



MISSISSIPPI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume XXXII

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1985-1986



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Cover: Testing at Hughes Eastern Petroleum
LTD No. 1 A.T.I.C.
33-1, Discovery Well for Sizemore Creek Field,
Escambia County, AL.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year promises to be a busy and eventful one for your Society. To begin, let me remind you that the Fall Barbecue will be held once again at Fowler's Lodge on September 6. Admission will be \$5.00 for members, \$10.00 for non-members. Festivities will begin at 4:30 p.m., with supper being served at 6:30 p.m. Our visitors and out-of-town members will find a map in this Bulletin to assist locating the Lodge. Thanks again to T. C. Rader and Schlumberger for their invaluable support and cooking expertise.

Fall also brings with it membership renewal for the Society. This year you will find a renewal card in the front of the Bulletin. Please complete and mail it in, along with \$10.00, to the address noted on the card. A "new" application is also provided, and we would like for you to pass it on to potential new members.

Want a "bird's-eye view" of our state? Better yet, want to see how your favorite oil or gas field can be delineated from a satellite? Then you will certainly want to be at our September 10, 12:00 p.m. meeting, where Dr. Velon Minshew will present "Remote Sensing Exploration in Mississippi". The use of Landsat data to pinpoint geologic/geochemical anomalies is fascinating and practical, and a topic you will not want to miss. Incidentally, we have acquired a wireless PA system which should greatly aid our speakers in getting their point across.

Finally, what could be better than a unique and historical field trip? Be on hand Saturday, October 26, 1985, when your society hosts "Tinsley Field, 1939-1985: A Commemorative Return". Leading our field trip will be none other than Fred Mellen, whose surface work and report led to the discovery of the giant field, and who is one of our own honorary members. Also on hand will be Murph Shelton, whose work with Pennzoil delineated the structure which was to eventually produce over 200 million barrels of crude. Combine the knowledge and history these men represent, with a pilot carbon dioxide tertiary recovery project and an abundance of fossils and petrified wood, and you have a field trip of tremendous value and significance. We'll give you more details in the October bulletin, but mark your calendar now — October 26.

Finally, it's time I stood upon my soapbox. Over half of our membership has STILL failed to show up to get their photograph taken for the photo directory. Friends, you've had a YEAR to get this done. Frankly, this is ridiculous. Do you realize that it's costing the Society a great deal of time and money to wait for those who are still dragging their feet? We'll have a photographer at the barbecue . . . please don't disappoint us.

See you there.

Steve Walkinshaw

TAKE NOTICE

Mississippi Geological Society

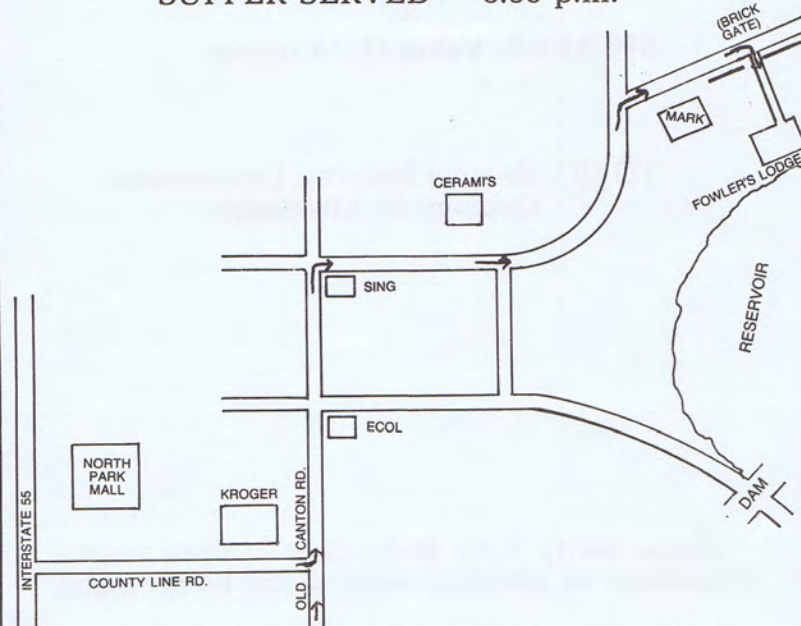
FALL BARBEQUE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1985

FOWLER'S LODGE

FESTIVITIES START — 4:30 p.m.

SUPPER SERVED — 6:30 p.m.



Please phone T. C. Rader with your reservations
by Wednesday, September 4th at 969-3286.

Door Charge — \$5.00 per MGS member (1985-86 dues paid)
\$10.00 Non-member



Mississippi Geological Society

NOON MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1985

Smackover Room, Petroleum Club

SPEAKER: Velon H. Minshew

TOPIC: Remote Sensing Exploration
Geology In Mississippi

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
attendance so adequate seating can be arranged.*





ABSTRACT

REMOTE SENSING EXPLORATION GEOLOGY IN MISSISSIPPI

By

VELON H. MINSHEW
Geoscience and Services, Inc.
Fort Worth, Texas

Remote sensing technology utilizing MSS and TM Landsat data has proven to be a cost-effective and valuable petroleum exploration tool. This technology has a place in an exploration program from the initial phase of selecting areas to be evaluated to the siting of wells within a prospect.

During the early years of remote sensing development researchers were surprised to discover that not only surface, but also subsurface, geologic structures could be identified and mapped. Geoscience and Services utilizes this technology throughout the United States, in numerous sedimentary basins, with a wildcat success of about 70% commercial oil and/or gas wells.

Examples of structures from the Black Warrior Basin, the Pickens-Gilbertown fault zone and the coastal zone will be described.



Anthony Francis Lucas (whose real name was Luchich) gave his name to the most sensational and significant oil gusher in petroleum history — the well that heralded the beginning of the liquid fuel age at Spindletop on the morning of January 10, 1901. He was the first man to recognize a salt dome as a geological phenomenon.

Lucas was not a captain; in fact, he never was more than a lieutenant in the Austrian Navy. He was a native of Spalatro, Dalmatia, and graduated from Polytechnic Institute of Gratz in 1875 with a degree in engineering. Three years later he graduated from the Naval Academy of Fiume as a midshipman.

He visited in the United States in 1879 and decided to stay when he was offered a job paying three times his navy salary. He renounced his Austrian citizenship and was naturalized in 1885.

In 1893 he went to Petit Anse in Louisiana as a salt mining engineer. Later he went to Jefferson Island in the same state. There he learned about salt domes and the rotary drill.

His interest soon turned to sulphur, and it was to seek this mineral that he first accepted an invitation by Pattillo Higgins to drill a well at Spindletop. The first unsuccessful well had an oil show. This enabled him to interest geologist William Battle Phillips of Texas University, who recommended Guffey and Galey of Pittsburgh to him. Guffey and Galey convinced the Mellon Brothers of the feasibility of Lucas' salt dome theory and they agreed to finance a minimum of six test wells at Spindletop.

The first well, staked by Galey, was enough. It came in flowing an estimated 100,000 barrels of oil daily and triggered the most remarkable and significant oil boom in history.

During the drilling of the gusher, Lucas invented the back pressure valve, which obviated the necessity of abandoning the well before it was completed. He was the first chairman of the Oil and Gas Committee of the American Institute of Mining Engineers when it was created in 1913. That was the first open forum where papers dealing with petroleum geology and petroleum engineering could be presented for open discussion.

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"Dad" Joiner discovered the greatest oil field ever found on the North American Continent. He achieved his remarkable feat by the simplest of methods — drilling a hole in the ground. In so doing, he defied all of the odds; learned oilmen had almost given up hope for the particular area of East Texas where he penetrated the oil-laden blanket of Woodbine sand.

In this "hopeless area," more than 25,000 wells had been drilled successfully and well over three billion barrels of oil had been produced by 1965.

His geologist was a man named A. D. Lloyd, who, three years earlier, had told him exactly the depth he would strike oil. His driller was Ed C. Laster, who performed miracles with a "coffee pot rig held together with baling wire." His financial backers were farmers and merchants of Rusk County and a handful of well-to-do widows in Dallas. When his antiquated equipment would go no farther, he completed his well with a rig loaned to him by Colonel D. Harold Byrd. Even when his well came, he might still have failed, except for the purchase of his property, unproved titles and all, by H. L. Hunt.

Joiner was born on March 12, 1860, near Center Star in Lauderdale County, Alabama. He believed in miracles even as a boy, once planting a pocket knife in the hope it would sprout enough new knives for all of his friends. As a boy, he was capable of picking 400 pounds of cotton a day. When he was 17, he went to Texas for his first short stay. Returning to Alabama, he made a small fortune in the mercantile business. He became a lawyer and moved to Tennessee where he was elected to the state legislature at 29. He turned down nomination to the Senate and moved to Oklahoma, where his sister had married a Choctaw Indian. While helping the Indians get justice through his knowledge of law, he became fascinated with the oil business.

In 1927, Joiner moved to Dallas. He implored oil companies to help him find oil in Rusk County, but was never seriously considered. So, he went to East Texas on his own.

His first well was junked at 1098 feet. His second was abandoned at 2518 feet. Then came the bonanza. On October 5, 1930, his Bradford No. 3 came in and the greatest oil boom in history was on.

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September 10
October 8
November 12
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January 14
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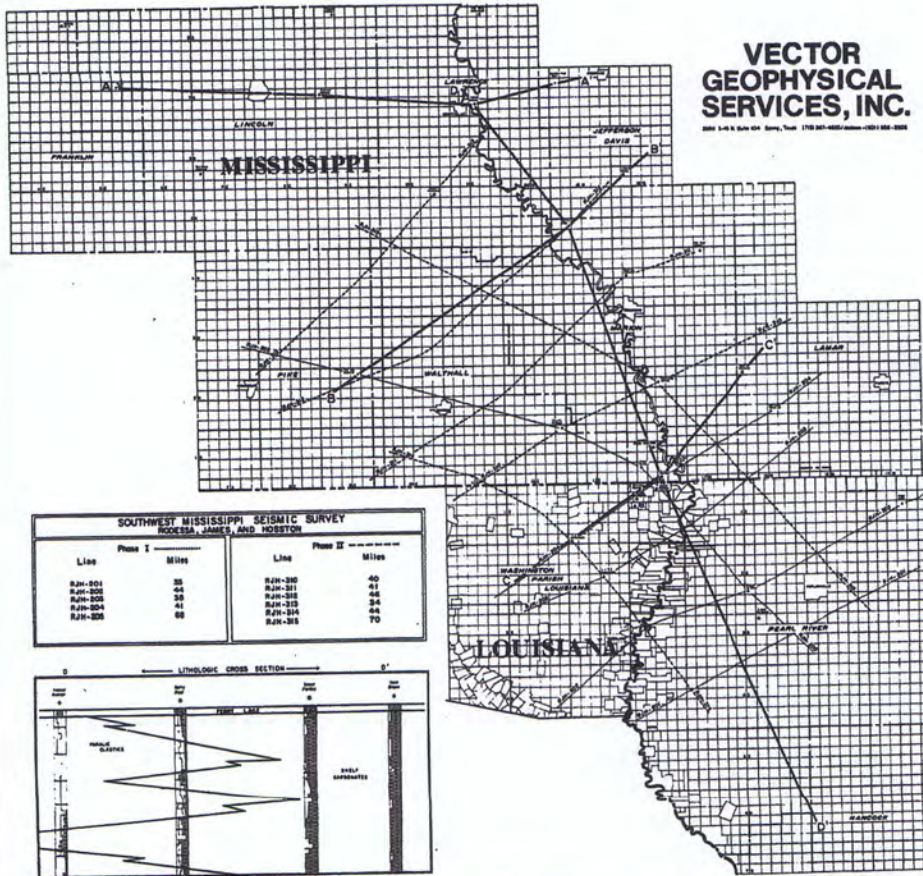
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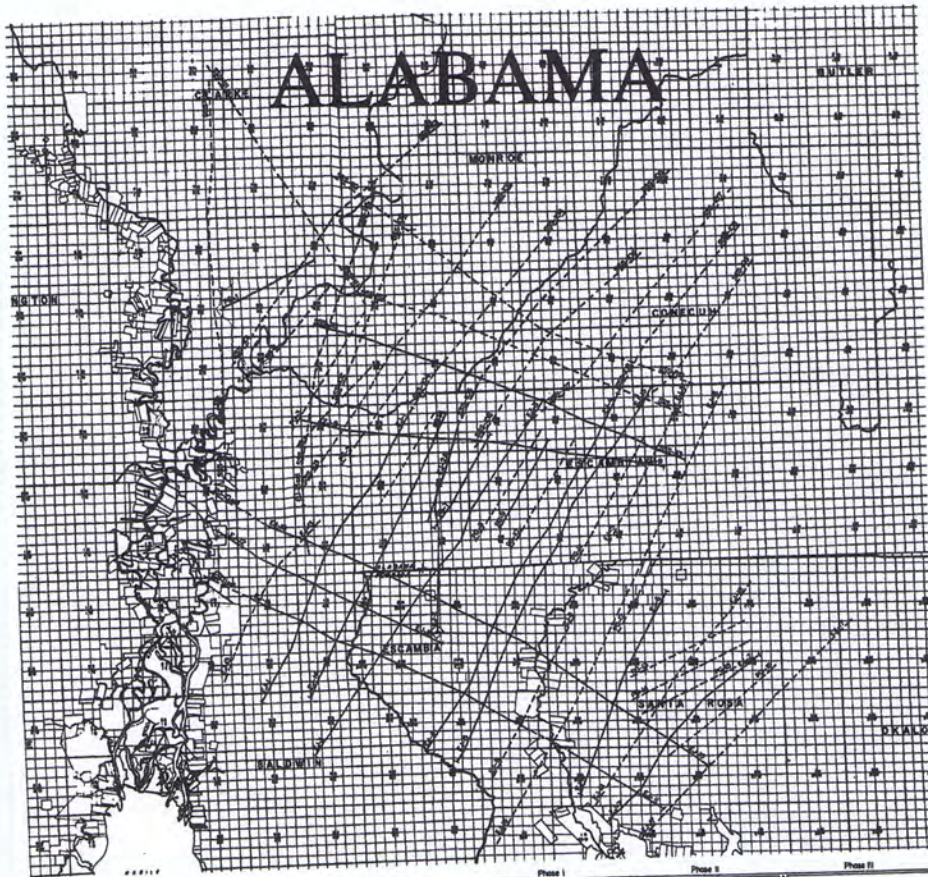
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E-3	33-2775	E-12-4	33-2775	33-2775	33-2775	P-3	33-2775	P-12	33-2775
E-4	33-2775	E-13-4	33-2775	33-2775	33-2775	P-4	33-2775	P-13	33-2775
E-5	33-2775	E-14-4	33-2775	33-2775	33-2775	P-5	33-2775	P-14	33-2775
E-6	33-2775	E-15-4	33-2775	33-2775	33-2775	P-6	33-2775	P-15	33-2775
E-7	33-2775	E-16-4	33-2775	33-2775	33-2775	P-7	33-2775	P-16	33-2775
E-8	33-2775	E-17-4	33-2775	33-2775	33-2775	P-8	33-2775	P-17	33-2775
E-9	33-2775	E-18-4	33-2775	33-2775	33-2775	P-9	33-2775	P-18	33-2775
E-10	33-2775	E-19-4	33-2775	33-2775	33-2775	P-10	33-2775	P-19	33-2775

PROPOSED - - -
COMPLETED - - -

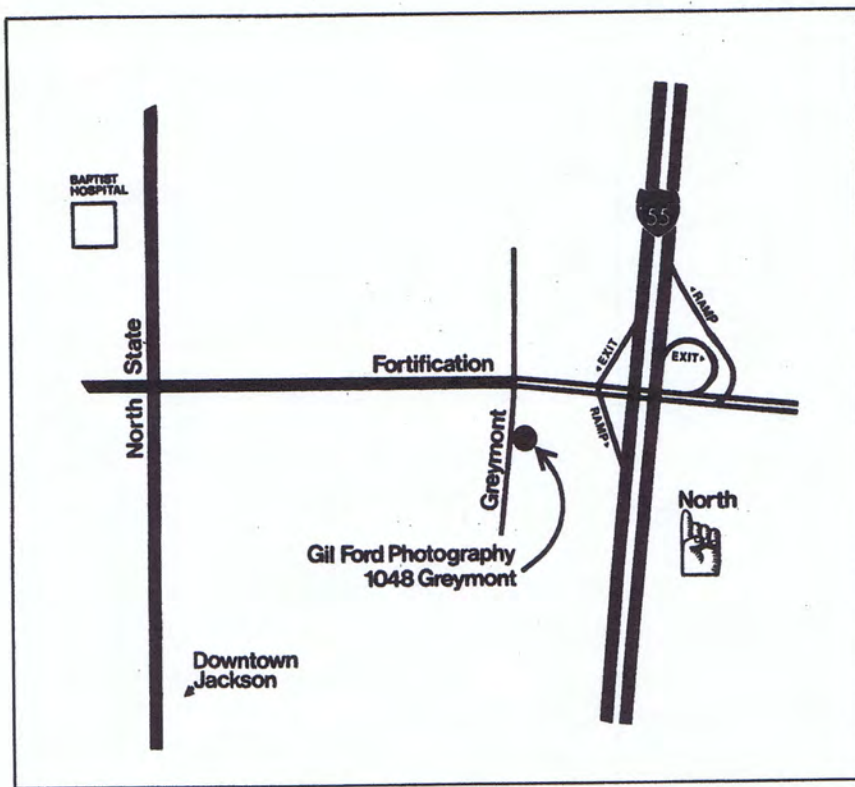
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- 1. Don't be left out — go to Gill Ford's studio between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday, at 1048 Greymont Avenue (phone 353-9675). Please identify yourself as a MGS member and fill out information sheet.**
- 2. If you live out of town or simply cannot make these photo sessions, then please send a 4" × 5" Black and White print to: Mississippi Geological Society, P. O. Box 422, Jackson, MS 39205-0422. On the back of the photo or on an accompanying sheet of paper please print (or type) the following information: your name; company affiliation, position or title, company address, and company phone number; home address and home phone number; college(s) attended, major subject, degree(s) obtained; and spouse's name.**



