

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHOTOGRAMMETRY

by

O. S. Reading

Any one listening to discussions of the relative merits of single lens and multi-lens photographs, of focal plane versus between-the-lens shutters, of plotting machines versus photographs combined with plane table, will be impressed with the resemblance of the present state of photogrammetry in this country to the fable of the three blind men examining an elephant. As I remember the story, one blind man felt the trunk, another the legs, and a third the tail. Each thought the other very stupid and very much mistaken as to the character of the animal. In much the same manner, each one of us has had more or less limited experience with different types of photographs and has compiled different types of maps from them, but few of us are experts in all branches of the art. Each has much to gain from listening to the ideas and experiences of others for we are all feeling our way rather blindly around the tremendous new possibilities of mapping from aerial photographs.

It is planned that the activities of the American Society of Photogrammetry will serve to unify and make effective the present scattered hopes, aspirations, ideals, knowledge, and experience of its members through the following types of activity discussed below.

- The News Letter -

A News Letter will be published in which photo mapping activities in this country and abroad will be described and discussed, and which will furnish the members of the Society with an unexcelled means of inter-communication. It is hoped that in the News Letter, the various members of the Society will discuss fully and frankly the work which they have been doing and will criticize in a constructive fashion the work of others. Through such an interchange of experiences and ideas, we will all acquire a much more accurate and complete knowledge of the new art of photogrammetry.

The discussions will not be confined to work being done. They will touch upon hypothetical projects with which some of us may be confronted in the future. If the News Letter has the circulation for which we now hope, the propounders of such project problems may thus be able to obtain valuable advice and suggestions from members of the Society.

The mimeographed style of the News Letter is informal just as the discussions will be. Let us reserve our formal and carefully considered statements for the Year Book. If we spray our discussions informally around like the stream from a hose, we are

much more likely to cover the subject and to hit the important points, than if we try, with our present incomplete knowledge, to hit them with a few precise statements. And let no man fear to display his ignorance. Those of us who have been working and studying long enough to have learned we are mistaken, also remember how many foolish statements we ourselves have made and are charitable. Those who make no mistakes neither learn nor accomplish much in this world.

- The Year Book -

It is planned that the Society will publish an annual Year Book. In it will be reprinted important technical papers, discussions and articles translated from foreign languages which have appeared in the News Letter during the preceding months. It will also contain such additional technical papers and discussions as are required to present a complete picture of the progress of the art of photogrammetry during each year. Thus it will serve as a valuable reference work for all members of the profession.

- Translations from Foreign Languages -

A committee on translation will prepare translations of articles in foreign languages which are of especial interest to members of the Society. These translations will appear in the News Letter and in the Year Book, and will furnish valuable information which might otherwise be unavailable.

- Meetings of the Society -

Periodical meetings of the Society will be held which will enable members to meet and know others interested in the same subject. For each occasion there will be prepared an interesting program of discussion. It is planned that these meetings will be sufficiently informal in character to permit of the fullest and frankest presentation of the many difficult problems facing our profession.

- The Technical Committees -

In order that the best minds and the widest experience may be brought to bear upon the various technical problems of interest to members of the Society, it has been decided to appoint a series of technical committees. These committees will submit periodical reports and discussions for publication in the News Letter and the Year Book. To them will be referred requests by members of the Society for information and technical suggestions. Where such inquiries are of general interest, they will be printed in the News Letter along with the reply or advice from the particular committee to which they are referred.

Naturally, the membership of the committees is being selected from among those experts known to have done valuable work in their special subject. Where possible, divergent views and interests are represented in order that there may be ample

discussion of controversial subjects, with the submission of minority reports or recommendations for research and experiment where discussion does not lead to agreement.

The technical committees are listed below, with membership indicated, subject to acceptance by members absent from Washington.

Executive Committee

C. H. Birdseye, Chairman
J. W. Bagley
O. S. Reading
J. W. Ninneman
M. S. Wright
W. N. Brown
C. W. Collier

Membership Committee

J. W. Ninneman, Chairman
R. K. Bean
B. G. Jones
J. H. Wheat
S. D. Sarason

Publications Committee

C. W. Collier, Chairman
L. T. Eliel
O. S. Reading
J. H. Wheat
M. S. Wright

Program Committee

O. S. Reading, Chairman
J. W. Bagley
C. H. Davey
M. S. Wright

Committee on Translations

Heinz Gruner, Chairman (German)
Volunteers desired (French)
Volunteers desired (Italian)
G. Medina (Spanish)

Committee on Photographic Maps

O. S. Reading, Chairman
Weld Arnold
J. W. Bagley
C. H. Davey
M. S. Wright

Committee on Specifications
of Maps and Photographs

J. W. Bagley, Chairman
W. N. Brown
L. T. Eliel
W. S. Park
J. H. Wheat

Committee on Photo Technique
and Instruments

A. W. Stevens, Chairman
I. C. Gardner
Virgil Kaufman
F. W. Lutz
Ashley McKinley

Committee on Plotting Instruments

Bruce C. Hill, Chairman
L. T. Eliel
Heinz Gruner
T. P. Pendleton

Committee on Mathematical
Analysis

Earl Church, Chairman
L. H. Caldwell
Bruce C. Hill

- Affiliation with the International -
Society of Photogrammetry

It is planned that the Society will be affiliated with the International Society of Photogrammetry, which will give our members valuable contacts and standing with photogrammetrists in other countries. Such an affiliation was made possible and desirable at the International Congress of Photogrammetrists held in Zurich in 1930, through the adoption of new and liberal statutes for the International Society, the decision to print the proceedings in English and French, as well as in German, and the plans adopted to reprint and make available the technical articles previously published in the Archiv fur Photogrammetric.

Through the International Society, we shall be associated with other national societies located all over the world and listed below:

	<u>Number of Members</u>
German Society of Photogrammetry	266
Austrian Society of Photogrammetry	82
Spanish Society of Photogrammetry	140
Finnish Society of Photogrammetry	No Record
French Society of Photogrammetry	101
Hungarian Society of Photogrammetry	84
Latvian Society of Photogrammetry	24
Norwegian Society of Photogrammetry	17
Polish Society of Photogrammetry	104
Rumanian Society of Photogrammetry	66
Swedish Society of Photogrammetry	60
Swiss Society of Photogrammetry	75
Czechoslovakian Society of Photogrammetry	81
Belgian Society of Photogrammetry	No Record

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RANDOM FACTS AND FANCIES

by

W. N. Brown

Our national development, after many years of "Just growing like Topsy" is now entering an era of planning. Witness the many news items. Among them we have proposals for the planned development of several large river valleys, covering thousands of square miles; planned forest belts to modify the climate of vast areas; planning to prevent soil erosion on the Indian Reservations, and many other planned activities familiar to all who read.

Correlated to the thought of extensive planning is the thought of a program of extensive mapping of the physical data. Successful planning of physical conditions must have a wide range of maps. These will extend from the photographic print and the mosaic to the accurate topographic map. It is generally accepted as true "That no survey of any magnitude, that may be called a standard survey, will be made in the future without the