

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

The Geological Association of Canada and The Mineralogical Association of Canada, Joint Annual Meetings, Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 30 - September 2, 1970.

The 1970 Joint Annual Meetings of the Geological Association of Canada and Mineralogical Association of Canada will be held on the campus of The University of Manitoba in Winnipeg from August 30 to September 2.

Three pre-meeting and five post-meeting field trips are planned in Manitoba. Four trips will include the geology and mineral resources of selected Precambrian terrains, and others will examine Paleozoic and Paleozoic-Mesozoic strata, Pleistocene stratigraphy, and industrial mineral deposits.

Twelve scientific sessions will be held including a symposium on Geoscience Studies in Manitoba. Recent research and summary papers on the structure and composition of the Precambrian Shield and the overlying Paleozoic-Mesozoic rocks, as well as in the fields of hydrogeology and Quaternary geology of Manitoba will be presented at this session.

Most of the Canadians involved in investigating Apollo lunar materials will speak on their work at a Special Session on Canadian Investigations of Apollo Lunar Materials. A display of lunar materials is planned which will add immeasurably to the timeliness of this session.

A Special Session on Pegmatite Minerals will include papers describing Ta and Li minerals from the Tanco (Chemalloy) pegmatite at Bernic Lake, Manitoba and rare earth element minerals from the Evans-Lou pegmatite in Portland-West Township, Quebec and from pegmatites of the South Platte District, Colorado.

Further information is available from: R.F.J. Scoates, General Chairman, GAC/MAC '70, Room 901, Norquay Building, 401 York Avenue, Winnipeg 1, Manitoba.

24th International Geological Congress, Montreal, Canada, August 21-30, 1972.

By mid-June 1970, 6,344 responses had been received to the First Circular of the 24th International Geological Congress which will be held in Montreal from August 21st to 30th, 1972. The responses have come from 107 countries. Almost 3,100 adults and 1,300 children will accompany the more than 6,000 registrants planning to attend.

Congress field trips will be held before and after the technical sessions. Almost 5,000 people will participate in the field excursion program. The most popular excursion based on the returns obtained thus far is one of the most distant -- the Geology of the Arctic Islands. More than 230 requests have been obtained for this excursion which is listed as being able to accommodate 36 persons. An attempt will be made to accommodate more applicants on this particular excursion.

It is also evident that geologists are interested in most of the excursions dealing with the mineral deposits of Canada. Trips on which the themes are a general overview of stratigraphy and structure, are also quite popular. Some very specialized excursions which received a high response include those dealing with vertebrate paleontology and engineering geology. An "excursion" dealing with computer applications in geology has been fully subscribed.

Leaders of field excursions are now engaged in finalizing their itineraries, schedules, accommodations and travel arrangements. Excursions to remote regions pose special problems: weather in the northern latitudes and in the mountains of Western Canada is unpredictable, and those excursions using charter aircraft and helicopters may require last minute modification. The use of helicopters marks the first time this mode of transport will be used in a Congress of this kind.

Field Guide books will have the same format as those used at previous Congresses. Each book will be approximately five inches by eight inches and will consist of approximately 60 pages which will include line drawings, maps, sections, etc. Supplementary information in the form of detailed geologic maps of the area of the excursion, a geologic map of Canada (recently published by the Geological Survey of Canada) and other data pertinent to the individual excursion, will be supplied.

The organization of the field excursion program is under the direction of M.E. Hriskevich of

Calgary who is being assisted by the following regional chairman: J.O. Wheeler (Vancouver); E.W. Best (Calgary); R.F. Jon Scoates (Winnipeg); J.A. Donaldson (Ottawa); R. Bergeron (Quebec) and A.L. McAllister (Fredericton).

Participants will gather at the dispersal centres -- Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Montreal and Halifax in order to minimize the many problems including registration, group assembly, orientation, money-changing facilities, initial accommodations and such mundane matters as lost luggage.