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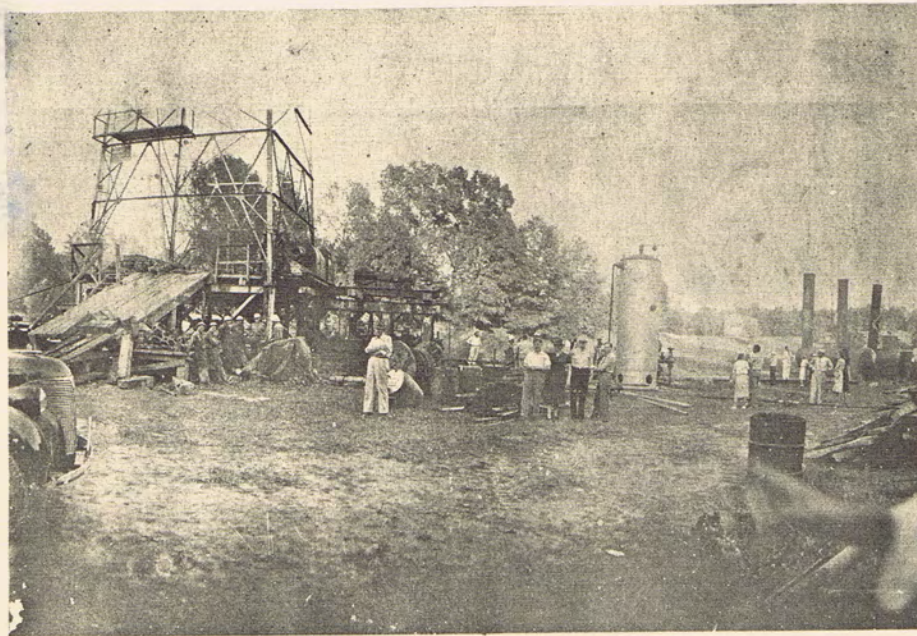


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Volume XXXIII

No. 2

October, 1985



1985-1986



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COVER: Union Producing Co. Woodruff No. 1 Discovery Well —
Tinsley Field, Yazoo Co., Mississippi, September, 1939

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Allright, my fellow rock-lickers, it's time to put away those stadium seats and Winnebagos and join the crowd, Estwings in hand, who will "return to Tinsley" for a unique trek through time with Fred Mellen. Seriously, gentlemen, we have avoided any in-town football games by scheduling our Field Trip for October 26, so please make plans to attend. We will leave from the cafeteria parking lot at Millsaps college at 7 a.m. that morning (see enclosed map for details). Lunch and refreshments will be provided, and we should return late that afternoon. Cost for the entire trip is only \$10.00 per person.

By the time you read this, you should have already received a postcard announcing the October 8 noon luncheon, one you should fill out and return with regards to the Field Trip. Friends, I know some members are still receiving their bulletins late. Well, blame our good friends at the Postal Service. Perhaps if we stamped "Bill" across the front, delivery would speed up. Nonetheless, we decided to alert you **first class** this time, to ensure adequate notice. However, remember this: for the last three bulletins, we have provided you with the **entire year's** noon luncheon schedule. So gripes about the luncheon dates will fall on deaf ears.

Speaking of frustration, a gremlin sneaked into the camera at the Fall Barbecue last month. Due to equipment failure or lack of sobriety, only three of the photographs taken were usable. Thus, the Photo Directory suffers another minor setback. Will those who obliged us then please return to do so at our October luncheon? We'll have another camera set up at that time.

I hope to see many of our members at the Convention in a couple of weeks. Several papers immediately applicable to our area will be presented, and I know that you'll want to make plans to attend.

Finally, now is the time to renew your membership. Have you done so? We'll give you until November 1. Bulletins only go out to 1985-86 members after that date. So don't miss out!

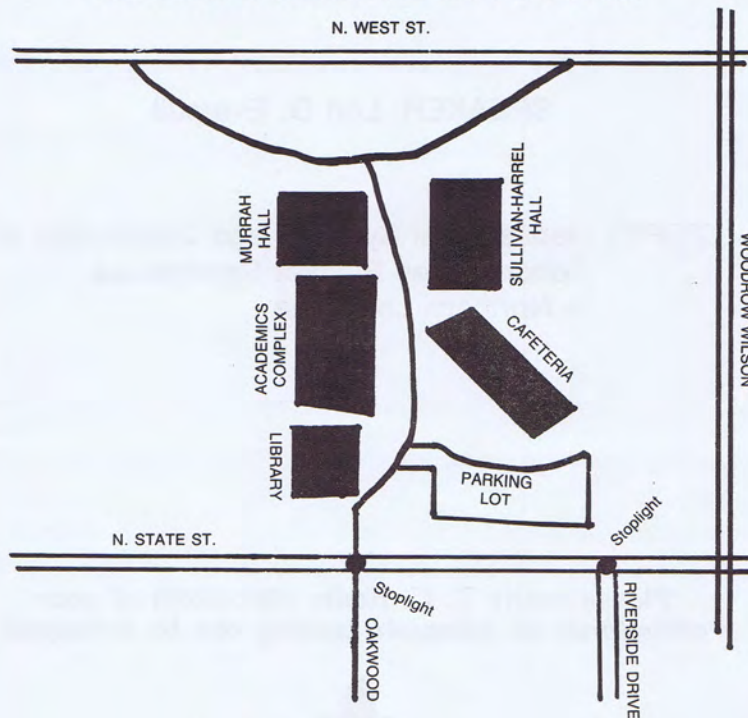
Steve Walkinshaw

TAKE NOTICE

Mississippi Geological Society

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Mississippi Geological Society
NOON MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1985
Smackover Room, Petroleum Club

SPEAKER: Lori G. Eversull

TOPIC: Depositional Systems and Distribution of
Cotton Valley Blanket Sandstones
In Northern Louisiana

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
attendance so adequate seating can be arranged.*





ABSTRACT
DEPOSITIONAL SYSTEMS AND DISTRIBUTION OF
COTTON VALLEY BLANKET SANDSTONES IN
NORTHERN LOUISIANA

By
LORI G. EVERSULL
Louisiana Geological Survey.
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

In northern Louisiana, the Terryville Sandstone of the Cotton Valley Group is composed of four regressive, massive sandstone members. These sandstones lie stratigraphically between the underlying marine shales of the Bossier Formation and the overlying Knowles Limestone. Extending updip from the two youngest sandstone members of the Terryville are at least 14 distinct sandstone tongues, or blanket sandstones.

These blanket sandstones thin progressively updip and eventually pinch out into the time-equivalent Hico Shale.

The sandstones can be divided into two groups based on thickness and extent. Sandstones of group I are generally less than 70 ft. (21 m) thick and extend across most of northern Louisiana. In group II, sandstones are rarely greater than 30 ft. (9 m) thick and are far less extensive, commonly occurring in isolated pods. Sandstones of both types are stacked vertically and are distributed across northern Louisiana in an enlongate, arcuate belt.

The Terryville sediments were delivered to a slowly subsiding shelf by two major marine-dominated delta systems. Marine processes spread the sediments across the shelf, forming massive sandstones. The blanket sandstones were produced when minor marine transgressions — resulting from eustatic sea level rise, deltaic subsidence, or both — caused the transportation of sediments northward from the area of massive sand accumulation. Local topographic relief on the shelf apparently had little effect on the distribution of the blanket sandstones, although overall deposition of the Cotton Valley Group was influenced by several local structures.

Cross sections and isopach maps produced in this study define precisely the distribution of the blanket sandstones and demonstrate the repetitive nature of the Cotton Valley sandstones.

Guest Speaker

Lori G. Eversull

Lori Eversull attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where she received a Bachelor and Master's Degree in Geology. She has worked for the Louisiana Geological Survey in Baton Rouge, Louisiana since 1980. She is also employed by the Basin Research Institute in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, which is a part of the Louisiana State University Geological Department. She has worked in various aspects of Louisiana geology such as; Lignite, deep basin studies, and Cotton Valley group. Ms. Eversull is currently working with the Basin Research Institute on a study of the Wilcox Group.



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Walter B. Sharp was the Texas oil industry's pioneer driller and producer. During his career he made outstanding contributions to the development of rotary drilling — a technique that made possible the first production of consequence in the South Texas area.

Sharp started in the oil business at Corsicana, Texas, in the early 1890's. Over the years — a fairly brief span of years, because of his untimely death in 1912 — he became one of the leading oilmen in the Gulf Coast and the Southwest. As head of the Moonshine and the Producers Oil Companies, he was chiefly responsible for the discoveries of the sour Lake, Humble, Batson, and West Columbia Fields.

When Walter Sharp began his career in oil, cable tool drilling was the only drilling method being used. Cable tools were fine for hard rock country, but almost useless in the soft formations of the Gulf Coast. Drillers in the salt domes of south Louisiana were eager to switch to the rotary method, but had not learned to keep their holes from caving in or how to control gas pressures they encountered. Sharp worked out a way to solve both problems by using drilling muds. He made rotary drilling practical in the region. Word of his success with mud spread, and rotary drilling quickly became the preferred technique in the Gulf Coast. Soon the word reached South Texas, where Captain Lucas and others put rotary drilling to sensationally good use.

Walter Sharp also helped develop the rock bit, which gave the rotary driller a tool that would bite through layers of hard rock. This made the rotary tool so efficient that before many years it had become the favored drilling technique all over oil country.

Walter Sharp died at the peak of his career, when he was 43. He died after helping extinguish one of the biggest well fires in the industry's history. It was at Shreveport, Louisiana. A big gusher had caught fire and Sharp — a large, powerful man — worked day and night to help put it out. Finally he (and friend Howard Hughes, Sr.) rigged up a machine to dig diagonally into the hole from a safe distance. The oil underground was led away from the fire it had been feeding, and soon the soaring flames dwindled and died. So, not long afterward, did one of the oil industry's producing pioneers. Overexertion while fighting the fire was the cause.

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PRESS RELEASE

The organizational meeting for the Mississippi Chapter of the Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists (S.I.P.E.S.) was held September 18, 1985. Thirteen of the original seventeen founding members were present. Elected officers for the coming year were:

Marvin L. Oxley Chairman
Hilton Ladner Vice Chairman
George Vockroth Secretary-Treasurer

SIPES is the only organization designed exclusively for the independent earth scientist who is free to choose his own clientele. Membership includes geologists, geophysicists, engineers, log analysts and other earth scientists.

One of the main activities of SIPES is to address political issues at the state and federal level which directly affect earth scientists. Jackson becomes the twelfth chapter formed in the nation.

W. L. Hardison financed the operations which made the birth of Union Oil Company of California possible. he also fathered the first law that made pipelines common carriers in Pennsylvania.

Hardison has been given credit for attempting the first oil well cementing job in an operation in California in 1883. When Hardison went to California to join his friend Lyman Stewart in an oil venture in Pico Canyon, he not only purchased and paid for two heavy rigs, but also hired a crew of 35 workers and guaranteed their wages for six months.

Hardison was a native of Maine. He made a fortune cutting ties for a transcontinental railroad before he was 27 years old. He then went to Titusville to visit his two brothers and Lyman Stewart, the man who had financially befriended them five years earlier.

They formed a partnership with a handclasp and mutual respect. They always addressed one another as "Mr. Hardison" (out of respect for his wealth) and "Mr. Stewart" (out of respect for his 10 years seniority and oil knowhow). They made a moderate fortune at Bradford in their first venture, but got fed up with cut-throat competition and sold out for \$135,000. Hardison went to Kansas, but in 1883 was lured to California by Stewart. In 1884 they formally organized Hardison and Stewart as a corporation. It was eight years, however, before they realized any return from the firm.

They built the first Pacific oil tanker and named it the *w. L. hardison*. Hardison invented a process for making printers ink from oil and formed the California Ink company. After merging with Thomas R. Bard to form Union Oil of California, Hardison gradually moved out of the oil business, selling most of his interest to Stewart.

He became interested in agriculture, opening a vast citrus and walnut grove. He also entered the newspaper business by acquiring the Los Angeles herald to promote the oil industry and politics, challenging H. G. Otis' Los Angeles Times.

Hardison was a massive man with bristling moustache, elastic stride, a restlessly brilliant mind, and a love for the rugged oil fields. He was genial, friendly, outgoing, impulsive and generous — a born promoter, politician and organizer.

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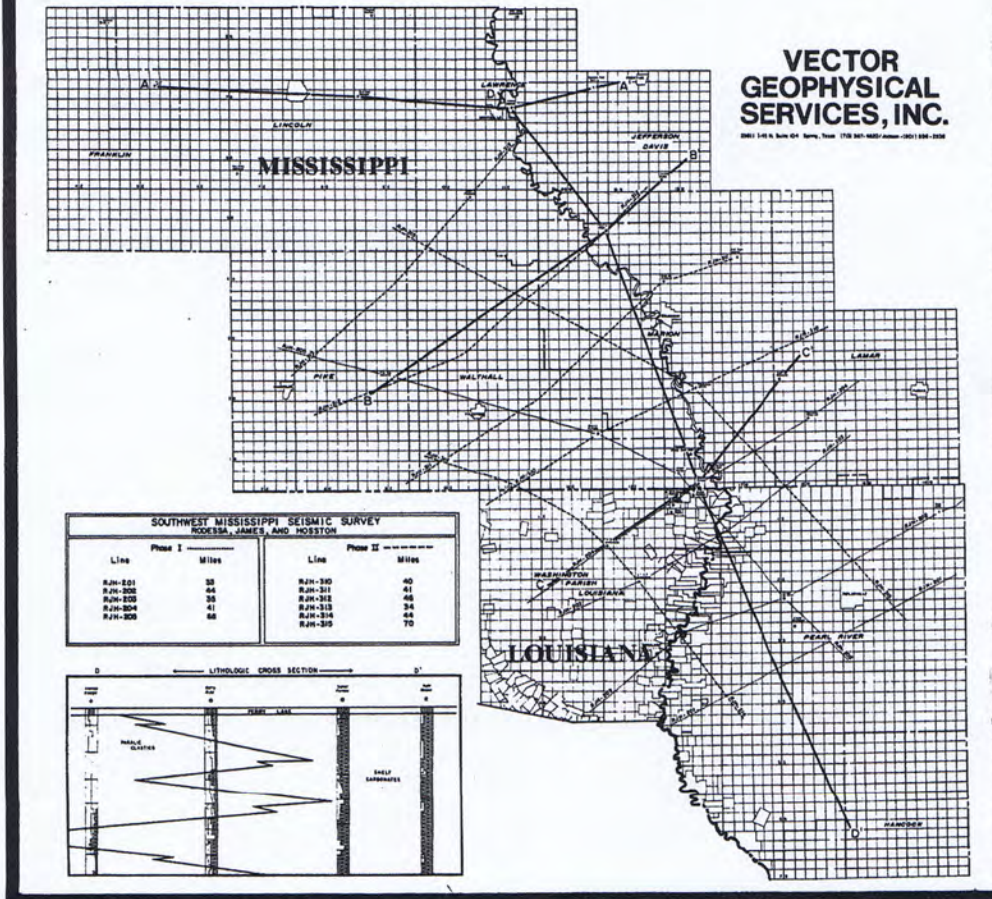
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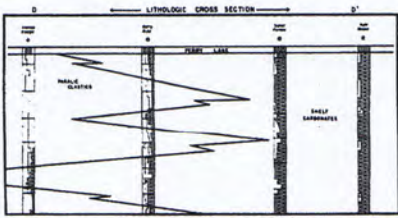
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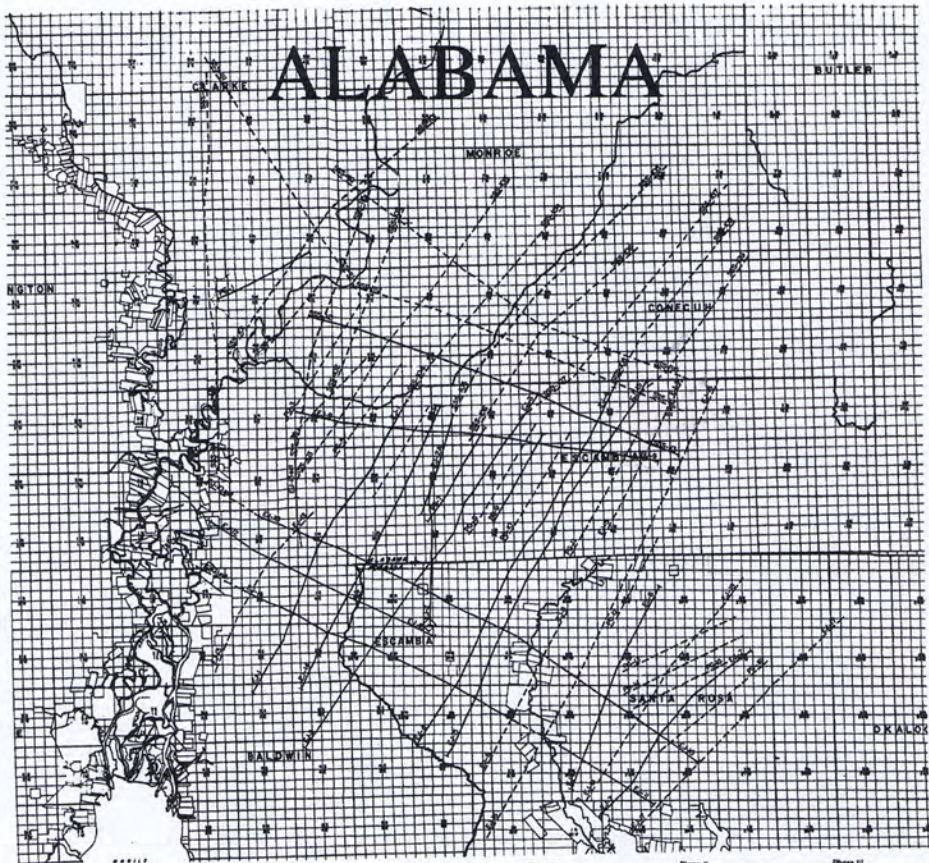


