

To Affiliates of the Geomorphology Division:

February 1970

OFFICERS AND PANEL MEMBERS

As a result of the Election of Officers, accomplished with your cooperation by mail ballot in October 1969, the Officers of the Division for 1970 are:

Chairman: David M. Hopkins
First Vice Chairman: Richard P. Goldthwait
Second Vice Chairman: Richard F. Flint
The Secretary's Term of Office continues through 1970.

The result of nominations for Geomorphology Panel Members by the same mail ballot, based upon the highest number of nominations per person, are three new Panel Members to serve the Division for two years, from January 1970 through December 1971:

Peter W. Birkeland
Don J. Easterbrook
Harold W. Borns, Jr.

Panel Members to serve one remaining year are: Arthur L. Bloom, William C. Bradley, and Ronald L. Shreve.

As in former years, the response of the Division to the mail ballot for Election of Officers and nomination for Panel Members is discouraging. The number of affiliates has increased to 620; that many ballots were sent out, and yet only 44% responded. Last year 46% responded. Of the ballots returned, only 65% of them nominated anyone for the Panel. This is the same as 29% (26% last year) of the whole Division. Why is there not more response to the mail ballot? Even so, 211 different names were suggested for the Panel, yet only the top 3 could be Members!

REPORT TO THE DIVISION

The Officers and Panel Members, as the Executive Council, met in joint session one evening for more than 3 hours in Atlantic City, N. J. before the Annual Business Meeting. The Annual Business Meeting convened in the Derbyshire Room of Haddon Hall Hotel following the Geomorphology Luncheon on 11 November 1969. Seventy-four affiliates and friends were present. The following matters were discussed at length by the Executive Council, but also in several instances during the Business Meeting; what follows in a sense, constitutes a Report to you, the Division:

The 1969 Kirk Bryan Award was presented to Ronald L. Shreve for his GSA Special Paper 108, The Blackhawk Landslide, along with a citation by Arthur D. Howard. Dr. Shreve accepted the Award very graciously with a short Response.

When the Nominating Committee does its work each year in late Spring, it presents a Slate of Officers to the Division. The election of the persons on this Slate as Officers each Autumn by mail ballot in a sense only confirms the work of the Nominating Committee. This means of voting, however, does not give you any choice, but only approval of the names on the Slate. Most vote YES, but usually 1% votes NO. This method long ago was agreed upon by the Division as the fairest and simplest. In answer to criticism that this method does not actually constitute an election, a proposal has been made and approved by the Management Board of the Division that in addition to nominating a Chairman, a First Vice Chairman, and a Secretary, the Nominating Committee shall henceforth nominate two Second Vice Chairmen. (It is assumed each officer hereafter will occupy each office in progression from Second Vice Chairman to Chairman.) In order for such a change to be "in accordance with the election procedures of the Society" (Geomorphology Division By-Laws, Article IV, Section 3), it is necessary to receive the approval of the GSA Council. The Division will seek this approval by submitting the proposed change to the Council when it meets in Boulder, Colorado, on May 1 and 2, 1970. The next step in the procedure will be to give everyone in the Division the opportunity to agree to or to oppose the change. A polling of the entire Division membership will be taken the latter part of May or the first part of June. You will be asked to mark a ballot at that time as you believe appropriate and to return it to the Secretary of the Division.

For several years it has become increasingly apparent that the single name of our Division fails to encompass all the disciplines represented by our numerous affiliates (and incidentally may be in part responsible for the lack of papers offered for presentation at our technical sessions). In the last 5 years many have joined our ranks from numerous allied fields of research. After long deliberation, the Management Board proposes that the Division should change its name to the longer, more inclusive name: QUATERNARY GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY DIVISION. With this name, the Division will represent more faithfully the many fields of research with which we are involved, and those colleagues in the interdisciplinary areas will be more readily disposed towards offering the results of their research at our technical sessions. Papers in palynology, Quaternary stratigraphy, climatology, geochronology, archeology, and even plant and animal ecology will have a place beside those in geomorphology and glacial geology. A proposal for a name change needs to be presented to the GSA Council for approval in the same manner as the above-mentioned nominating procedure change. This will be taken care of at the May Council Meeting and will be followed by the mail ballot.

During the summer, the First Vice Chairman of the Division meets in Boulder, Colorado, with the Program Committee for the Annual Meeting of the Society of that year, and helps with the organization of the technical sessions in Geomorphology and Pleistocene Geology and evaluates the abstracts of papers submitted for oral presentation at those sessions. This man often needs advice and the experience of continuity to provide maximum service to the Division at these meetings. This matter was brought to our attention by the Executive Secretary of the Society and the former First Vice Chairman of the Division. The Management Board, therefore, has authorized every First Vice Chairman in the future to select and invite a colleague from the central Rocky Mountain region (for convenience in travel), who may or may not have served in this capacity, to join him at these meetings as his guide and assistant.

The Management Board has approved suggestions that the Division annually sponsor and organize through the Society a Symposium on one or several selected topics in the broad fields of Geomorphology, Pleistocene Geology, and Quaternary Geology at each of the future Annual Meetings of the Society. Organization of such a Symposium for the 1970 Annual Meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has been placed in the hands of Robert F. Black and Richard P. Goldthwait. Some topics already suggested are: Denudation Rates and Rates of Sedimentation, Development of Coastal Features and Rising Sealevel, Late Pleistocene Climatic Patterns, Relationship between Pleistocene Climates and Mid-continent Glaciations, Relation between Quaternary Marine and Continental Sequences, Pluvial History in the American West. Please send more suggestions. We need volunteers from the Washington, D. C. area to organize a similar Symposium for the 1971 Annual Meetings there. Anybody willing? Please write to the Chairman of the Division, David M. Hopkins.

