

REMARKS OF THE RETIRING PRESIDENT

I WELCOME you to the 1942 annual meeting of the American Society of Photogrammetry. In keeping with the tradition established by my predecessors, and considering the increasing importance of photogrammetry, our program chairman had planned a very interesting convention for this year. However, in view of the present state of war, the Board of Directors considered it advisable to cancel the regular convention. Now, more than ever in the history of our country, we are called to give the utmost in us to the cause of free people all over the world. Therefore, I am sure that you will agree that our decision in cancelling the regular convention was a wise one.

We had ambitious plans for 1942—we had hoped to attain a membership of close to a thousand; we intended to carry our message all over America. The hand of destiny, however, interfered with these plans. Even last January, the threat of war was already spreading its ugly mantle over our peaceful shores, and, as the months passed, all of us were called upon to devote more and more time to the task of preparing for December 7, 1941.

Yet, despite the limited time available to us to further the aims of the Society, we have accomplished a great deal. Our travelling exhibit and the preparation of a manual of photogrammetry are proof that something constructive has been done. The travelling exhibit is now in Texas where it has received wide publicity. I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Mr. Robert Coltharp for his co-operation and generosity in taking charge of the exhibit at the end of the Tulsa Convention. He is now re-arranging the exhibit preparatory to its delivery to Syracuse University, where it will have its first showing in the East. Professor Church has kindly consented to take charge of the exhibit and arrange for its display throughout colleges and universities in the United States which are interested in photogrammetry. We owe him a debt of gratitude for his loyalty and active participation in our work.

The October–November–December, 1941, issue of *PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING* outlines the subject matter to be covered by our "Manual of Photogrammetry." I have been advised by the George Banta Publishing Company that the cost of 3,000 copies of a book of 500 pages printed entirely from standing type, with 2,000 copies bound in paper and 1,000 copies bound in cloth, will be about \$2,050. Additional copies printed and bound at the same time can be furnished for about \$57.25 per hundred if bound in cloth and for about \$36.75 per hundred if bound in paper.

Much work remains to be done before our manual is completed and ready for issue, but, when that day comes, all of us will feel proud of this valuable contribution of our Society to photogrammetry and education.

During the past year, a new organization, the National Congress of Surveying and Mapping, has come into existence. It has been suggested that we affiliate with the Congress. However, the Board of Direction is of the opinion that the American Society of Photogrammetry has a distinct function to perform and that nothing would be gained by this affiliation. Our task is that of advancing the knowledge in the science of photogrammetry and we are doing a good job of it by devoting our undivided attention to this field which heretofore was a specialty of the European nations. We have all the talent necessary to make America the leader in photogrammetry.

I sincerely hope that nothing will ever be done to dampen our spirits or hamper our work. We can reach our goal by increasing our strength, not by diluting it. Our country has just begun to fight and it is going to need the help that we as photogrammetrists can offer to the cause of victory.