Those days have long since passed. Most provincial surveys now present their highly technical reports to a very specialized readership without even a "by your leave" to those who subsidize the studies on which the reports are based. The GSC still has prefaces to its Bulletin and Memoir series. Unfortunately they are all short and crisp and say exactly the same thing, viz. "Such detailed studies form the foundation upon which is based the precise dating and correlation of rocks which make up the geological framework of Canada ...(they) contribute toward the inventory of energy resources ...". Unfortunately, these prefaces all ring of civil service, ass-covering baffle-gab to the lay reader who probably hasn't any idea of what a geological framework might be.

This brings to mind the GSC Bulletin by Wayne Brideaux entitled "Taxonomy of Upper Jurassic-Lower Cretaceous Microplankton from the Richardson Mountains". It was singled out for particular criticism in a series of columns attacking government publication policy in the Globe and Mail. The columnist, Geoffrey Stevens, asked "How much money is Ottawa wasting by publishing books, reports and periodicals that no one will read". He had been misinformed as to the total sales of this Bulletin and he had been misled by the title and the skimpy preface into believing it was a riddled piece of descriptive science that was of little use to God or Man. Geologists generally were angry about the attack, knowing that Brideaux's was a good and useful piece of work. Some were even amused, knowing that on the strength of this and a few other similar reports, an oil company had already hired Wayne Brideaux away from the Survey. Some were perplexed, knowing that Stevens was usually a careful and fair reporter, both in his column and as a guest commentator on radio shows. As a perplexed editor, I wondered if Stevens might have reacted differently if William Logan had written a decent preface to this otherwise first-rate report. It would have been a long preface because it would start by telling what microplankton were and also something of the science of palynology and its potential for interpreting the environment. Then it would zero in on why the author was collecting his specimens from the 150 million year old rocks on the east flank of the Richardson and carefully zoning this well-exposed sequence. The strata exposed in the Richardsons are laterally continuous with the oil- and gas-bearing strata deep below the surface of the highly favourable Mackenzie Delta region. If William Logan was around he would have made damned sure that the Governor-in-Council and all citizens entitled to the vote got the message. They would realize that this report provided a tool for the petroleum geologists who examine well-cuttings and who correlate from well to well in order to locate promising targets.

With such a Logan-like preface, would columnist Stevens have held this report up to ridicule? I don't think so and neither does author Brideaux. Therein lies my parting bit of advice to government editors: Back to Logan A.S.A.P.

Petroleum Geology from Coast to Coast

GAC's sister society, the CSPG, is determined to make its influence felt far beyond the Calgary city limits. I was fortunate to be present at the first meeting of its National Liaison Committee which included activists such as the east coast's Graham Williams, the west coast's Bob Thompson and people from in between such as Rand Harrison, Norm Wardlaw and Lawrence Viggrass.

The CSPG has been trying to enhance its image across the country for several years, beginning with notable thrusts during Jack McMillan's 1977 reign. News of its activities appear in Geolog and its annual student field trip and its prizes at student meetings have made it well known on campuses across the country as have the cross-country tours of its top speakers of the year. Activities have increased during the 1981 presidency of Fred Calverley who strongly feels that the
rich and highly organized CSPG has an
obligation to disseminate word of
advances in petroleum geoscience
across the country. Fred, and president-elect Neil Hutton, do not look upon this
as a recruiting campaign for members
but as the national obligation of a
successful society whose major activities have
hitherto been confined to a single city - for very obvious reasons. Where
possible, they hope to work with
established national and local societies to
produce a variety of joint programs.