The response to the Congress's field trips has been most enthusiastic. Comments have been received about the high cost of some of the excursions which is due to the distance involved. Field excursion leaders have been requested to estimate their costs as precisely as possible in order to keep expenses at a minimum. The wish of the Congress is to draw to the attention of all earth scientists wishing to attend that only those replying to the First Circular will receive additional information regarding the Congress.

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REPORTS ON RECENT MEETINGS

Geology Working Group, Resource Satellites and Remote Airborne Sensing, Ottawa, Ont.

A working group concerned with geological applications of remote sensing from aircraft and satellites was organized recently at a meeting in Ottawa. The Geology Working Group is one of twelve such groups that will review the technology and applications of remote sensing and make recommendations to the Federal Government for a national program.

Interagency Committee on Resource Satellites and Remote Airborne Sensing:

Such a broad study was initiated by the Cabinet Committee on Science Policy and Technology when it instructed the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources to convene an interagency committee on resource satellites and remote airborne sensing. This committee, chaired by Dr. J.M. Harrison, has the primary goals of:

- (1) co-ordinating and funding federal government plans for advancing remote-sensing technology in Canada;
- (2) recognizing applications of remote sensing in the assessment of Canada's natural resources, in the monitoring of ecological conditions and pollution, in the inventorying of farm and forest productivity and in the planning and monitoring of land use;
- (3) extending remote sensing technology to assist developing nations;
- (4) planning and recommending a pertinent organization to carry out a national program as warranted by the study.

Program Planning Office:

Supporting the interagency committee is a Program Planning Office (PPO) directed by Dr. L.W. Morley. This interim organization will phase out of existence upon submission of its final report for inclusion in the 1971-72 Estimates. This report is to contain recommendations for the organization and support of a national program. The PPO will also manage certain urgent projects until such time as permanent management is established. It is also to consider the need for pertinent symposia and training sessions.

In order to assure a broad technical input, the PPO has set up working groups with representation from appropriate disciplines in governments, universities and industries (see organizational chart attached). Such working groups will function for about one year, presenting their final reports on March 1st, 1971.

Geology Working Group:

The Geology Working Group is concerned with defining practical applications of remote sensing from aircraft or spacecraft to the study of terrestrial and coastal geology. It is not concerned with the operation of conventional airborne geophysical or photographic surveys, or similar mission-oriented surveys. Major interest is directed to sensors detecting electromagnetic radiations between the microwave and ultra-violet bands, with special emphasis on multi-spectral observations in the visible spectrum.

The objective of such planning is to identify the common interests of many user agencies across Canada and to consider the means of focussing the research effort, centralizing major flight, sensor and processing facilities and minimizing the overall cost of essential but

expensive experiments.

The Geology Working Group has the following general terms of reference:

- (1) To consider how Canadian geologists should be prepared for handling and interpreting data from NASA's Earth Resource Technology Satellites and recommend action necessary to achieve this preparation before the initial launch in March, 1972.
- (2) Consider, describe and report on geologic and geophysical parameters that might be measured by remote sensing, giving some indication as to their relative importance and value.
- (3) Identify on-going Canadian programs that could benefit from either resource satellite or remote airborne sensing and forecast the improvements in service that might accrue.
- (4) Make recommendations for a national program on remote sensing that would provide optimum service to the geological community.
- (5) Recommend the kind of a management organization and budget which would be required to carry out the above program.
- (6) Consider and report on the case for an independent Canadian resource satellite.
- (7) Pursue a program of education of the potential users in remote sensing by organizing symposia, or causing them to be organized, by arranging special laboratory tours and by distributing special bibliographies and notices of meetings on remote sensing.
- (8) To undertake, or cause to be undertaken, special pilot projects pertinent to the interpretation of remotely sensed data in order to develop Canadian expertise prior to the launching of ERTS.

The Geology Working Group is comprised of 12 members with equal representation from industry, provincial governments, universities and the federal government. They will prepare individual statements for compilation into a preliminary brief. This brief will be circulated beyond the working group for additions and revisions. The final report will be drafted by December, 1970. Comments and questions will be welcomed by members of the working group, a list of which follows:

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