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E-4	61.5	E-4	25-33	SS-8	25	SS-9	25	PG-7	10	PG-8	25
E-5	90	E-5	30	SS-10	25	SS-11	25	PG-9	10-275		
E-6	22.5	E-6	45	SS-12	25	SS-13	25	PG-10	10		
E-7	22.5	E-7	30	SS-14	25	SS-15	25	PG-11	10-275		
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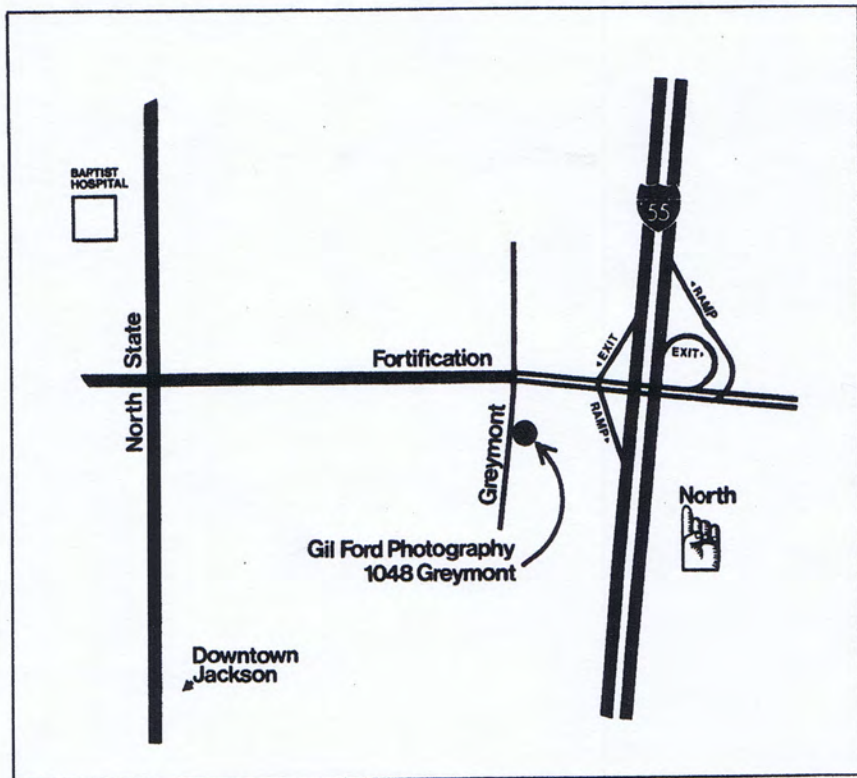
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- 2. If you live out of town or simply cannot make these photo sessions, then please send a 4" x 5" Black and White print to: Mississippi Geological Society, P. O. Box 422, Jackson, MS 39205-0422. On the back of the photo or on an accompanying sheet of paper please print (or type) the following information: your name; company affiliation, position or title, company address, and company phone number; home address and home phone number; college(s) attended, major subject, degree(s) obtained; and spouse's name.**



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Volume XXXIII

No. 3

November, 1985



1985-1986



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COVER: Lateral accretion bedding in a Menefee Formation channel.
Old Highway 44 Roadcut
San Juan Basin, New Mexico

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What an humbling experience, these forays into the field with Fred Mellen. I've trudged up and down Thompson Creek at Tinsley innumerable times, but it only took Fred a couple of minutes to gently enlighten me to the fact that this slick, greenish limy rock we were standing on (albeit somewhat precariously!) was actually the Lower Yazoo Clay Facies, not the Moody's Branch ("But the fossils, Fred!").

Well, the Field Trip was a resounding success. Our grateful thanks and acknowledgements to our Pennzoil hosts, including (but not limited to) Murph Shelton, F. L. Burgess, Mike Sherrill, and the timeless Lamar Chisholm. And, of course, Fred Mellen brought it all together, in his unique fashion. After all, he'd seen this field deliver its one hundred millionth barrel before I'd jumped into my first set of diapers. Thanks, Fred. Finally, Rosie Rhodes, with Amax Petroleum, was of invaluable assistance in coordinating the field trip, and we are indebted to her as well.

Members, we are forming a committee in the near future whose purpose will be to establish a liaison with the State Oil and Gas Board, with the objective of adopting well data requirements analogous to those of Alabama — i. e., more comprehensive — so as to halt the loss of invaluable well logs, core analyses, and test data which currently plagues our State's records. Please support us in this important task, as we feel it is one which demands immediate attention.

And, while I have your attention — have you renewed your membership yet? There are still over 300 members out there who have not provided a photograph for your Photo Directory — surely you're not one, are you? Does it seem like there's an echo in those words? You bet. Please help us wrap up these two Directories, or we will have to use those (ahem) **euphoric** mug shots we kept from the 1981 "Fall Barbecue" Directory — and believe me, you wouldn't want that.

Steve Walkinshaw

TAKE NOTICE

Mississippi Geological Society

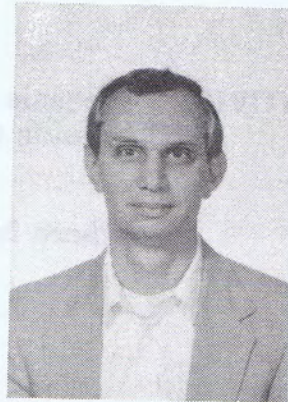
SPECIAL ELECTION

At the November 12 noon luncheon meeting of the Mississippi Geological Society, a special election will be held to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Rick Ericksen as Secretary.

The candidates for the position are:
Mike Clearman — Placid Oil Co. and
Stan Thieling — Independent



Mike Clearman



Stan Thieling



Mississippi Geological Society

NOON MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1985

Smackover Room, Petroleum Club

SPEAKER: John S. Janks

**TOPIC: Diagenesis of Cotton Valley Sandstones,
Catahoula Creek Field,**

Southern Mississippi

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
attendance so adequate seating can be arranged.*





ABSTRACT
DIAGENESIS OF COTTON VALLEY SANDSTONES,
CATAHOULA CREEK FIELD
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

By

JANKS, J. S.

Robertson Research U.S., Inc., Houston, TX
(Present address: Texaco USA, Houston, TX)

and

T. SANNESS and B. A. RASMUSSEN
SAGA Petroleum A/S, Hovik, Norway

Three conventional cores from the deep Cotton Valley clastics in south Mississippi were analyzed by thin-section petrography, scanning electron microscopy, x-ray diffraction, and cathodoluminescence. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values were determined on carbonate cements in sandstones. The sandstones are predominantly subarkose, arkose, and quartzarenites, with minor amounts of quartz and feldspathic wackes. K-feldspar, muscovite, and plagioclase are relatively fresh. Authigenic clay in sandstones is almost exclusively chlorite that occurs as a pore-lining and pore-filling phase, most commonly associated with porous zones. Feldspar diagenesis includes overgrowths of both potassic feldspar and albite. Typically fresh detrital K-feldspar grains have overgrowths of K-feldspar that are partly dissolved, whereas plagioclase grains (with partly dissolved interiors) have unaltered albite overgrowths. Quartz overgrowth development is pervasive where not hindered by chlorite. Carbonates include intergranular calcite, dolomite, and iron-rich dolomite. The earliest phase is a pore-lining dolomite cement, followed by a later ferroan calcite. ferroan dolomite (or ankerite) is associated with chlorite in relatively porous intervals. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of mixed carbonates in sandstones range from -0.8 to -4.4 ‰ (PDB), which is typical of normal

marine carbonates. The $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values range from -5.0 to -12.3 ‰ (PDB). Formation temperatures of approximately 115°-160°C are suggested by the oxygen isotope data from almost pure late-stage ferroan dolomite.

Petrographic evidence suggests that coarser grained sands were cemented early in the burial history by dolomite and calcite. These cements were later leached by formation waters, possibly related to the generation of organic acids and/or carbon dioxide released during kerogen maturation. Resultant secondary porosity was preserved by formation of bladed chlorite. The source of the iron, manganese, and magnesium necessary for chlorite formation was presumably the release of ions from smectite to illite conversion in shales, because ferromagnesian rock fragments in the sandstones are rare. The feldspar volume and stability and the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of carbonate cements suggest the pore water was probably initially seawater and later brine that migrated upward from the Louann Salt. Present brines contain 7,300 ppm of potassium and 51,113 ppm of sodium. meteoric diagenesis of these rocks was likely minimal. These data suggest that original depositional porosities and permeabilities and carbonate cementation are significant controls in secondary porosity formation in the Cotton Valley sandstones.

Guest Speaker

John S. Janks

John S. Janks joined the Texaco Houston Research Center as a research geologist in December 1983. His work involves organic-inorganic geochemistry and its effect on sandstones, x-ray diffraction methodology, and petrographic image analysis. Before joining Texaco he worked with Robertson Research (U.S.) Inc. on reservoir analysis and regional study projects. Earlier experience involved drilling and stimulation fluid research and application.

He has a BA (Monmouth College) and MS (University of Illinois at Chicago degree in geology).

JOHN WASHINGTON STEELE (1853-1920)(Coal Oil Johnny)

The wild, fanciful, highly exaggerated stories of one man have vexed the oil industry for more than 100 years, doing violence to its public image and supplying the unfriendly with ammunition for attacking oilmen everywhere.

The man was John Washington Steele, known to the world as Coal Oil Johnny. Steele was never an oilman. He was an orphan boy, taken in with a sister, in 1845, by the Culberson McClintock family on Oil Creek, Venango County, Pennsylvania, across from Rouseville.

When Culberson McClintock died in 1855, he left his farm to his adopted son, John Steele, in trust to his wife. As a boy, Steele became a student of the Bible, went to school with classmates Lyman Stewart, founder of Union Oil, and Dan Schofield, later president of Standard of California. he married the eldest daughter of a well-to-do farmer, worked in the oil fields, and obtained a partnership in a grocery business.

In the meantime, the McClintock farm was under lease and money was no problem. Then Mrs. McClintock was killed in a stove explosion and the young, naive farm boy became the beneficiary of a growing fortune from oil production.

He became the victim of lawyers, businessmen, and even doctors. Finally he fell into the hands of Seth Slocum, a black sheep city slicker, who introduced him to the wild life of the big city. For about a year Steele led a profligate life on one of the wildest spending sprees in recorded history, running the gamut of drunken parties, horse racing, half interest in a circus, enormous tipping, unconventional clothing, gambling, and other acts of excess. finally, with all of his money gone, his wife and father-in-law forgave and took him back into the family. Thereafter he lived a quiet and sedate life of hard work.

But the harm had been done. The press had had a heyday with him. The image of the extravagant oilman had been created, largely by news reporters who exaggerated further even his most outrageous acts.

In 1920 when he died, Steele was a railroad employee in Nebraska. but his spree lingers on, and all oilmen still live in its shadow, although Steele himself never invested a nickel i oil or drilled a single well.

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HERMAN FRASCH (1851-1914)

Not many in his day knew more about the chemistry of the complex mixture of hydrocarbons and did more with his knowledge than Herman Frasch.

It was Frasch who perfected a desulphurization process for crude oil which made Ohio and Indiana oil profitable for the first time. Later untold reserves of sour crude were made useable by this process.

When he was only 24 years old Frasch invented a recovery process for tin scrap and soon afterwards a method for the manufacture of white lead from galena.

Frasch was the man who first suggested that worn-out oil wells might be treated with hydrochloric acid to enlarge pores and develop connecting channels by dissolving parts of limestone formations.

By far, Frasch's greatest invention was the process for melting underground sulphur with superheated water and pumping it out under pressure. It was upon the basis of this invention that he founded and headed the Union Sulphur Company. Today more than 80 per cent of the world's sulphur, which would have otherwise been unrecoverable, is produced by the Frasch method. he is the founder, therefore, of the rich American sulphur industry.

Due largely to his desulphurization patents, Frasch sold out to Standard Oil Company and became its first director of research. he made hundreds of contributions in all fields of petroleum research, including the perfection of an improved and important process for refining paraffin. Other Frasch processes in refining, production, and drilling helped accelerate progress of the industry.

Herman Frasch was born in Gaildorf, Wurtemberg, Germany, the son of the burgomaster. he migrated to the U.s. in 1870 when he was 19 years old. he was a stubby little German chemist with a Van Dyke beard, beribboned eyeglasses, and a thick German accent. he was a sound chemist, a resourceful engineer, a shrewd businessman, and a master salesman. He was calculating, venturesome, creative, and farsighted.

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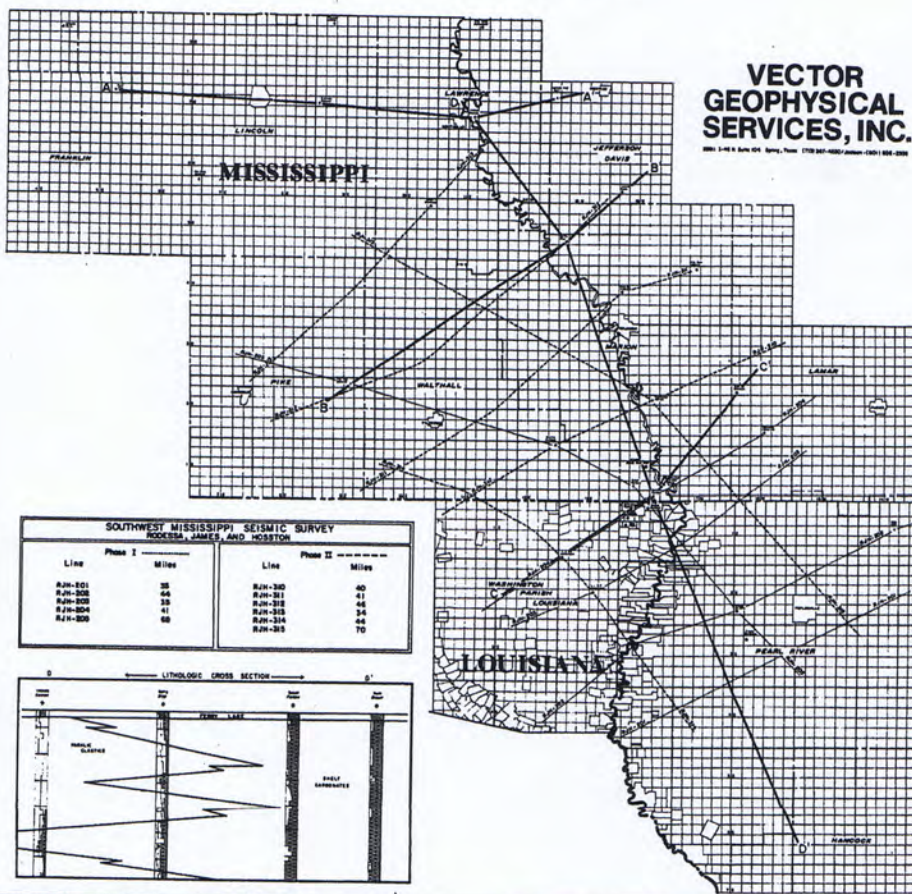
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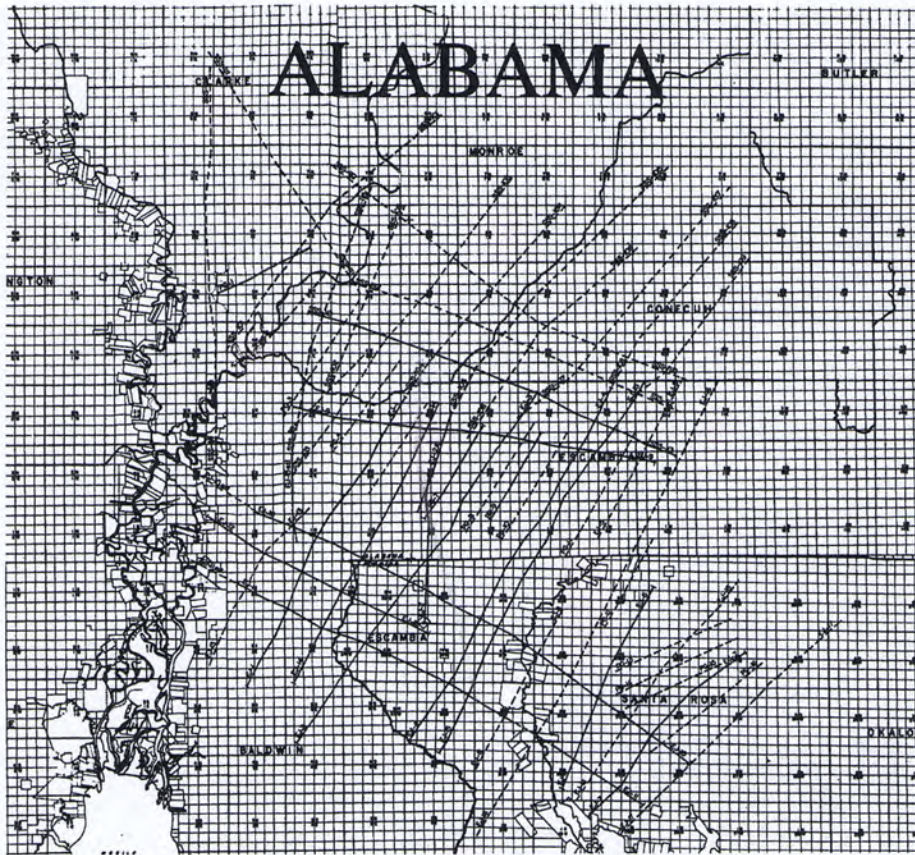
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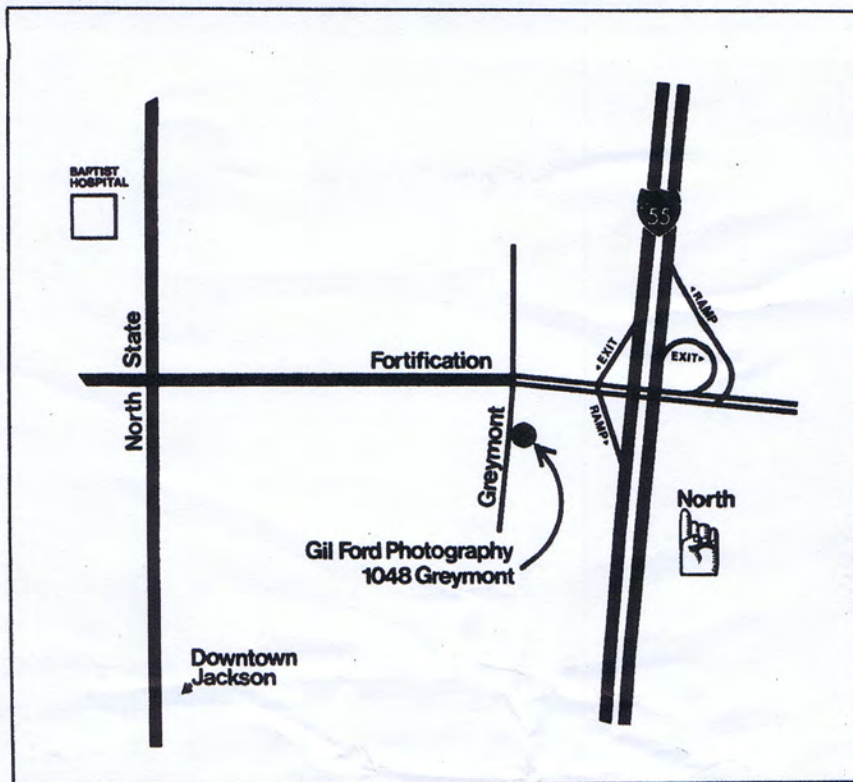
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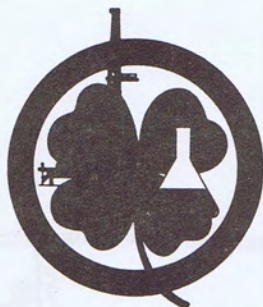
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1985-1986