Some of the suggestions that the
Liaison Committee made to the Executive
Committee of CSPG were:
• Regional input to the Executive
  Committee, e.g. by having areal
  representatives designated ex officio
  members of that committee.
• Establishment of formal relationships
  with local and national societies, e.g.,
  CSPG and GAC could each appoint a
  representative of the other to their
  editorial committees. The Atlantic
  Geoscience Society has already
  appointed the local CSPG
  representative as its official liaison
  person.
• Some meetings should be held
  outside Calgary, preferably in
  conjunction with another society which
  is already established at the
  chosen site (e.g. GAC Section in St.
  John's, Nfld., or the CIM group in
  Ottawa).
• A quarterly CSPG information bulletin
  should be widely circulated across the
country - preferably through existing
  newsletters (e.g. Geol).
• Improvement of the District Speakers
  Program by giving longer notice of
  their availability, having them talk at
times and in places where they will
  reach maximum audiences and
  suggesting that they conduct career
  seminars for interested groups of
  university students.
• Travelling displays of cores and other
  exhibits, usually mounted by indi-
  vidual companies, could be advertised
  and co-ordinated by CSPG.
• Short courses, again often put on by
  individual companies, could be
  advertised and co-ordinated by CSPG.
• Field trip guides and road maps
  should be supported by CSPG on an
  even larger scale than heretofore.
• The CSPG should act as a clearing
  house to bring postgraduate students
  in touch with projects that industry
  would be willing to sponsor.

Most or all of the CSPG areal repre-
sentatives are also GAC members of long
standing. Their intent is to bring the two
societies together to improve profes-
sional programs across the country. You
should be seeing evidence of it long
before you read this but if you are not,
and if you have good ideas on how to
bring such cooperation about, contact
any of those mentioned in the first
paragraph or Noel James in St. John's,
Eric Mountjoy in Montreal, Don Sherwin
in Ottawa, Andrew Mail in Toronto or Bill
Last in Winnipeg.

The GSA Shifts Gears
The Geological Society of America which
has been coasting downhill for a long
time is gearing up for a rapid ascent in
the year ahead. Its serious troubles began
some time ago when it converted its
prestigious Bulletin to microfiche and its
prestigious stable of authors (more so
than subscribers) began to boycott it. But
it had other troubles which extended
back further: endowed with riches by a
generous patron long ago, it had built up
an enormous, self-perpetuating salaried
staff and a sumptuous, country-club like
headquarters in sunny Boulder, Colorado.
Poor investments, a levelling of membership (at about 12,000) and a
decision to make subscriptions to
collections optional all spelled
increasing trouble. Publication Study began to cut through
this morass of troubles about a year
ago. The membership was polled,
printing and processing costs were
investigated and marketing and financing
were examined. Recommendations that
came out of the studies have already
been implemented: (1) No more fiche; (2)
Volunteer "outside" editors for the
Bulletin, Geology, Map Series and the
Memoir Series (our own Glen Caldwell
in this case); (3) All members get all
publications; (4) An aggressive campaign
to secure advertising for the Bulletin and
Geology; (5) Instigation of voluntary
page charges; (6) A Publications
Committee with teeth - all four editors
will be among its members; (7) Accept-
ance of bank credit cards to pay for
memberships and publications.

These innovations have already
reversed the downhill slide - at last
report, first-rate manuscripts were
deluging the editor of the revived
Bulletin, erosion by resignations had
come to a halt and advertising revenues
were beginning to flow in. Retiring
president Howard Gould can look back
with satisfaction on a year of activity and
change. Incoming president, Digby, J.
McLaren can look forward to a year when
the venerable Society becomes
completely rejuvenated.

Messages For Cajuns
The GAC has never been unfortunate
even to have received a large donation of
any kind so it limp along in makeshift
quarters with an underpaid, salaried staff
of three to service its 3000 members.
Nonetheless, there are important
messages to be drawn from the GSA
experience.

First is the publication situation. There
are pressures at each of our annual
meetings to drop or make optional some
or all of our publications. The GSA found
that by doing this, and reducing press-
runs, those who continued to take publica-
tions were faced with higher charges.
Those who decided not to take publica-
tions soon lost all interest in the Society.
The answer is to improve the quality of
publications but not to drop them.

