

Reports

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Several relatively important happenings during the year include:

1. The publication of the *MANUAL OF PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION* and the sale of over 3,000 copies.
2. Participation in the International Congress of Photogrammetry in London in September, attended by 70 U. S. delegates.
3. The appointment of Mr. George D. Whitmore to membership on the Council of the International Society.
4. The designation of the American Society for the chairmanship of Commission II (Plotting Theory and Instruments) for the 1964 meeting and the appointment of A. L. Nowicki and Chester Kowalczyk as President and Secretary of the Commission.
5. The addition of a Local Region in Alaska.
6. The visit of the National President to nine of the Local Regions.
7. The publication of a ten-year *INDEX OF THE JOURNAL*.

Regional organization efforts are active in three areas: San Antonio, Boston and Kansas City. Two former Regions remain inactive.

A common difficulty among the regional organizations was the scheduling of meetings each year. Areas where a varied scope of photogrammetric interest existed, experienced little or no difficulty. Coordination with ACSM, ASCE and the photographic society has been encouraging.

G. C. TEWINKEL
President

PRESIDENTIAL ACCEPTANCE SPEECH PROFESSOR ARTHUR J. McNAIR MARCH 22, 1961

It is indeed a great honor to be elected president of such a distinguished and vital a scientific society as the American Society of Photogrammetry. When the results of the election were announced I could not help but wonder as to the wisdom of the selections made. In the first place none of you know the incoming president as well as I do. Secondly you have selected a president from outside the Washington area. In the third place, of all things, for the first time in 27 years you have elected an educator. It is indeed an unknown quantity as to how a college professor will fill the shoes of the long line of illustrious past presidents which he is to follow.

Speaking more seriously, I realize the great honor and the serious responsibilities you have placed upon me as your president. I cannot but confide to you that I embark upon the position with definite feelings of humbleness. At the same time I have been greatly encouraged by the tremendous and unselfish offers of assistance volunteered by members of the Society. These expressions, coupled with your patience and understanding, reassure me that together we can look forward to an unfolding and developing future during the ensuing year.

It is certainly no secret that this Society is a strong, young, growing organization. The enthusiasm for photogrammetry on the part of its members, the search for new principles and applications, and the spirit of cooperation and the sharing of knowledge for the common progress of all, flourishing under the stimulus of friendly competition, is a distinguishing characteristic of the American Society of Photogrammetry. Loyal members serve the Society in many capacities. Some of these serve as officers, or as contributing authors, or as chairmen or deputy chairmen of committees which are designated, and thereby receive some recognition in the year-book listings or in the annual meetings programs. Others serve in small but necessary capacities with little or no recognition. It is proper here to acknowledge our debt of gratitude to these who lend a helping hand to the Society when it is needed.

It is not necessary here to eulogize the Society but a few words to indicate its recent accomplishments are apropos. The second edition of the *MANUAL OF PHOTOGRAMMETRY* is an internationally recognized authority on the subject. At the present rate of sales the edition will be exhausted soon and copies will

become collector's items. An editor-in-chief has been appointed for a third edition, and planning and writing will be progressing in 1961. The *MANUAL OF PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION* was published in 1960. It fills a definite need. The superior quality of this book, whose editor-in-chief was Robert N. Colwell, is indicated by the fact that it has been selected by the American Library Association as one of the 100 best technical books published in 1960. The magazine known as *PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING* continues to supply members timely, educational, and factual information so they can keep abreast of new developments. The *NEWSLETTER* supplies miscellaneous pertinent news of the Society, its members, and its doings. The *ANNUAL MEETING* provides a rostrum for the presentation and discussion of new ideas, and an opportunity for personal contacts and exchange of views. The American Society made a major contribution to each of the seven different Commissions of the International Society for Photogrammetry at the 1960 meeting in London. Many other activities have been embarked upon and successfully completed recently.

A thumb-nail review of the history of photogrammetry will show why your newly-elected president and the other officers, directors, and committee chairmen are so confident that 1961 is to be a year of tremendous new opportunities. Throughout its more than 100-year history, photogrammetry has a record of new developments being made for military purposes which are followed quickly by application of these new principles and devices to civilian uses. The first 75 years of photogrammetry were extremely crude by present day standards. When the American Society of Photogrammetry was founded in 1934 the word photogrammetry was almost exclusively synonymous with topographic mapping. At that time graphical and instrumental methods in photogrammetry provided almost the entire thinking on the subject.

By 1940 a few limited non-topographic uses of photogrammetry began to appear. By the close of World War II tremendous strides had

been made in photo interpretation, and by the mid-1950's photo interpretation had firmly established itself as the prime method for engineering project planning. Also by the mid-1950's electronics had loomed over the horizon and had been applied to many instrumental operations. Furthermore, the development of the electronic computer enabled the whole new approach of analytical photogrammetry to be investigated. It is hardly necessary to remind you of the impact that analytical photogrammetry has had on our thinking, our publications, and our instruments in the last five years.

Now we find ourselves literally expanding in all directions at once with unlimited horizons both literally and figuratively. On the one hand not only is photogrammetry and photo interpretation applied to terrestrial tasks, but also it is applied to weather mapping through meteorology and to lunar mapping through lunacy. On the other hand, electronics is being applied more and more extensively to eliminate manpower, and to speed the processes of data acquisition as in photo image measurement, of data digestion and assimilation as in photo interpretation and computation, and of data presentation as in photo tube displays and in plotting of graphs and maps. At the same time, because of greater precision in all these processes redoubled efforts are being made to improve film, film bases, lenses, cameras, mounts, and everything to do with obtaining better photographic images.

From this background let me state, as your president, a determination that the American Society of Photogrammetry shall continue to represent its members in these new and expanding fields of endeavor and to supply them, through meetings and publications, with the opportunity to learn and grow with this exciting science. Speaking for your officers, directors, and committee chairmen, let me express their confidence in 1961 as a year of progress with new opportunities to be seized, new service to be supplied to the membership, and with an acceptance of the challenge to expand.