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Someone remarked to me recently that the most accurate barometer of the oil patch was the number of corporate Christmas parties thrown each year. While I can't deny that, I acknowledge the fact that, for most of the industry, Santa's been a bit thin lately. I propose a New Year's Resolution, however, that I would hope the majority of us would take to heart:

"I pledge, whenever possible, to substitute optimism for pessimism in my business attitude". Friends, sometimes we are our own worst enemies. Perception of "good times" must always precede their arrival, an observation we'd do well to remember. Here's to a good year.

Your Society was busy at last month's luncheon. Stan Theiling has been elected as Secretary, replacing Rick Ericksen, who resigned two months ago. He's already hard at work, and a welcome addition. Our congratulations go out to the recipients of this year's L.P. Boland Scholarship Awards, who appear on this bulletin's cover. Each college senior received \$800.00 for his/her exemplary work in a geology curriculum. In order, they are: Scott Fisher — Mississippi State, Nancy Stafford — Millsaps, Robert Wharton — Ole Miss, Peg Boland, Michael Fortunato — Southern Mississippi.

It is also my pleasure to update you on the formation of a committee to propose stricter, more thorough regulations for adoption by the State Oil & Gas Board.

The committee has been selected, and consists of the following members: Will Knight, Harry Spooner, Charlie Williams, Verne Culbertson, and myself, who will represent and report to the Society on the committee's recommendations. Specifically, its objective will be to stem the loss of well data due to insufficient requirements and enforcement of them inherent in the current Board regulations. Many of our members are very opinionated regarding this issue — let us hear from you, please.

Millsaps once again is offering "Geology 302: An Introduction to Petroleum Geology" as a thorough beginner's course for students, staff and business associates. Our own George Vockroth will be at the helm. Please contact Wendell Johnson at 354-5201 for further information.

Finally, we have an excellent speaker on hand for our THURSDAY, December 12, noon luncheon. He is Dr. Clyde Moore, Director of the Basin Research Institute at LSU. Dr. Moore is well known to many of us for his excellent carbonate research, and the paper he will be presenting is certainly pertinent: "Regional Jurassic Smackover Dolomitization: Importance, Origin and Controls". Please make plans to attend, and phone in your reservations to T.C. Rader at 601/969-3286. And have a Merry Christmas.

Steve Walkinshaw



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Submit abstracts by

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Mississippi Geological Society

NOON MEETING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1985

Smackover Room, Petroleum Club

SPEAKER: Clyde H. Moore

**TOPIC: Regional Jurassic Smackover
Dolomitization: Importance, Origin, and
Controls**

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
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ABSTRACT
REGIONAL, JURASSIC SMACKOVER DOLOMITIZATION:
IMPORTANCE, ORIGIN AND CONTROLS

By
CLYDE H. HOORE
Director, LSU Basin Research Institute

One of the most important reservoir types in the Jurassic Smackover consists of oomoldic dolomite. These dolomite reservoirs can exhibit excellent commercial porosity and permeability while their limestone counterparts are consistently tight. Dolomitization of upper Smackover lime grainstones occurred in three major episodes; an early episode associated with oomoldic porosity development, a long-term subsurface event associated with progressive pressure solution, and a dolomite cementation event associated with subsurface brines. The early dolomitization event tied to oomoldic porosity is regional in distribution and is the major economic porosity type in the Smackover of East Texas, Alabama and Florida. The later subsurface dolomites act to occlude, rather than enhance, porosity and permeability in the upper Smackover.

The distribution of early Smackover oomoldic dolomites seems to be tied to the occurrence of massive evaporites in the Haynesville Buckner member directly overlying the Smackover. Progressive increases in the percentage of early dolomite occurring in the upper Smackover adjacent to the overlying Buckner evaporites further tie Smackover dolomitization are controlled by primary porosity (distribution of grainstones) in the Smackover.

The model for early Smackover dolomitization consists of the following elements:

1. Development of a fresh meteoric water system in the updip areas of the upper Smackover giving rise to oomoldic porosity, and partial calcite cementation.
2. Development of a rimmed carbonate shelf margin during a rising sea level at the beginning of the Kimmeridgian, forming an evaporite lagoon overlying the Smackover platform.
3. Reflux of heavy evaporite brines (with high Mg/Ca) into porous upper Smackover ooid grainstones below, mixing with the Smackover regional meteoric water system, triggering a mixing dolomitization event.

This model is consistent with regional facies patterns and sedimentation history of the units involved, geochemistry of the dolomite and the observed burial history of the Smackover. The Buckner lagoon mixing model should be a valuable predictive exploration tool for those seeking favorable upper Smackover reservoir trends.

Guest Speaker

Clyde H. Moore
Louisiana State University

Presently Director of the newly formed Basin Research Institute and Professor, Department of Geology, L.S.U., Baton Rouge, LA. He has been with L.S.U. since January 1966 as an Assistant, Associate and Full Professor. During his tenure at L.S.U., Dr. Moore has been a consultant to a number of major oil companies, has been active in the continuing education program of the AAPG and was named an AAPG Distinguished Lecturer in 1978. Before joining L.S.U., Dr. Moore was a Research Geologist with Shell Development Co. in Austin, San Angelo, Houston and Ventura, California. He received his Ph.D. and M.S. degrees from the University of Texas at Austin and his B.S. from L.S.U. His research interests are carbonate petrology, geochemistry, burial diagenesis, sedimentology, and stratigraphy. He has been actively engaged in research in the Mesozoic of the Gulf Coast, St. Croix, Grand Cayman, Jamaica and the Bahamas in the Caribbean and Enewetak in the central Pacific.

Thomas R. Bard drilled the first commercial oil well in California in 1867 and became the first president of Union Oil Company of California in 1890.

Bard's first commercial well, which was started late in 1866, was not the first in the state but it was the first classified as commercial. It was the Ojai No. 6, drilled for T.A. Scott's Philadelphia and California Petroleum Company on Rancho Ojai, north of Santa Paula.

Bard was a native of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. A remarkable man, he had an indefinable inner warmth and sympathy for others. He was free of subtlety and guile and disliked all forms of indirection in dealing with people. Blessed with powers of sustained application, Bard acquired a reading knowledge of Greek at Chambersburg Academy. He also became highly proficient in mathematics and the natural sciences.

He refused a scholarship to Princeton and elected to read and study law in the hometown office of Judge George Chambers. In his youth he was a surveyor, a lawyer, and an accountant, as well as a collector of bad accounts for a freight forwarding company.

In 1864 he became the California representative of Thomas Alexander Scott, who, besides being Assistant Secretary of War and Vice President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, had accumulated an oil fortune.

Even after the Ojai 6 came in, Bard advised Scott that California oil production possibilities did not seem to offer the potential to match his investments.

Thomas Bard chose to remain in California where he engaged in land surveying, legal work, real estate, shipping, agriculture, and other ventures. Upon Scott's death in 1881, Bard was named administrator of his widespread estates in California. In 1872 he had become the largest individual stockholder in Union Oil of California; he resigned the presidency in 1894. In 1900, after being elected to the Senate, he terminated his formal association with Union, although he often aided the company financially after that.

He served one term in the U.S. Senate and was defeated in 1905 when he refused, absolutely, to actively participate in the campaigning for reelection.

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Barnsdall, son of the illustrious William Barnsdall, who drilled the second commercial oil well in the United States and built the first refinery to use crude oil, made his Bradford discovery when he was only 21 years old.

Before he was 40 he had made discoveries in New York, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, Texas, Kansas, and California, and was exploring in Oklahoma where he owned a top lease on the entire 640,000 acres of the Osage nation, covering a thousand square miles.

He formed more than 100 corporations, brought natural gas to a dozen states, including Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana. He once owed the Standard Oil Company more than \$11 million without creating a single worry in the great company about his ability to finally discharge his obligation.

He was a giant of a man, standing six feet and four inches in height and weighing some 250 pounds. A magnificent man of tremendous compassion, he never turned down a man in need or trouble and financed an army of young men with ability and ideas, many of whom became leaders in petroleum and other industries.

Barnsdall lost all of his Osage nation leases except 18,759 acres pursuant to a 1915 tribal resolution and what Barnsdall described as Washington politics. This incident probably prevented him from becoming bigger than any company in existence.

In 1905 he and G.T. Braden formed the Osage and Oklahoma Company, the first time the name “Oklahoma” was ever used in connection with an oil company. Barnsdall’s operations, both private and corporate, covered the nation. When he died, a nation of oilmen mourned the loss of one of their greatest friends and leaders. Only a year earlier he had started a \$150 million project at the age of 65.

In 1950 the old Barnsdall Oil Company holdings were merged into the Sunray Oil Company, later to become Sunray DX Oil Company.

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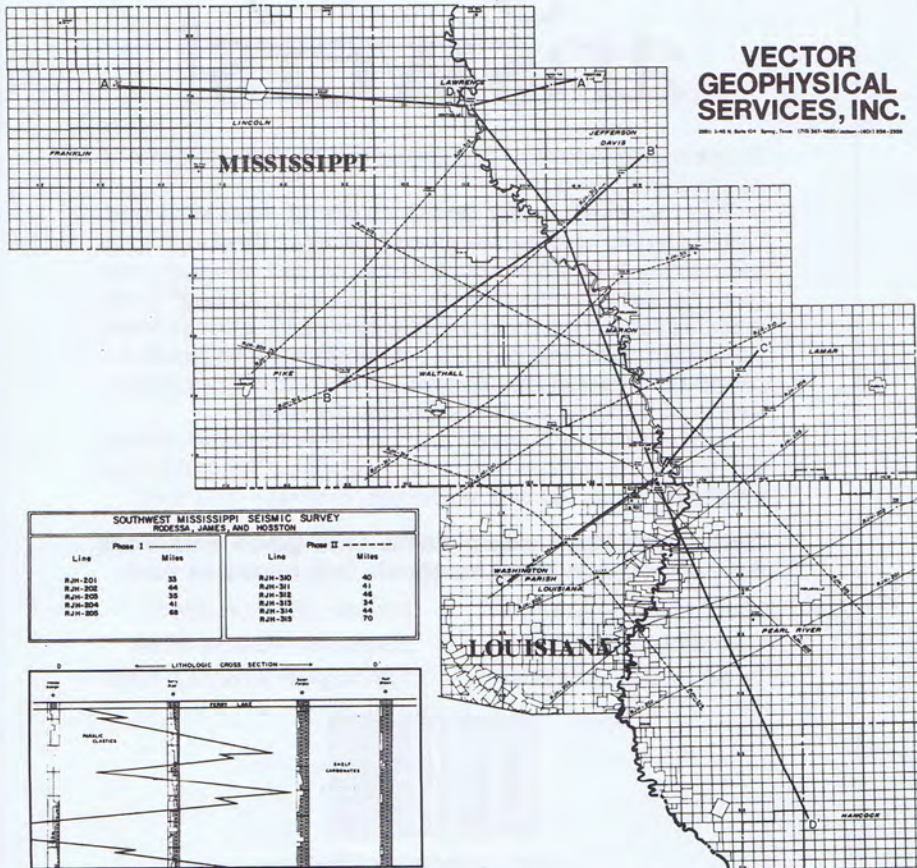
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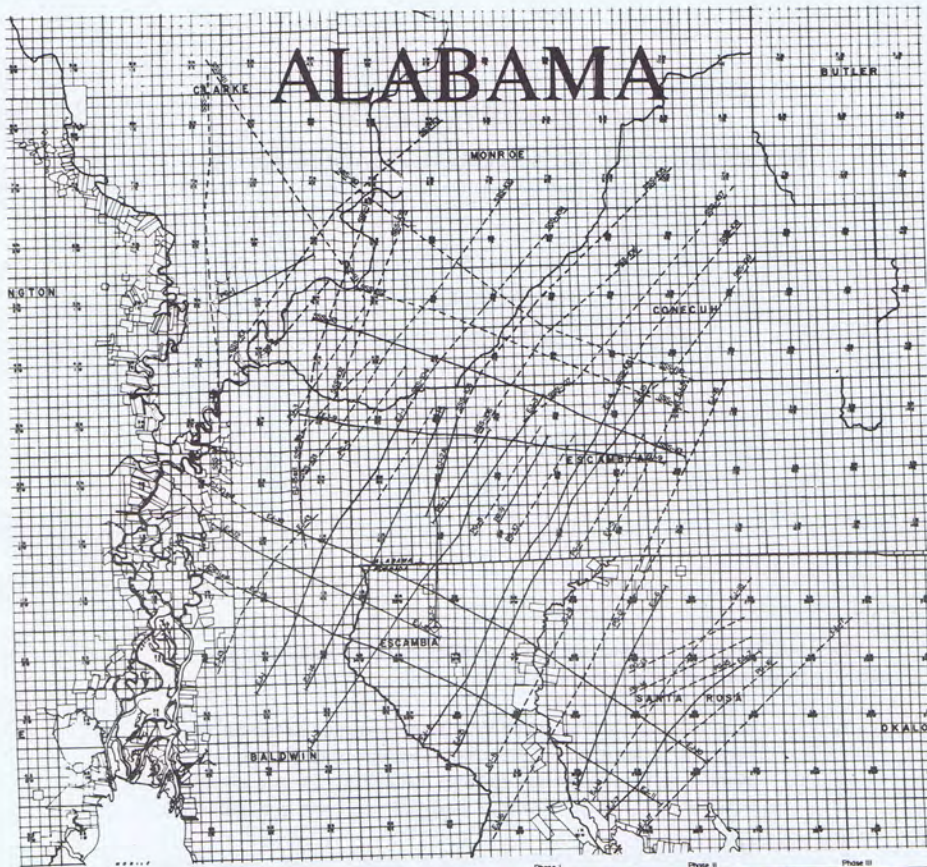
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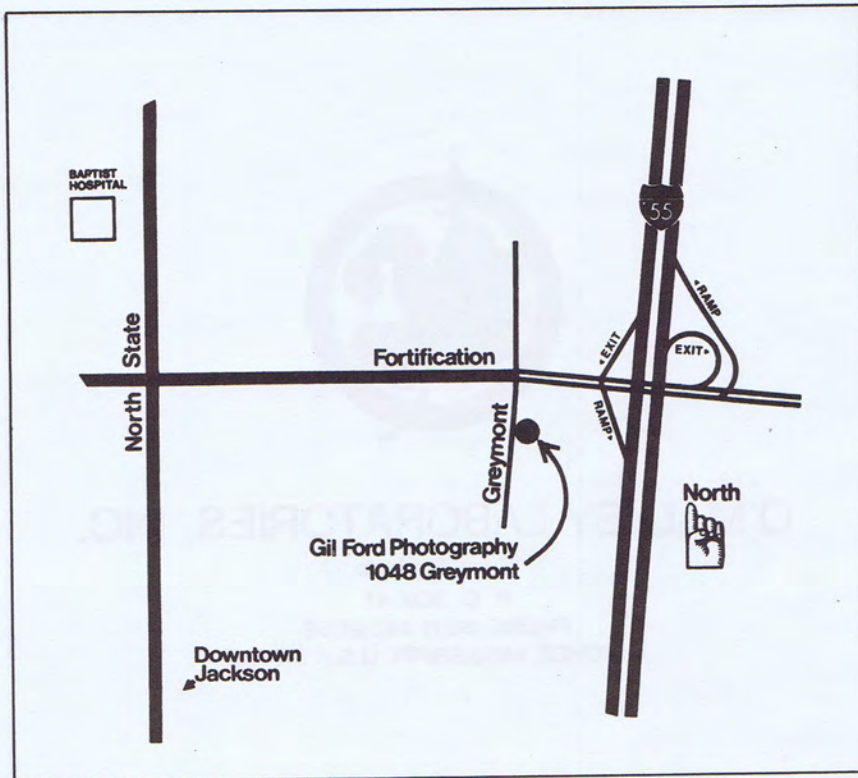
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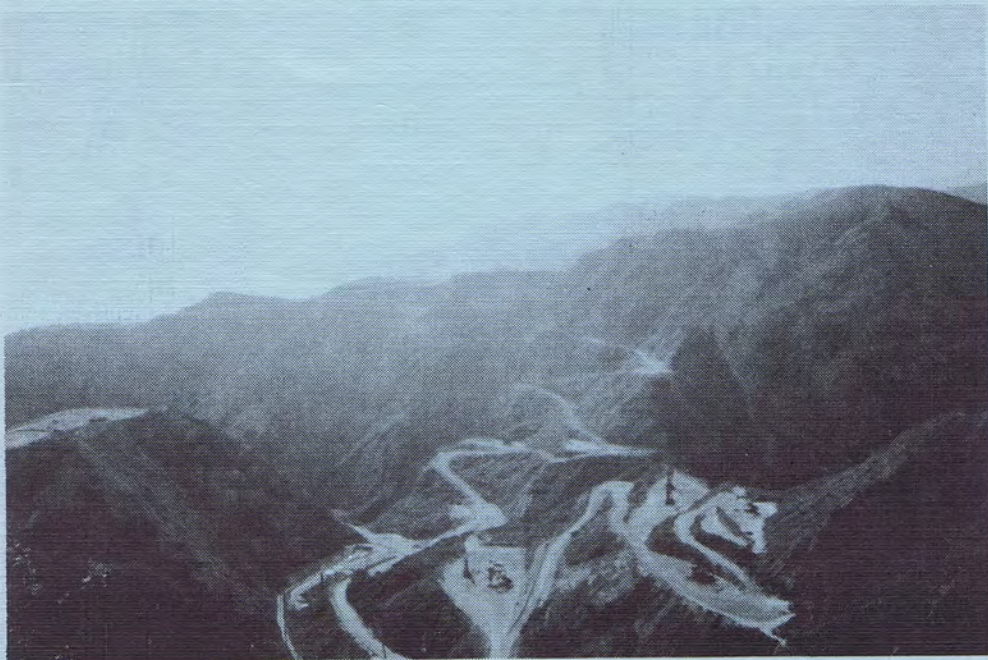