Second, the salaried staff at GSA, even
now that it is reduced to 30 is still
proportionately much larger than the 3
who handle the chore work of our very
active organization. Over the years we
have relied on enormous contributions of
hours from volunteer people such as
Chris Barnes and, later, Alan Morgan to
keep our shop running. Our councillors
and committees have paid their own way
or asked their employers to pay their way
to meetings. Even those who have their
fares paid by their employers are making
sacrifices for, if they are sponsored to a
GAC Council meeting, it is unlikely that
they will get to that conference in
Arkansas or the seminar in La Jolla.
Attempts to pay honoraria and travel
expenses have been brought forward
from time to time and always shot down
except for very special cases. It is one of
the few ways that most Canadian
employers can be coerced into making
a contribution to geoscience.

Seeing something of the enormous
drain on GSA's treasury by the travels of
its many committees and knowing
something of the cost of its large
bureaucracy makes one appreciate the
low-key way in which GAC has been able
to do so many things so well - on the
cheap.

Congratulations
• To Ray Price who, after two months
  as Senior Research Scientist with the
  GSC in Ottawa, took over the helm as
  Director General. There are so many
  fast shifts at the top in GSC that
  Geoscience Canada cannot keep abreast of them. Readers are advised to
  keep informed by telephone until
  the situation in high places stabilizes.
Position Available

Mount Allison University

FACULTY POSITION

The Department of Geology invites applications for a position at the assistant or associate professor level beginning July 1982. We are seeking an applicant with a strong background in the general fields of Economic Geology, Petroleum Geology or Geophysics. At the time of appointment the successful applicant must have completed all requirements for the Ph.D. degree and should demonstrate enthusiasm to initiate an energetic research program in his/her specialty.

The successful applicant will be expected to teach courses from Economic Geology, Geophysics, Petroleum Geology etc. at the undergraduate level and participate in the teaching of introductory level courses and field school activities.

Mount Allison University is situated on the isthmus joining Nova Scotia to Mainland New Brunswick in the town of Sackville (pop. 6,000). With a current enrollment of almost 1800 students, the university offers a full range of programs in Arts, Science, Education and Professional Schools. Candidates should send application, resume, and the names and addresses of three referees as soon as possible to: Dr. Laing Ferguson, Head, Department of Geology, Mount Allison University, Sackville, N.B. E0A 3C0.

Canadian immigration regulations require that Canadian citizen and landed immigrants be given first preference.

Geological Association of Canada
Association Géologique du Canada

Western and Arctic Canadian Biostratigraphy

Perceval Sydney Warren Memorial Volume

Edited by C.R. Steck and B.D.E. Chatterton
Geological Association of Canada Special Paper 18

This book, which includes 16 papers from a symposium of the same name, contains papers of biostratigraphic interest ranging in age from the Ordovician through to the Tertiary.

ISBN 0-919216-12-9

Order from:
Geological Association of Canada
Business and Economic Service Ltd.
111 Peter Street, Suite 509
Toronto, Ontario M5V 2H1

GAC Members $18.50,
Non-Members $22.00
(please add $2.50 for postage and handling after July 1, 1981).

How To Comply With the New Copyright Law

Participation in the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) assures you of legal photocopying at the moment of need. You can:

Fill requests for multiple copies, interlibrary loan (beyond the CONTU guidelines), and reserve desk without fear of copyright infringement.

Supply copies simply and easily from registered publications. The CCC's flexible reporting system accepts photocopying reports and returns an itemized invoice. You need not keep any records, our computer will do it for you.

The Copyright Clearance Center is your one-stop place for on-the-spot clearance to photocopy for internal use. You will never have to decline a photocopy request or wonder about compliance with the law for any publication registered with the CCC.

For more information, just contact:

Copyright Clearance Center
21 Congress Street
Salem, Massachusetts 01970
(617) 744-3350

a not-for-profit corporation