large standing field trip committee to aid in our Type Localities Project and give over-all direction to our field trips of the future. This committee has a steering body consisting of Chairman Charles Stuckey and members, H. V. Andersen, R. R. Priddy, E. H. Rainwater, Fred E. Smith and Lyman Toulmin. The remainder of the committee has not been selected as yet.

Our Type Localities Project has been greatly aided by the GCAGS. On March 21, 1960, the Executive Committee voted to extend a loan to us to be used as working capital for publishing this work. On August 8, 1960 a resolution was adopted requesting that the local geological societies cooperate with us in planning field trips so that Gulf Coast type localities will be visited in a systematic manner. We appreciate the help and encouragement of GCAGS very much. I have written to each president of the local societies of GCAGS explaining our project and requesting the cooperation of their members in our project. Dr. Andersen has arranged through the LSU School of Geology and the LSU Graduate School to have the drafting and typing necessary in the editing of the type locality descriptions to be done at no cost to our Section. These services are very highly appreciated.

I believe that our Constitution needs some revisions. I consider most of these to be of a minor nature, except for paragraph 2, Article I, of the By-laws, which states that our annual dues shall be one dollar. This past year in trying to give our members something tangible, we spent well over \$1.00 per person. Obviously, this cannot be continued; and, if we are to continue to be an active organization, we need funds on which to operate. I therefore recommend that our dues be raised to \$2.00 per year, or other means of increasing our treasury be investigated.

Several of our committee chairmen have agreed to continue in their assignments, at least until their present goals are attained:

Publicity - John B. Dunlap, Jr.
Well Samples - Edward P. Roederer, Jr.
Type Localities - Charles W. Stuckey, Jr.
Editor, Type Localities - Harold V. Andersen

This is very much to the benefit of our Section; and, these men are to be commended for their work in our behalf.

Also, many thanks are due to the chairman of our other committees, the committee members, local representatives, those who have contributed to our Type Localities Project, those who are presenting papers at this convention, our editor, our officers and others who have worked hard for us this year. It has been my pleasure to serve you.

David E. Pope