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Volume XXXIII

No. 5

January, 1986



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! To kick this year's program off, we are happy to bring you "A Petroleum Geologist's Visit to the Oil Fields of China", presented by George Vockroth, at the January Noon Luncheon, January 14. George will bring a fascinating account of the Oriental oil patch, if you will, to life with a slide show and narrative. Make plans to attend and phone your reservations in, please.

Turning over some new leaves? Good! Send us that Photo Directory snapshot you've been keeping. Friends, if you committed to producing a field map for the Red Book, you're six months late — if that map's still rolled up in your file. Finally, if you still haven't paid your membership dues, please do so immediately. Our "reminder" cards mailed last month netted over 90 tardy members, and more are coming in daily. Don't be left out.

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SPEAKER: George B. Vockroth

**TOPIC: A Petroleum Geologist's Visit To
The Oil Fields of China.**

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
attendance so adequate seating can be arranged.*



ABSTRACT
A PETROLEUM GEOLOGIST'S VISIT TO THE
OIL FIELDS OF CHINA

By

George Vockroth

Vantage Oil Company

In May and June of last year a group of 39 oil men and their wives toured China for three weeks at the invitation of the Chinese Oil Minister.

The trip was arranged by People to People International, an organization founded by Dwight Eisenhower in the fifties.

The purpose was to exchange technology under the Citizen Ambassador Program of the People to People organization.

The group visited a geophysical processing center, research labs and an oil field in westernmost China's Sinjiang Province.

The westernmost stop was in Kashgar on the famed silk road at the edge of the Taklamakan Desert.

Guest Speaker
George Vockroth

Presently sole proprietor of Vantage Oil Company, George Vockroth was born May 16, 1928 in Atlanta, Georgia. He graduated with a B.S. in Engineering Geology from Virginia Tech and received his Masters in Geology from Harvard.

Mr. Vockroth joined Chevron in 1951 and retired as Staff Geologist in 1977. He formed Vantage Oil Company in the same year as a general partnership.

Professionally, he is a member of SPE, SPWLA, AAPG, AIPG, SIPES, and the Mississippi Association of Petroleum Landmen.

Mr. Vockroth is also an Adjunct Professor of Geology at Millsaps College.

WILLIAM GRAY WARDEN (1831-1895)

William Warden, the founding member of Warden, Frew & Company, established the Atlantic Refining Company in 1870.

Ten years earlier Warden, Frew & Company had been formed in Philadelphia as one of the first oil exporting firms. This partnership merged with Peter Wright and Sons to become the Atlantic Petroleum Storage Company and built a small refinery in Philadelphia in 1866.

The moving spirit behind these organizations was Warden. A large man with a mustache and sideburns, he was genial, volatile, exuberant, and always optimistic. In addition, he was a bold speculator, prone to shocking his associates with highly advanced ideas in business.

An inventive man, Warden patented a petroleum distillation process in 1871 and an improved cylindrical tank car with a dome in 1872.

In the controversial and chaotic days of 1872, Warden and another partner, Charles Lockhart, advanced a scheme to unite the industry's refining interests and to make peace with producers following the debacle of the South Improvement Company, in which Warden was a major stockholder.

The largest refiner in Philadelphia, Warden agreed in 1874 to transfer his refinery holdings to the Standard Oil Company for stock. He became one of the nine trustees of the Standard Oil Trust in 1882 after having become a director in Ohio Standard in the 1870's and a member of the executive committee in 1878.

In 1885 he advocated a system of bulk stations throughout the country to be administered from New York with one price for all, an idea not widely held at that time.

In the later 1880's Warden became preoccupied with the United Gas Improvement Company and Philadelphia real estate and dropped out of the ranks of top petroleum executives.

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DR. WILLIAM MERIAM BURTON (1865-1954)

Dr. William M. Burton is the father of modern petroleum refining. After receiving his Ph.D. in chemistry from Johns Hopkins University in 1890, he joined Standard of Indiana.

Dr. Burton was born in Cleveland in 1865, the son of a physician who was a neighbor of John D. Rockefeller.

Even before the birth of the liquid fuel age, Dr. Burton predicted that demand for gasoline would soon exceed that for kerosene. In 1909 he started experiments which led to the first commercialized process for thermal cracking. These experiments have led to the modern techniques that enable refiners to recover an ever-increasing yield of gasoline from a barrel of crude oil.

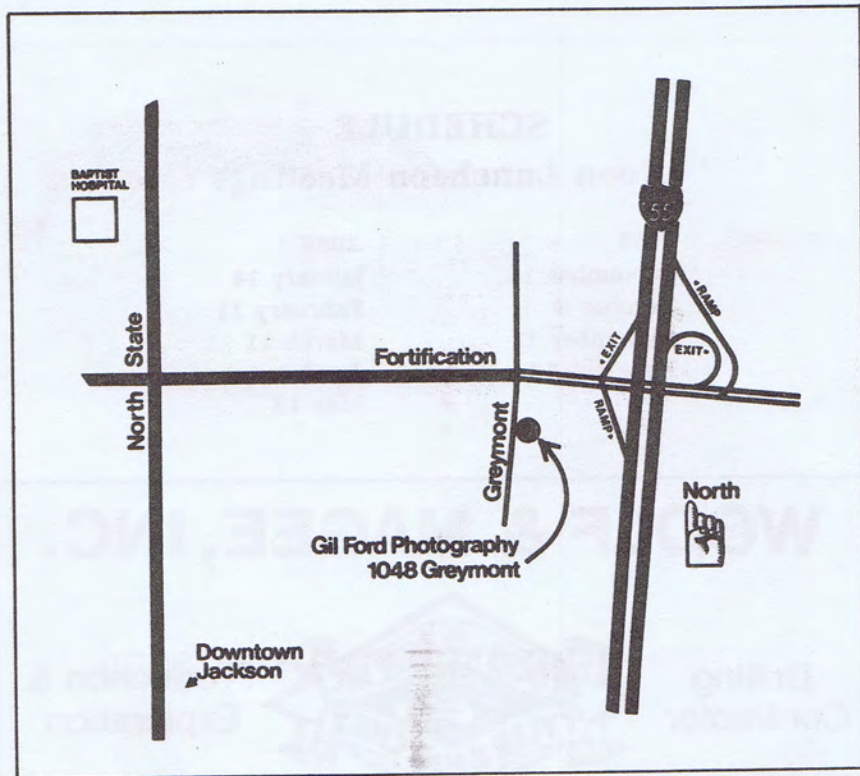
On January 7, 1913, he was granted a patent of his process for thermal cracking. That same year, the first cracking stills to replace the old straight line distillation method that served the industry for its first half century went into operation at Standard's Whiting, Indiana, refinery.

His rise with Standard of Indiana was rapid. In 1895 he became general superintendent of the company's Whiting refinery. In 1911 he was elected a director of the company. He became vice president in 1915 and president in 1918.

One of the most honored scientists in petroleum history, Dr. Burton was awarded the Willard Gibbs Medal in 1918 and the Perkins Medal in 1922 for his contributions to petroleum chemistry. In 1947 he was awarded the American Petroleum Institute's Gold Medal for distinguished achievement.

Dr. Burton, a handsome, intelligent, industrious and resourceful person, made chemical discoveries which led to tremendous gains in demand for crude oil.

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February, 1986



1985-1986



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COVER: North view along dike of Shiprock, a volcanic neck outside
Farmington, New Mexico.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month's guest speaker at the Noon Luncheon, February 11th, will be Dr. Hugh Mitchell — Tapping, of Sun International. His paper, "Exploring For Oil in the Sunniland Formation of South Florida", promises to be an interesting discussion of that most challenging trend. It's no secret that the rarest species in the Everglades is the petroleum geologist, a situation which may change as more is learned about the algal-rudist mound reservoirs of the Sunniland. Please phone in your reservations and make plans to attend.

February finds your Society busy with many ongoing projects. The Membership Directory, Photo Directory and Red Book are all in various stages of completion, and the directories should be reaching your mailbox soon. The Well Data Committee is progressing nicely with its agenda, the topic of which I will be updating you in forthcoming bulletins. We are also working on placing a historical marker at Tinsley, to commemorate the first commercial oil discovery in Mississippi, and are underway with plans for an expanded Spring Fling in late May. In fact, shrimp might reappear as the main item on the menu for this year's Fling. Judging on the popularity of those little beasties with our members, perhaps it would be a good opportunity to get **next year's** membership renewals then . . . never to early, I always say . . .

See you at the luncheon.

Steve Walkinshaw

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An AAPG slide tape series continuing education course, presented by Fred Read at the 1983 Fall Education Conference in Houston, will be shown at the following time and place:

Chuck Peel - Survey

Time:

Monday, February 3rd - 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Place:

Capital City Petroleum Club

Cost:

\$14 per person which includes meal

Topics Include:

ramps, rimmed shelves, drowned shelves and isolated platforms, using both ancient and modern examples. Major oil fields will be discussed in the presentation with respect to facies, morphology of platforms and diagenetic controls.

We would like to limit the tape series to the first 20 to sign up.

Contact Vaughn Watkins, 354-1069, for further information.



Mississippi Geological Society

NOON MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1986

Smackover Room, Petroleum Club

SPEAKER: Hugh Mitchell — Tapping

**TOPIC: Exploring For Oil In The Sunniland
Formation of South Florida**

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
attendance so adequate seating can be arranged.*



ABSTRACT
EXPLORING FOR OIL IN THE
SUNNILAND FORMATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA
By
HUGH MITCHELL-TAPPING
Sun International

"EXPLORING FOR OIL IN THE SUNNILAND FORMATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA"

Explorationists may not realize that the South Florida basin will be the place of major discoveries in the next five years. Leases are now available, production is oil, and good prospects can be developed. Oil production in the basin has been increasing, such as, the Sunniland field with over 18 MMBO recovered, Lehigh Acres with 4MMBO from five wells, Sun's Felda field with more than 35 MMBO recovered in 19 years, and a large field at Racoon Point is currently under development. Since exploration started 73 years ago, only a little over 200 wells, both wildcat and development, have been drilled in this basin. Although exploration methods initially relied on gravity and magnetics, subsequent geophysical methods have proved disappointing. Effective exploration in this area applies petrology, sedimentology, and electric-log response. The biostratigraphy of the Sunniland Formation pay zone is not the same in all the fields. Facts that can be used in future exploration were documented from the study of many cores and thin sections. The deposits that form the producing fields of south Florida are considered as leached mounds of debris covered in part by algae and composed of skeletal fragments. The mounds were deposited in very shallow water near a tidal mudflat; very similar to those found in Florida Bay today. Generally, each mound has a core of rudist and gastropod particles covered mainly by algal plates, and usually with a concentration of other pelecypod and gastropod fragments seaward and many foraminifera shoreward of the mound. The main lithological sections of the Sunniland Formation are mudstones, dolomite, limestone-dolomite, limestone, and limestone-anhydrite. In the mudstones the principal biota are ostracods, miliolids, small rudist particles, and other pelecypods. In the other sections algae, gastropods, larger foraminifera, and larger rudist fragments are usually present. All the larger particles are usually microbored, fractured, and covered with a micrite coating.

Although there appears to be predictable location trends to the producing fields, in actual fact only the type of assemblage can be predicted with any certainty. The understanding of the assemblages and their relationship to the paleoenvironment is at present the only predictable method of exploration in this formation. Exploration for these kinds of oil reservoirs in south Florida should be a combination of petrological analysis, recognition of facies on the electric-log responses, well correlation and cross sections. But it must be stressed that it is very important to realize that log-response similarities are not time-stratigraphic equivalent. Mapping of the lithologic and biostratigraphic facies in the basin are essential to both onshore and offshore exploration in this basin, but contouring must be done with the depositional model in mind and with an understanding of the subsequent diagenetic effects on the strata. Economically viable prospects in this basin are time-consuming to generate. The basic well correlations and petrology must first be understood before intelligent mapping can proceed. Analysis of the producing zones in the various fields can determine both target zones in each area and potential reservoir quality.

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Guest Speaker

Hugh Mitchell — Tapping

Sun International

Hugh Mitchell — Tapping is presently a staff professional geologist with Sun International in Dallas. He was born and educated in England and has worked in Europe, North Africa, Caribbean and Gulf Coast. He has recently returned from China where he was Exploration Manager for Sun's offshore Beibuwan block. He obtained an MS and PhD from Florida State University.



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James C. Donnell built Ohio Oil Company* into the greatest producing company in the world, and then found the reins of the company entirely in his hands when Standard Oil was dissolved in 1911.

A native of Ireland, Donnell came to this country at the age of five in 1859, the year of Colonel Drake's great discovery. His father was a poor farmer who worked himself to death. For a while young Donnell was "farmed out" to neighbors for his room and board.

He received practically no formal education, yet he became one of the most remarkable leaders of the petroleum producing industry. Standard Oil Company chose him in 1889 to operate its producing company because of his skill in low-cost drilling and a remarkably high oil-finding success ratio.

Donnell, founder of a dynasty of oil industry leaders, became head of The Ohio almost by default in 1901 upon retirement of William Fleming, the man who first hired him. In that year he moved the company's corporate seal from Oil City to Findlay, Ohio. The head of the company in New York was John D. Archbold.

"Jim" Donnell became an oilman at 16 when he started hauling crude in a horse-drawn dray to a refinery near Titusville. He became a driller and a producer at Badford at 22. Shortly after he was chosen by Standard to head up its production, the company had 10,000 wells. At one time it had more than 42,000. When he retired, the company was producing 11 million barrels of crude annually.

Donnell was a natural leader and a man of remarkable intuition. It was his great memory and ease of reciting accurate statistics that virtually blocked Senator LaFollette's effort to federalize the oil industry. Donnell was a founder of the American Petroleum Institute. He purchased some of Standard's most important foreign properties, including the Benedum and Trees production in Columbia.

Of the thousands of tributes received when he died, two were identical. They stated simply. "I have lost a true and devoted friend." One was from a Pullman porter of the New York Central. The other was from John D. Rockefeller, Sr.

*Now Marathon Oil Company.

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With the discovery of the field that gave birth to the liquid fuel age at Spindletop, the Mellon Brothers found themselves in difficulty.

In 1902, they sent a nephew, William L. Mellon, to Beaumont with instructions to look things over and report back. Young Mellon, then only 34, was already one of the most experienced oilmen in the country. He had been a producer, refiner, pipeliner, marketer, and exporter.

Mellon proposed that his uncles sell their Texas holdings to Standard. An offer to sell was made but Standard, prohibited from doing business in Texas, rejected it.