Several affiliates via the Management Board have requested consideration of Memorial Awards and Commemorative Research Funds. It is of unanimous opinion that we do not wish to detract in any way from the prestige and significance of the Kirk Bryan Award by sponsoring another named award for a best paper. Hence, the proposal that the Division might establish through the Society a Quaternary Commemorative Research Fund with the requirement of a certain minimum endowment (e.g., \$5,000), given in the name of some recently departed famous geomorphologist. Any number of friends, families, and colleagues might then contribute through the Society to this fund, and eventually augment it so that the interest might be sufficient as an annual Award to support, for example, the field research of one or several promising young students in Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology. Since this whole matter of a Quaternary Commemorative Research Fund is paramount as well as timely, the Management Board plans to study this proposal during the current year, and requests the whole Division also to give it serious consideration. If you believe the idea is a good one, please write to the Chairman of the Division, David M. Hopkins, and let him know. If you have alternate or better ideas, please send them along, too. We need support in this matter.

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS

In our note to the Affiliates of the Division of March 1967, we printed a List of Notable Publications that your colleagues had recommended in one way or another in the previous four years. We believed that many of those then listed sooner or later would take their place among the excellent if not classic papers in geomorphology. In fact, four out of the 17 had become or were to become Kirk Bryan Award winners. In similar fashion, we list here another group for your inspection, expecting that time will tell their value; they too have been recommended by your colleagues.

- Benedict, James B., 1967-1968, Recent glacial history of an alpine area in the Colorado Front Range, U.S.A. I. Establishing a lichen-growth curve, *J. Glaciol.*, v. 6, p. 817-832 (1967); II. Dating the glacial deposits, *J. Glaciol.*, v. 7, p. 77-87 (1968)
- Bloom, Arthur L., 1967, Pleistocene shorelines: a new test of isostasy, *Geol. Soc. Amer. Bull.*, v. 78, p. 1477-1494
- Bryan, Rorke B., 1968-69, The development, use and efficiency of indices of soil erodibility, *Geoderma*, v. 2, Elsevier Publishing Co.
- Cox, Allan, 1969, Geomagnetic reversals, *Science*, v. 163, p. 237-244
- Hopkins, David M., 1967, Quaternary marine transgressions in Alaska, in Hopkins, D. M. (Editor), *The Bering Land Bridge*, Stanford Univ. Press, p. 47-90
- Keller, William D., 1969, *Chemistry in Introductory Geology*, 4th Edition, Lucas Brothers Publishers, 108 pp.

- Langbein, W. B., and Leopold, L. B., 1964, Quasi-equilibrium states in channel morphology, Amer. Jour. Sci., v. 262, p. 782-794
- Mackay, Ross, 1963, The Mackenzie Delta Area, N.W.T., Canada Dept. Mines and Techn. Surveys, Geogr. Branch Mem. 8, 202 pp.
- Malde, Harold E., 1968, The catastrophic late Pleistocene Bonneville flood in the Snake River Plain, Idaho, U. S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 596, 52 pp.
- Morisawa, Marie, 1968, Streams: their dynamics and morphology, McGraw-Hill Book Co., 175 pp.
- Morrison, Roger B., 1964, Lake Lahontan: geology of southern Carson Desert, Nevada, U. S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 401, 156 pp.
- Ruhe, Robert V., 1967, Geomorphic surfaces and surficial deposits in southern New Mexico, State Bur. Mines & Min. Resources, N. M. Inst. Mining & Techn. Mem. 18, 65 pp.
- Ruhe, Robert V., 1969, Quaternary landscapes in Iowa, Iowa State Univ. Press, 255 pp.
- Schumm, Stanley A., 1968, River adjustment to altered hydrologic regimen -- Murrumbidgee River and paleochannels, Australia, U. S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 598, 65 pp.
- Shreve, Ronald L., 1968, The Blackhawk Landslide, Geol. Soc. Amer. Special Paper 108, 47 pp.
- Washburn, A. Lincoln, 1967, Instrumental observations of mass-wasting in the Mesters Vig district, northeast Greenland, Medd. om Grønland, Bd. 166, Nr. 4, 296 pp.
- Washburn, A. Lincoln, 1969, Weathering, frost action, and patterned ground in the Mesters Vig district, northeast Greenland, Medd. om Grønland, Bd. 176, Nr. 4, 303 pp.

F I N I S

Does anyone care to assume the responsibility of producing The Geomorphologist, the Newsletter of the Geomorphology Division, after this next Spring 1970 issue? The current Editor wishes to be relieved of the task, after having already laboured and brought forth 8 issues (No. 6 in 1962 through No. 13 in 1969). Any volunteers, please? Write to the Chairman of the Division, David M. Hopkins, or to the Secretary, if you would like to become the next Editor.

And, by the way, if you have not yet sent in to the Editor news for issue No. 14 about your research, recently completed, currently in progress, or planned for the future, then please do so as soon as you can. Let's make this next issue the biggest one!

Sidney E. White
Secretary