So, William L. Mellon was sent to Texas to take charge. He was made vice-president and general manager of the J.M. Guffey Petroleum Company and immediately surrounded himself with an imposing staff of highly competent men, several of whom were not previously oilmen. By 1905 Mellon had overcome most of the company's financial difficulties. In the same year he formed the Gypsy Oil Company, explored in Glenn Pool, built a pipeline from Oklahoma to Port Arthur, and thereby ended most of the company's remaining money ills. In 1907 the J.M. Guffey Petroleum Company and the Gulf Refining Company (which had been formed in 1901) were reincorporated as the Gulf Oil Corporation with W.L. Mellon as president. From that point on the progress of Gulf was sound and steady.

W.L. Mellon, who was born in Pittsburgh in 1868, first entered the oil business in 1889, at Economy, Pa. His venture was successful and a source of pride to his uncles, A.W. and Richard Mellon. He formed a pipeline company, acquired a small refinery, and became an oil exporter. In 1895 he sold his holdings to Standard and retired from oil.

He was successful in electric utilities, street railways, and banking, and was on the verge of retirement from all business at 33 when his uncles insisted he was the only man to take over in Beaumont.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While watching television recently, I learned that an upcoming edition of "Wall Street Week" was going to focus on the state of the domestic oil industry. Now, normally, television watching assumes low priority in my weekend activities; however, there I was at the appointed hour, ears straining for some tenuous utterance of future good times for our beleaguered industry. And not without reward, for the oil guru from Kidder Peabody issued forth a declaration that dinosaur grease may top 20-25 dollars a barrel by year-end. It was as if the sun broke through on a cloudy day; I went to sleep that night with the nervous anticipation of a six-year-old awaiting the tooth fairy.

The next day, it seemed that every oil man west of the Jordan River had also tuned in to the very same program, for the spectacle of Wall Street's prognostications for higher oil prices was the talk of the town. In the particularly vicious down-cycle which we find ourselves in, any good news is infectious, and rightly so.

Wilbur Sherman has seen these cycles come and go, observing from a successful position despite widespread adversity at times, such as today's prevailing environment. He will be here on March 11 to share the experience and wisdom of his over forty-year tenure in the oil and gas industry. Dealing with opportunity, security and the management of a small oil company during both good and bad times, it's a talk you will not want to miss. Please make plans to attend, and phone in your reservations to T.C. Rader at 969-3286.

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SPEAKER: Wilbur B. Sherman

TOPIC: Careers For Young Geologists, Drilling
Deals, and Managing A Small Oil Company
In Good and Bad Times

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
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GUEST SPEAKER
WILBUR B. SHERMAN
TENEXPLO CORPORATION

Wilbur B. Sherman is currently the president of the Tenexplo Corporation. A brief personal history is given below.

Date of Birth: November 4, 1911

Place: Farm near Turner, Kansas

Education: U.C.L.A., geological major, 1939
University of Utah
U.S. Army Air Force
Meterology 1942-43

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Colonel Roberts, one of the youngest field grade officers of the Union army in the War Between the States, introduced secondary recovery into the petroleum producing industry in 1865. His system was to "torpedo" oil wells with nitroglycerin.

Born at Moreau, Saratoga County, New York, Roberts enlisted as a private for duty in the Mexican war at the age of 17 and served two years with distinction. Prior to the Civil War he was engaged with his brother in the manufacture of dental materials in New York.

A close observer of the oil industry in its infancy, Roberts got the idea during the war to use gunpowder to torpedo wells opposite the producing sands to free them of wax and to break up crevices to increase the flow of oil. He said he could even revive dead wells if given a chance.

In February, 1865, he and his associates organized the Roberts Petroleum Torpedo Company. They offered to "shoot" wells for fees ranging between \$100 and \$200 (depending on depth) plus a fifteenth royalty in the increased output of wells. Roberts found gunpowder was not as effective as nitro, so he obtained exclusive nitroglycerin rights from Nobel. The company established a shop in Titusville for the assembly of torpedoes and engaged a force of agents who were to work on 25 per cent commission of gross income including royalties from improved flow.

Earlier, Roberts had demonstrated his well shooting technique with a half dozen torpedoes made by Elijah Brady of New York City. These were iron flasks filled with gunpowder and ignited by a weight that dropped along a suspension wire onto percussion caps in the flask. Two of these 8-pound torpedoes were successfully discharged in the "Ladies' Well" on Watson Flats. The results were not spectacular, but the output of the well was increased from three or four barrels per day to 40 barrels.

It was in December of 1865 that Roberts dispelled all remaining doubts about his process. The dry Woodin well on the Blood farm came in making 80 barrels daily after two blasts using nitroglycerin, and oil well torpedoing came of age.

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E. DeGolyer, founder of the Amerada Petroleum Corporation, pioneer in the use of geophysics in oil and gas exploration, and one of the world's most recognized petroleum consultants, was born in a sod hut near Greensburg, Kansas. His parents were homesteaders, but his father became a lead and zinc prospector in Missouri before DeGolyer finished high school in Joplin.

DeGolyer's petroleum career started under remarkable circumstances; in 1910 he spotted the location for the famous Potrero del Llano No. 4 well for Mexican Eagle Oil north of the Tuxpan River near Vera Cruz. DeGolyer was a junior in geology at the University of Oklahoma at the time. The Potrero No. 4 came in with such force that it toppled the derrick and flowed 15 million barrels of crude in 90 days before it was capped. It is regarded as the largest oil producer of that day. DeGolyer's career was started by that well, but, as it turned out, it was not undeserved.

Even before the famous Potrero No. 4, DeGolyer had staked location for the mediocre discovery well in the field and supervised completion of several others. After the Potrero No. 4 gusher he returned to Oklahoma University to complete his education.

DeGolyer also introduced torsion balance survey and refraction seismograph to the American oil industry. While head of Amerada, DeGolyer also formed Geophysical Research Corporation as a subsidiary. When he left Amerada in 1932 he formed Geophysical Service, Inc., and, in 1936, he and his associate, Lewis W. MacNaughton, formed DeGolyer and MacNaughton.

He was the first man to predict the amazing reserves of petroleum found in the Middle East. In the petroleum industry DeGolyer was considered a maverick and a mystery man. He was the recipient of untold honors and was once president of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

His close friendships with oil leaders around the world included all of the pioneers of his age, starting with Captain Anthony F. Lucas. His reputation was worldwide.



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Volume XXXIII

No. 8

April, 1986



1985-1986



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COVER: Sand filled mud crack in the Entrada FM, Colo.
Contributed by Mike Laney

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, hopefully by now most of you will have received your 1986 MGS Membership Directory. With the current state of affairs, perhaps we should've titled it "Who Was Who in 1985". Better late than never.

The Well Data Committee has finished its primary objective that of drafting a final draft of its recommendations for your approval. I urge each member to read these proposals, found within this Bulletin, the approval of which will be sought by vote at the April 8 Noon Luncheon. These proposed amendments are the result of much investigation, negotiation, and hard work, and I personally thank my fellow committee members for their time and efforts.

Bill Glynn will be here at the April 8 Luncheon to present his paper, "Prolific Overton Field Gas Reservoirs Within Large Transverse Oolite Shoals, Upper Jurassic Haynesville, Eastern Margin of the East Texas Basin". Oolite petrography is always welcome to those of us who paly the Jurassic, and this case study indeed should be very relevant to carbonate exploration.

The Photo Directory is coming! We never forget a pretty face. Look for it late this month. See you at the luncheon.

Steve Walkinshaw

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NOON MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1986

Smackover Room, Petroleum Club

SPEAKER: William G. Glynn

TOPIC: "Prolific Overton Field Gas Reservoirs
Within Large Transverse Oolite Shoals,
Upper Jurassic Haynesville, Eastern
Margin of the East Texas Basin".

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
attendance so adequate seating can be arranged.*



ABSTRACT
PROLIFIC OVERTON FIELD GAS RESERVOIRS WITHIN
LARGE TRANSVERSE OOLITE SHOALS, UPPER JURASSIC
HAYNESVILLE, EASTERN MARGIN OF THE
EAST TEXAS BASIN

By

W.G. GLYNN¹, T.E. Covington², R.G. Lighty³, and W.M. Ahr³

Late Triassic rifting along a NE-SW spreading center in east Texas resulted in basement highs along the eastern margin of the East Texas Basin that became sites of extensive ooid shoal deposition during Late Jurassic time. Reservoirs within oolite facies at Overton Field contain over one trillion cubic feet of natural gas. These large shoals, each approximately 15 miles (24km) long and 3 miles (4.8 km) wide, trend N-S as a group and NE-SW individually, oblique to the basin margin but most likely parallel to Jurassic diffracted tidal currents within the East Texas Basin embayment of the Gulf Coast. Modern Bahamian ooid shoals of similar size, trend, and depositional setting occur at the terminus of the deep Tonque-Of-The Ocean platform reentrant. Overton Field reservoirs are in ooid grainstone shoal facies and in transitional shoal margins of skeletal-oolitic-peloidal grainstones and packstones. Adjacent nonreservoir facies are peloidal skeletal-siliciclastic wackestones and mudstones.

Early diagenesis of grainstone reservoir facies included meteoric dissolution and grain stabilization, resulting in abundant "chalky" intraparticle porosity and equant and bladed calcite cements filling interparticle porosity. Subsequent burial diagenesis resulted in intense solution compaction and coarse equant calcite and saddle crystal dolomite that occluded remaining interparticle porosity. Whole rock trace element analysis indicates greatest diagenetic flushing (less Mg and Sr) in porous zones. Stable isotopes for grains and cements show strong overprint of later burial diagenesis, with greater depletion of O in reservoir facies. However, hydrocarbons were emplaced prior to late cementation, and unlike other Jurassic Gulf Coast reservoirs, deep burial diagenesis provided no late-stage formation of porosity.

Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies Transactions, v. 35, ppl 85

American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Annual Convention, March, 1985.
East Texas Geological Society, March, 1985.

¹Wisnaker Production Company, 400 InterFirst Plaza Bldg, Tyler, TX 75702-7260.

²Mobile Oil Company, Denver, Colorado

³Department of Geology, Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas 77843.



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MISSISSIPPI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
WELL DATA COMMITTEE
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND RECOMMENDATIONS
APRIL, 1986

Name: Well Data Committee

Committee Membership: Steve Walkinshaw (Chairman), Wilbur Knight,
Charlie Williams, Harry Spooner, Wally Gardner,
and Verne Culbertson.

Purpose: The sole objective of the Well Data Committee is and shall
be the preservation of relevant well data with full respect
for the rights and privileges of the operator regarding
confidentiality.

Proposals: The Committee, comprised of members representing the diverse
nature of the state oil and gas industry, hereby brings to
the Mississippi Geological Society Membership its proposals
and recommendations.

The Committee recommends that Statewide Rule 24, as currently set
forth in the State Oil and Gas Board Rules and Regulations, be amended
and/or replaced by the proposed "Amended Rule 24" language as stated
on the following page. It must be emphasized that the Committee has
actually proposed few new requirements not already contained in the
current language; instead, it has simply compiled these rules into a
concise format and added specificity to the language so as to insure
the correct interpretation of those rules, which are and have always
been the collective will and purpose of the State Oil and Gas Board
and the oil and gas industry.

The Committee further proposes that, since the amended Rule 24
format as proposed addresses those requirements presently located on
the back side of the State Oil and Gas Board Form No. 3, that said Form
No. 3 shall be changed so as to do away with the reverse side, to
eliminate unnecessary redundancy.

Finally, it has been stated that the Committee wishes to conserve
all relevant well data. This can only be achieved by insuring the
rights and privileges of those operators who explore for and develop
oil and gas resources in our State. Thus, strengthened confidentiality
language is contained in the proposed amendment, and will serve to
protect the operator during its privileged period of exploration and
development.

Amended Rule 24, "Well Logs", As Recommended By The MGS Well
Data Committee

Rule 24 Shall Read As Follows:

(a) One copy of all logs, including electrical, mechanical, radioactive and dipmeter, shall be filed with the Board within thirty (30) days of completion of the well, with Form No. 3. This will include an electrical correlation log consisting of the spontaneous potential or gamma ray and induction resistivity surveys, and covering that portion of the wellbore from final total depth logged to base of surface casing, specifically displayed on either a one inch:one hundred feet scale or a two inch:one hundred feet scale, shall be filed within thirty (30) days of completion of the well.

(b) One copy of all conventional core descriptions and analyses, and all sidewall core descriptions and analyses, shall be filed within thirty (30) days of the completion of the well.

(c) One copy of all open-hole drillstem or wireline chambered formation test reports, including all pressure data obtained therein, and documentation of all fluids produced, shall also be filed with the Board within thirty (30) days of completion of the well.

(d) In the event the well is permitted as a stratigraphic test or if requested by the person filing the above requested log, core, and test data as provided under paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) above, the Board shall keep such well data confidential for a period not exceeding six (6) months from the date on which it is filed. If subsequently requested by the person filing said data, the Board shall extend the period of confidentiality an additional six (6) months, for a total period of confidentiality not to exceed one (1) year. Upon notice and hearing, said person may subsequently request an extension of the confidentiality, for a total period of confidentiality not to exceed three (3) years.

(e) At the expiration of time in which any log or logs shall be held as confidential by the Board as provided under paragraph (d) above, said log or logs shall be placed in the open files of the Board and any party or firm shall have the right to examine and/or reproduce copies of said log or logs by photography or other means not injurious to said records, subject to the provision that before any person or firm shall remove any log or logs from the Board's office for purposes of photographing or reproducing the same, he or it shall first obtain written approval from the Supervisor and shall comply with the terms and conditions as may be established by the Board, including the giving of surety bond in such amount or amounts as may be fixed by the Board.



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Credit for the great Mexican oil development in the early part of the century goes to Edward L. Doheny, the man whose daring and imagination sparked the boom.

Doheny, a slight, alert and restless man of Irish descent, born in Fon du Lac, Wisconsin, was the imaginative and bold member of the partnership of Doheny and Canfield. C. A. Canfield was his counterbalance, a gentle, patient, and persevering man. Together they made a perfect team. Without each other, both were far less effective.

Doheny started his career in mining in New Mexico when he was 18. He had been on his own then for two years working as a book agent, a fruit packer, a mule driver, and a waiter. By 1892 he lost all he had made in his mining efforts. He went to Los Angeles with Canfield, a man he had known for seven years and who had worked one of his unsuccessful claims.

There Doheny saw a wagon full of "brea" and recognized its potential. He and Canfield obtained a lease, personally dug a hole with their own hands, and opened the Los Angeles boom with a crude, seven-barrel-a-day well.

Based on a guidebook of California oil seeps contained in a state geologist's annual report, Doheny and Canfield drilled wells up and down the state. In a few years California was the leading oil state because of their discoveries, and Doheny and Canfield were the state's top oil men.

At this time Doheny negotiated a contract with Santa Fe Railroad to buy all the oil he and Canfield could supply at \$1 a barrel. The contract almost floated Santa Fe out of business on a flood of oil until the railroad purchased much of the Doheny-Canfield oil property.

In these negotiations with Santa Fe, Doheny met A. A. Robinson, an executive of the railroad. It was Robinson, later president of the Mexican Central Railroad, who lured Doheny and Canfield to Mexico where he had observed hundreds of California-type oil seeps.

There they acquired hundreds of thousands of acres of land in fee and formed the Mexican Petroleum Company. On May 14, 1901, their Cerro de la Pez (Hill of Tar) well, 35 miles west of Tampico, came in as a gusher from oil sand at 545 feet and the oil history of Mexico was started.

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Noon Luncheon Meetings

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Mike Benedum was, as his biographer, Sam T. Mallison, called him, "The Great Wildcatter."

A native of Bridgeport, West Virginia, he was named for the physician who delivered him, Dr. Michael Late. A devotee of Stonewall Jackson and his cause, he lived to be one of the most remarkable men who ever entered the petroleum industry.

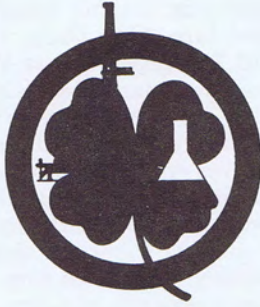
He became an oilman because he gave his seat on a crowded train to weary and elderly John Worthington, general superintendent of the South Penn Oil Company, who hired him as a land man. In Worthington's absence one day, he resigned in a disagreement with a man filling in for Worthington.

He entered business in 1896 with another remarkable pioneer, Joseph Clifton Trees, and they drilled their first well on Whiskey Run in Pleasants County, West Va. In 1900 they formed the famed corporate entity of Benedum and Trees Oil Company. Each retained the right to always enter any venture alone providing the other preferred not to put it into the company.

On more than one occasion the men and their company stood on the brink of bankruptcy. Yet, by 1907, after bringing the first commercial oil to Illinois, they sold their holdings there for \$8 million. That year they moved to Pittsburgh, then the oil financial capital of the world.

They missed the great Cushing field in Oklahoma by 130 feet, but they went on to discover Caddo in Louisiana and to participate in dozens of other major discoveries, including Yates field, the opening of the Permian Basin, Rodessa, the Homer and Carthage gas fields, the fabulous Infantas field on the DeMares concession in Colombia, and the development of Ploesti in Rumania. Benedum formed Arkansas Natural Gas Company, Big Lake Oil, Plymouth Oil, Carpathian Oil, Tropical Oil, Hiawatha Oil, Bentex, Mid-Kansas, and the famous Transcontinental Oil Company. The latter he sold to Ohio Oil Company for Ohio shares valued at \$60 million.

When he died, he left the bulk of his fortune to his native state for the promotion of education and charity. There is little doubt that Michael Late Benedum made contributions to his industry and his nation as significant as those of any man who ever lived.



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Volume XXXIII

No. 9

May, 1986



1985-1986



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COVER: Tuscarora Sandstone, basal Silurian, Hwy 311 crossing of Apalachian Trail, Catawba Mountain, Roanoke County, VA.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ah, I can almost taste those delectable beasties already. Friends, the Spring Fling is fast approaching, and this year heralds the return of shrimp to the menu of our May 23 party. Plenty of vegetables, soft drinks and beer will be on hand. We'll even have a taxi or two on hand to remove those victims of the "glut", if you will. Spouses are invited, and there will be door prizes for the ladies. Remember! This year's party will be held at the Fireman's Lodge, not Fowler's Lodge, as in recent years. We are asking \$10.00/member and spouse, \$15.00/non-member couple, which I think is a ridiculously low price per barrel for shrimp and beer.

We'll also be electing officers for next year. The nominating committee has assembled a very capable group of candidates for your Society's Executive Committee — please come and vote your support for their commitment of time and effort. I would like to thank Bob White, Julian Cooley, Stanley King, Stan Thieling, Stan Galicki, John Marble, John Hinton, and John Cox (you guys left me tongue-tied all year), Andy Sylte, T.C. Rader, George Harris, and the rest of those who helped us manage the Society's affairs. Praise is also due for our Well Data Committee, whose reluctant foray into politics has produced a concrete recommendation for an issue which demands immediate attention — the preservation of well data. I will report further to the membership regarding this at the Spring Fling.

Finally, I wish to thank you for the privilege of serving as your President this past term. We have accomplished all of the primary objectives put forth last fall — we are at the printers with an excellent Red Book Supplement, encompassing over 54 new fields. Our Photo Directory has also gone to press, and will reach you soon. We went back to Tinsley with Fred Mellen, an unforgettable and enlightening field trip. These are but a few of the highlights of a successful year for your Society, made possible only by the efforts of you, our membership, in whom I am proud to be included.

See you at the Fling!

Steve Walkinshaw

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Mississippi Geological Society

NOON MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1986

Smackover Room, Petroleum Club

SPEAKER: Paul A. Thayer

TOPIC: Petrology and Sedimentology of
Mississippi Fan Cores. DSDP Leg 96

*Please notify T. C. Rader (969-3286) of your
attendance so adequate seating can be arranged.*



ABSTRACT
PETROLOGY AND SEDIMENTOLOGY OF MISSISSIPPI
FAN CORES, DSDP LEG 96

By
PAUL A. THAYER

Pleistocene sediments were cored at nine middle and lower Mississippi Fan sites, in water depths from 8200-10825 feet. Radiography, thin section, scanning electron microscope, and X-ray diffraction studies provide data to describe the fan's major depositional environments.

Sands and minor gravels are concentrated in middle and lower fan channel fills, and in lower fan channel-mouth deposits. Silts and clays occur in overbank deposits, passive channel fills, and interbeds associated with coarser facies. Graded bedding and lamination, both of varying thickness, are the dominant sedimentary structures in all environments.

Granule and pebble gravels are composed of well-rounded chert and polycrystalline quartz, with minor metamorphic and igneous rock fragments. Moderately to well sorted sands are mainly fine and very fine feldspathic litharenite, sublitharenite and subarkose. Sands commonly have thin-section porosities between 20 and 35%; woody organic contents range from 0.7 to 7.9% total organic carbon.

Authigenic minerals occur in sands and muds, but are most common in fine-grained silts and clays. Smectite, dolomite, calcite, pyrite, and gypsum are the main authigenic phases.

At this stage in their depositional history, the sands are relatively clean, have high porosities, show only minor pore-reducing diagenetic effects, and thus have excellent hydrocarbon reservoir potential.



Guest Speaker
Paul A Thayer

Paul A. Thayer is a Senior Geological Advisor with Mobil Oil Exploration & Producing Inc., New Orleans, specializing in clastic sedimentology and petrology. Prior to joining Mobil he worked for Amoco, BP, and Chevron in both exploration and production. He was Professor of Geology and Marine Science at University of North Carolina at Wilmington from 1970-81. Thayer was educated at Rutgers University (B.A. 1961), Ohio State University (Graduate Study, 1961-62) and University of North Carolina (Ph.D. 1967). He is a Fellow of the GSA and a member of AAAS, AAPG, SEPM, International Association of Sedimentologists, New Orleans Geological Society, and Sigma XI; and listed in American Men and Women of Science, Who's Who In America and Who's Who in the World. He is author or co-author of more than 100 technical papers and abstracts on stratigraphy, sedimentology, sedimentary petrology, marine geology and exploration geochemistry. He and Harry H. Roberts of LSU won the SEPM best paper award for their Mississippi Fan article in the 1985 GCAGS Transactions.



TAKE NOTICE

Mississippi Geological Society

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FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1986

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To: Steve Walkinsaw—President, Mississippi Geological Society
J.R. (Bob) White—President Elect

From: C. Kipp Ferns — Chairman, Nominating Committee

The Mississippi Geological Society Nominating Committee has duly searched the membership roll of our Society for candidates for election to office for the 1986-87 term. The candidates nominated are in good standing in the Society and have agreed to serve if elected.

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Harry Spooner

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Respectfully submitted,

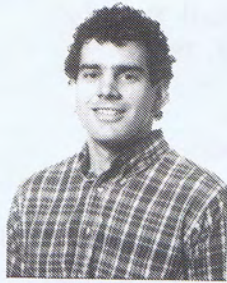
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Michael D. Clearman



Stanley King



Cornelius W. "Neil" Barnes



Walter D. Garder

Memorial of Richard Randall Priddy
August 31, 1906 - April 12, 1986

Wendell B. Johnson
Department of Geology
Millsaps College

Richard Randall Priddy, geologist, professor, and educator died April 12th of an apparent heart attack in his Indianapolis, Indiana home. He was 79.

Richard (Dick) was born in Van Wert, Ohio. He received his Bachelor's degree from Ohio Northern University in 1930, a Master's degree and the Doctor of Philosophy degree in geology from the Ohio State University in 1938. His geological career began with the Kingwood Oil Company in Effingham, Illinois in 1938-1940.

From 1940 to 1942, he was associated with the Mississippi State Geological Survey, University, Mississippi. In 1942 he became a geologist with the Texas Company (Texaco, Inc.), Shawnee, Oklahoma and in 1943, was transferred to Jackson, Mississippi to become district geologist of the Texas Company. He served in this capacity until 1946, when he left the petroleum industry and became Professor of Geology and Chemistry at Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi. This marked the beginning of the Department of Geology at the Methodist Liberal Arts Institution. In 1948, he was appointed chairman of the Geology Department and served until 1972 when he took an early retirement and moved to Indianapolis to continue teaching several selected geology courses at Indiana Central College.

During the summers of 1948 to 1963, he engaged in active research in sedimentation at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. He was a teacher in Marine Geology at the laboratory during the summers and also conducted National Science Foundation Institutes at the Research laboratory.

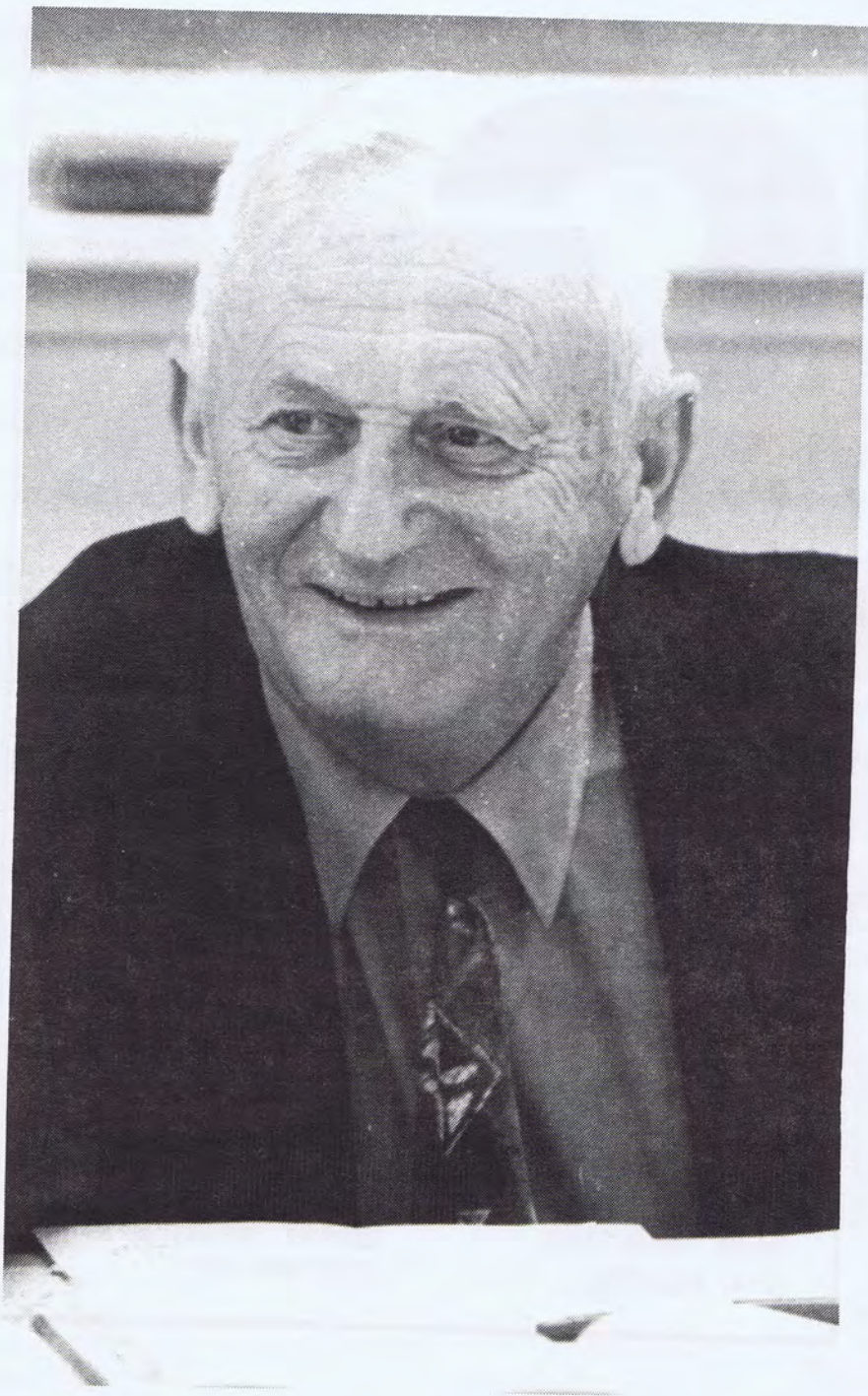
From 1960 to 1964, Dick was Director of the National Science Foundation at Millsaps College involving the loess deposits, Vicksburg, Mississippi, and a combined venture of the Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, and Physics Departments.

While Dick was with the Mississippi Geological Survey, he was instrumental in writing the geological investigations of three County Survey's — Tallahatchie, Montgomery, and Pontotoc. In the late 1950's and early 1960's he was active in doing summer field work for the Survey and in 1960, published the County Survey for Madison. He was the first geologist to promote the geologic profiles along the highways of Mississippi. In 1961, such a study was published along Highway 80 (now I-20) from Jackson, Mississippi to the Alabama line. Under his supervision, other highways' profiles were published, which aided in conducting field trips to different parts of the State.

Dick's wife, Lillian, passed away in 1961 and a scholarship known as the Lillian Emily Benson Priddy scholarship was established to apply the yearly awards toward tuition to help young women interested in training for full-time Christian Service at Millsaps College.

He married Gladys Crafton, Lillian's cousin, and upon retirement in 1972 moved to Indianapolis, Indiana to be closer to his wife's family. Dick was devoted to his family and was an active worker in the church. He had many social concerns and took a leading role in community responsibilities.

I can attest to the fact that I was fortunate to have been associated with an outstanding scientist for 18 years. Dick was a scholar, a generous and sharing person, and happily contributed to the lives of everyone he knew. For an educator of his stature, it is fitting to note he had finished his last semester of teaching, had enjoyed a farewell dinner with his friends and students, and I even had the opportunity to have a most enjoyable conversation with him on Friday before his passing on to the "Great Beyond" Saturday afternoon. His work had been completed, the books had been closed, and an exceptional and joyous life had come to a close.





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Wirt Franklin, a native of Richmond, Mo., was one of the founders and the first president of the Independent Petroleum Association of America.

The son and grandson of lawyers, Franklin prepared for the law in high school, attended two years of law classes at Columbian (now George Washington) University, and became an expert at shorthand and typing.

He went to Oklahoma in 1902 to become a stenographer for the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes (The Dawes Commission) and soon became a recognized expert on the Choctaw-Chickasaw tribes. He was admitted to the bar in 1907.

In 1913 he acquired a farm 20 miles west of Ardmore upon which he found a spring pole hole that had been drilled to 400 feet and abandoned in 1888 when the driller learned he was on Indian land. The hole was oozing black oil. With others, he formed the group that brought in the Healdton field. In 1928 he and J. I. Cromwell drilled the first well in the Oklahoma City field.

In 1914 he was appointed an oil field umpire for the Oklahoma Corporation Commission. That same year he and others brought in deep production in the Fox field with a freak 16,000-barrel per day well.

As early as 1914, Franklin was instrumental in the organization of the Ardmore Independent Producers Association, and in 1929 he was president of the Oklahoma City Producers Association.

It was also in 1929 that Franklin helped organize the IPAA in Colorado Springs to combat federal policies toward the importation of oil. He was its first president. In 1930 he called the first mass meeting of the nation's independent oilmen; 1500 delegates attended. This led to an "oil march" on Washington by train, which in 1932 resulted in the first tax on imported oil. He was IPAA president for six consecutive terms.

The year 1959 was proclaimed by IPAA as "Wirt Franklin Year." In 1961 he was presented the first "Outstanding Oklahoma Oil Man" award to be presented by the Oklahoma Petroleum Council.

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Ernest O. Thompson, lawyer, businessman, soldier, administrator and public servant, was born in Alvord, Wise County, Texas, the son of a druggist. He moved to Amarillo, Texas, at the age of 10 and died there in 1966 at the age of 74.

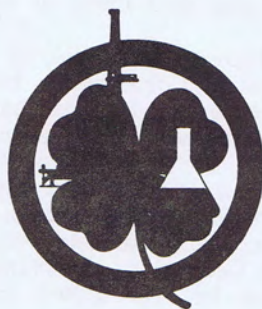
As a citizen of Amarillo, he was successful in the hotel and real estate businesses. As a mayor of Amarillo, he was the most effective and colorful municipal leader in Texas history. As a soldier, he was a hero of the Meuse-Argonne battle in World War I, receiving a battlefield promotion to Lieutenant Colonel from General Pershing. He later was advanced to Lieutenant General in the National Guard. As an attorney he represented many important clients in petroleum, including Henry L. Doherty, a champion of petroleum conservation.

But it was as a member of the Railroad Commission of Texas, the state's oil and gas regulatory body, where he served 32 years, that he gained fame as the "Father of Effective Petroleum Conservation." He resigned his office as mayor of Amarillo to take over from a former Texas governor as a member of the Railroad Commission. His first duty was to step into the East Texas Field to relieve the National Guard when martial law there was declared illegal.

He closed in the field until order was restored, and then fought the battle of conservation in the courts, in the Texas Legislature, and in Washington. He was highly instrumental in preventing federal control of the oil industry in the thirties. He was a founder of the Interstate Oil Compact.

Thompson was honored and decorated in peace and war; probably his most cherished honor was the 1959 John Franklin Carll Medal awarded by the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers which cited him for his "significant contribution to petroleum engineering in the public acceptance of reservoir engineering principles in petroleum conservation, regulation, and practice."

In 1951 he received the American Petroleum Institute Gold Medal for Distinguished Achievement for his "pioneering in oil and gas conservation and the prevention of physical waste" as well as his "leadership in the establishment and application of conservation statutes." He was also honored with the Simon Bolivar Medal, Order of the Liberator, by the government of Venezuela for the establishment of petroleum conservation in that country.



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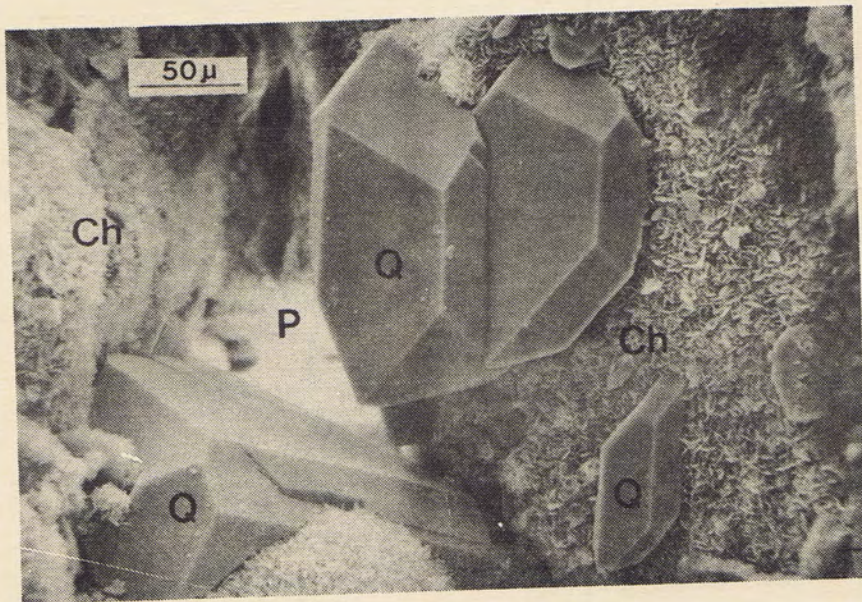


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No. 10

July, 1985



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photomicrograph of Tuscaloosa sandstone. See
May 1985 bulletin for further details.

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Time does fly. It seems just a few short weeks ago I was writing my first President's Message to MGS members, and now the last one. It is always a pleasure to say 'thank you' to those who helped make this year a good year for MGS.

Losing both Dora Devery and Ron Tisdale put a big dent in the Executive Committee. However, Steve Walkinshaw, Secretary, and Bob White, Treasurer, always went the extra mile to make a smooth running Executive Committee. What can I say about Neil Barnes? Adjectives seem superfluous for the outstanding job he has done for two years running. A special thanks to Don Hudson for his work as Editor and Jim Young, our projectionist. Same to the two members who jumped in to fill the gap, George Harris for taking over the Photo Directory and Stan Galicki for taking over the Red Book Committee Chairmanship.

A good time was had by all at our Spring Fling. T. C. and Mrs. T. C. along with Glenis White and Ron Robertson really outdid themselves. The food was first class + . I encourage you to thank our sponsors, Schlumberger, who furnished beer and soft drinks, Core Labs, who contributed \$300 to help defray the cost of the food and Dresser Atlas, who contributed \$100 toward the purchase of the door prizes. We appreciate the support of the service companies.

Speaking of support, I encourage each member to support Steve Walkinshaw and the entire Executive Committee throughout their term.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It all comes down to a lack of communication. A friend of mine (who insists on anonymity) tells of a colleague, fresh out of school, who was sent out in the field to watch the "spudding" of a well. However, he failed to appear at the rig, and in fact disappeared completely for three days. Worried, my friend set out to track him down, only to find him, tired and impatient, keeping vigil at a nearby microwave tower.

Oftentimes however, a lack of communication is no laughing matter. Specifically, I realize that, especially for our out-of-town residents, it is both frustrating and annoying to receive a bulletin announcing a noon luncheon on the very day of the meeting, or even later. To take advantage of our noon luncheon program, one needs adequate notice of specific dates, topics and other arrangements.

I am now prepared to **assure** you, in no uncertain terms, that from this point forward, you will be given advance notice of each and every function.

How can I guarantee this? By promising the following:

- 1) All meetings, along with a brief but thorough abstract of each program, will be announced **two weeks in advance** in both the **Southeastern Oil Review** and **Petroleum Information** weeklies.
- 2) In the event that a delay throws uncertainty into whether we can get the Bulletin out on time to you (one week's notice or less), we will alert you by **postcard**, as to the meeting, date, time, and abstract.
- 3) We will continue to post the usual write-up in the forthcoming bulletins, and will work hard to expedite their mailing.
- 4) **Most importantly** - on the following page, you will find a calendar of **every** noon luncheon for the next year. So make your plans now to mark your calendar.

I hope that these announcements will serve notice that your Society is continuing to improve its service to you. Due to our placing the membership list on computer, we are able to expedite address changes and mailings so as to enable these advances.

As your President, I am proud to inform you that through elections and appointments, your Society has assembled a very capable and industrious staff of officers and committee chairmen. This is fortunate indeed, for this year brings with it a commitment to produce a viable Red Book and Photo Directory. I will join Kipp in stressing that those of you who have not yet contributed a personal photograph for the Directory should either do so, or drop by Gil Ford's studio as soon as possible.

Judging from the attendance at the Spring Barbeque, it is apparent that T. C. Rader has once again performed his culinary magic, with generous assistance from his wife, Margie. I'm sure you'll join me in acknowledging our thanks and appreciation to all of those who gave so freely of their time and sponsorship to make the cookout a tremendous success. Also, please note the interesting anecdotes published herein, as taken from "Founders of the Oil Industry", reprinted with permission by Schlumberger.

Support your society! There is no doubt in my mind that, with your encouragement and participation, the Society can provide educational and informative services second to none in the GCAGS. If you know of any colleague who stands to benefit from membership with us, please invite him to join. Both he and the Society will appreciate it.

Steve Walkinshaw

SCHEDULE

Noon Luncheon Meetings

1985

September 10
October 8
November 12
December 12

1986

January 7
February 11
March 11
April 8
May 13

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The Mississippi Geological Society wishes to express their gratitude to OWLCO for the refreshments furnished at Dr. Friedman's Course held on May 16th at Millsaps College. We appreciate your generosity!!

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WILLIAM STAMPS FARISH (1881-1942)

W. S. Farish was a recent law graduate when he accidentally stepped into the oil business.

Sent by an uncle in England to investigate the situation at Spindletop immediately after the Lucas Gusher blew in, Farish went on to become one of the most highly respected men in petroleum history.

A native of Mississippi, a grand-nephew of Jefferson Davis, and a law graduate of the University of Mississippi, Farish worked for one oil company, formed a drilling partnership, and then poor-boyed his way into other ventures. This led eventually to the formation of the Humble Oil & Refining Company. Although he bitterly fought the integrated companies, Farish was the man most responsible for the sale of half of Humble's stock to Standard of Jersey for \$17 million.

Along with Robert Lee Blaffer, Harry C. Wiese, and Ross Sterling, Farish built the small Humble Company into one of the most efficient and influential independent companies in the country prior to the sale to Jersey.

He became president of Humble, then a director, chairman of the board and president of Standard of Jersey. Long after his death the influence of Farish is still felt strongly in both Humble and the parent Jersey Company.

Farish, a champion of the independent oilmen's cause, is credited with having brought crude price increases in 1918 which saved many independent oilmen from going broke. He headed an organization of independents and then attempted to organize an association of small producers who could market their product free of major company influence.

During World War I, as a member of the Petroleum Committee of the Council of National Defense, he broadened his knowledge of the industry, met and learned to admire A. C. Bedford and Walter Teagle of Standard of Jersey. He then talked his associates into making the deal which in future years would make Humble one of the world's most important oil and gas producing companies.

An omnivorous reader with a photographic memory and a man concerned with broad industry problems rather than details and trivia, Farish was a natural and effective leader. He was a pioneer in the promotion of petroleum geology, engineering, and conservation.

From "Founders of the Oil Industry"

by James Clark

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The Society gratefully appreciates permission to reprint these anecdotes.

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TREASURER'S REPORT
Mississippi Geological Society
1984-1985 Operating Year

Cash balance, May 31, 1984		\$ 7,177.30
Sources of cash:		
Cash generated by operations . . .	\$24,184.11	
Money market (A.I.A.) account . . .	<u>15,387.05</u>	
Total sources of cash		\$39,571.16
Uses of cash:		
Operating Expenses	28,391.32	
Total uses of cash		<u>28,391.32</u>
Increase in cash		<u>11,179.84</u>
Cash Balance, June 30, 1985		<u>\$18,297.14</u>
Current Ending Balance,		
Regular Checking Account:		\$ 2,910.09

**Mississippi Geological Society
INCOME STATEMENT FOR
OPERATING YEAR ENDING
June 30, 1985**

Revenues:

Membership Dues	\$ 5,210.00
Bulletin Advertising	3,333.00
Monthly Lunch/Meetings	7,530.00
Fall Barbecue	735.00
Spring Fling (Contributions)	400.00
Publications	4,581.11
Clastic Seminar	1,485.00
Carbonate Seminar	<u>910.00</u>
Total Revenues	\$24,184.11

Operating Expenses:

Printing (Includes membership Directory) . .	\$9,440.72
Monthly Luncheon/Meetings	5,558.30
Postage & Postal Supplies	532.78
Donation, Bureau of Geology Library	486.00
Donations, Heart & Cancer	
Societies & Memorials	415.62
Speaker Expenses & Honorariums	1,769.02
Fall Barbecue	1,233.95
Spring Fling	1,714.09
Advertising (G.C.A.G.S. Publications)	600.00
Income Tax & Penalties	362.80
Audio Visual Equipment	611.29
A.A.P.G. Slide Tape Series Purchase (2)	617.10
Clastic Seminar	1,944.79
Carbonate Seminar	2,483.68
President's Travel Expenses to G.C.A.G.S.	289.33
Miscellaneous	<u>311.85</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>28,391.32</u>
	\$-4,207.21

AEILCO JANZ ZYLKER (1840-1890)

The role of no pioneer in petroleum history exceeds in scope that of Aeilco Janz Zylker, though his name may be the least known of all.

He first suspected oil in Sumatra, obtained a long term concession from the sultan, raised the money to drill the first wells, organized a company, and founded it on sound integrated policies.

Zylker did this in Sumatra, thousands of miles from civilization. The company he formed, The Royal Dutch Petroleum Company, has had a profound influence on the history of petroleum. Later, it joined in a partnership with Shell Transport & Trading Co. of London to become one of petroleum's great organizations.

In 1880, Zylker was a 40-year-old superintendent of a Dutch tobacco planting company in Langkat on the east coast of Sumatra. Fate in the form of a tropical storm led him and a native guide to a shelter in a tobacco farm.

There the guide lighted a torch which burned with such a brilliance that it surpassed any light Zylker had ever seen. Upon inquiring, he found the "earthwax" substance on the torch was skimmed from pools of water in the neighborhood. He found this substance to be similar to kerosene, which was then being imported from the United States.

His first step was to acquire a concession from the Sultan of Langkat. He then returned to Batavia and tried to peddle his concession without success. Two banking houses, however, advanced exploration funds against stock in the Preliminary Sumatra Petroleum Company. He went to Holland for further financing but was dismissed by banking skeptics.

Zylker took his limited funds and explored for oil. His success was limited, but it enabled him to get the backing of N. P. Van Den Berg, whom he met on a ship en route to Holland. Van Den Berg agreed to help and became chairman of his company. King William III granted the firm permission to use the word Royal in its name.

By his sudden and untimely death in Singapore in 1890, Zylker was denied the pleasure of seeing the result of his decade of struggle, the Royal Dutch Company, grow and prosper as a world leader.

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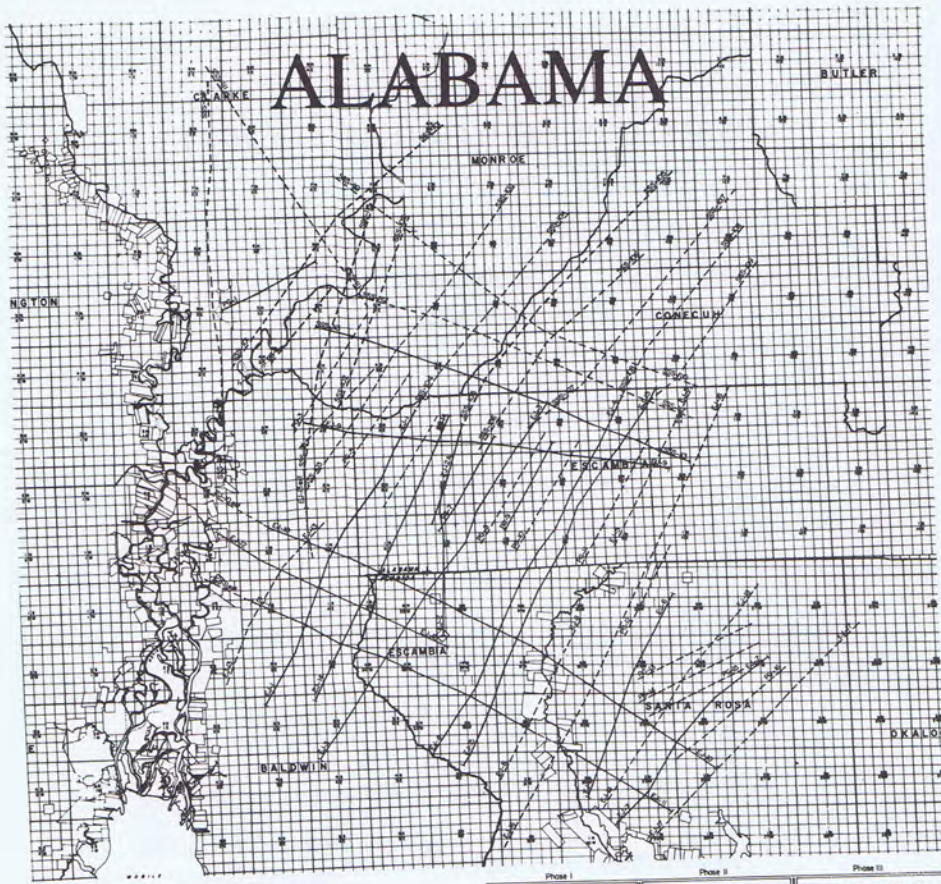
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EA-4	45.5	E2-13	28 0263	333-20	20.0	333-30	30.0	PG-8	05.0
EA-5	60.0	E2-14	30.0	333-40	30.0	333-30	30.0	PG-9	05.0
EA-6	25.0	E2-15	44.0	333-40	30.0	333-30	30.0	PG-10	05.0
EA-7	30.0	E2-16	33.0	333-40	30.0	333-30	30.0	PG-11	05.0
EA-8	20.0	E2-17	30.0	333-40	30.0	333-30	30.0	PG-12	05.0
EA-9	37.75	E2-18	30.0	333-40	30.0	333-30	30.0	PG-13	05.0
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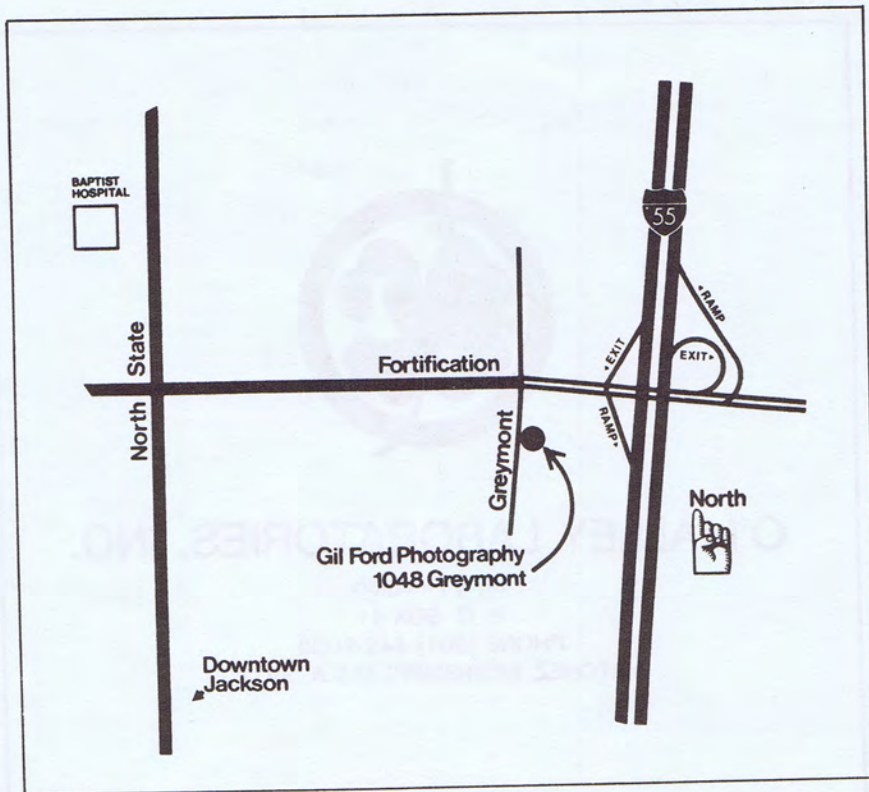
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RESULTS OF 1985-86 CONTINUING EDUCATION SURVEY

A survey to determine the degree of interest and topics of interest for next year's continuing education offering was conducted at the May luncheon meeting. Thirty-seven people responded to the questionnaire. Of those thirty-seven, twenty-nine indicated a good to excellent possibility of attending an evening seminar.

The most popular topic among those likely to attend is Carbonate Diagenetic Processes. Tied for second choice was Geophysical and Geological Coordination in Oil and Gas Prospecting and Identifying and Managing Exploration Risks. These topics certainly have a large potential audience and could prove professionally very stimulating.

Thank you to those of you who participated in the survey.

It is very important that you voice your support or lack of support for these programs. They have tremendous potential **IF** our society members and guests participate.

CARBONATE NEWSLETTER A new quarterly publication covering recent articles, books, meetings, and events of interest to carbonate geologists and geochemists has been started. Areas covered include carbonate sedimentology, stratigraphy, geochemistry, mineralogy, diagenesis, paleontology, marine biology, and petroleum engineering of carbonate reservoirs. Over 100 geological, engineering, and general scientific journals are searched on a regular basis for references. The newsletter features keyword summaries of each citation and aims to help researchers and explorationists keep abreast of new developments through the timely dissemination of information. Annual subscriptions are \$12 for four issues appearing in February, May, August, and November. For additional information or subscriptions write the CARBONATE RESEARCH NEWSLETTER, 1615 California St., Suite 411, Denver, Colorado 80202.

ADDITION AND CORRECTION OF THE SLIDE-TAPE LENDING AGREEMENT

1. For the first six months, use of the program will be limited to active MGS members only.
2. Caroline Woodley's correct telephone number at the Mississippi Geological Survey is: 354-6228.

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Mesozoic-Paleozoic Producing Areas of Mississippi and Alabama Volume I. Maps and producing data on 57 fields, with 2 composite logs, Clothbound, 139 p., 1957	_____	10.00	_____
Volume II, Maps and producing data on 77 fields, includes Supplement 1, 143 p., 1963	_____	15.00	_____
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Mississippian Rocks of the Black Warrior Basin Seventeenth Field Trip, 79 p., April, 1978	_____	8.00	_____
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The Paleozoics of Northwest Arkansas Sixteenth Field Trip, 48 p., May, 1962	_____	5.00	_____
Cenozoic of Horn Island and the Pascagoula Valley, Mississippi 10th Annual GCAGS Meeting, 24 p., October, 1960	_____	2.50	_____
Cenozoic of Southeast Mississippi and Southwest Alabama, Fifteenth Field Trip, 52 p., May, 1980	_____	6.00	_____
Upper Cretaceous Outcrops, Northeast Mississippi and West Central Alabama, Fourteenth Field Trip, 29 p., May 1959	_____	4.00	_____
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