

## *Reports of the Committees of the Society*

### THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

THE major portion of my report will be found in the YEARBOOK issue of PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING to be published in May, 1964. Here you will find the financial statement and reports of all Committee Chairmen. These reports are far more in detail than I can express here and they show the efforts expended and results attained by our many committees without which we could not prosper and/or survive as a Society. To those on these committees and to the officers and other members of the Society who so ably advised and assisted me in performing my duties, I give much credit and many thanks. I will, therefore, touch but briefly on a few highlights.

The Board of Directors met at four different times, approximately once a quarter, and the Executive Committee met five times. All meetings were well attended. Business was normal and that conducted was reported in the Board of Director's Minutes, with copies being sent to all Local Regions.

Few changes of policy were made during the year and in general, they were minor, but in each instance an effort was made to strengthen the position of the Society. Several worthy of note are as follows.

A membership certificate prompted by the St. Louis Region was adopted and may be procured by application to the National Headquarters. (See page 411.)

For the past several years, and probably since the formation of the Society, bookkeeping methods consisted in general of a set of records showing cash receipts and cash disbursed without due recognition to items received in advance or items received which reflected accountability to other than current budget year.

An easily integrated change has been made to the accrual method of record keeping which will make these items more easily recognized and give a truer picture of the Society's financial status at any given time. This will simplify and improve financial reporting. The

report of the Finance and Budget Committee points out this change in more detail.

#### OFFICE SPACE

Also, for the past several years, it has been thought and considered that the Society could improve its position in several categories if it were able to finance and procure its own office building and National Headquarters. At the last Executive Committee Meeting held this month, it was determined and decided that such a purchase at this time was not possible. Reasons affecting these decisions are related below.

At present the Society occupies approximately 900 square feet of floor space. Including a sizable library and reception area, it is doubtful that future requirements would exceed 2,000 square feet. However, the high cost of land in a suitable location makes it economically impractical to construct a single story building. For example, \$15.00 per square foot is not unusual for land in downtown Washington, D. C.—or a \$30,000 investment before beginning construction. Therefore, a building in the downtown area, whether new or old, must be a multi-floor construction to keep costs per square foot reasonable.

#### ACCOMMODATIONS

Because of the multi-floor type building, we would of necessity have to lease space to others. At present, ownership of office space is risky in the downtown area because of over building. The new buildings are attracting tenants from the older buildings by providing better service and accommodations. Therefore, any building acquired by the Society must provide the following accommodations: (1) central air conditioning; (2) first class, attractive construction and lighting; (3) elevator service if the building has more than two floors; (4) parking on premises or nearby; (5) prestige location; and (6) janitor services.

## FINANCING A NEW BUILDING

On December 31, 1963, the Society held \$40,000 in cash and negotiable securities. However, approximately one half represented 1964 income received in advance; therefore, only \$20,000 would be available for building purposes. The amount of mortgage obtainable would depend on: the appraised value of each building; the money-market at the time; and the risk factor assigned to the Society by the financing institution. However, a first trust mortgage equal to about 70% of the purchase price should be obtainable. Using a 70% mortgage, the \$20,000 available cash would therefore purchase a building worth about \$70,000.

In some cases, additional financing may be available through a second trust mortgage. However, unless there are good tenants to provide sufficient income to carry the second mortgage, the additional financing indicates we cannot afford the price.

## OTHER ITEMS

During my year in office I was able to attend only the meetings of the local regions: Central New York, Rocky Mountain, Rolla, and St. Louis. I regret that I was unable to visit more of the Regions but the scheduling of their meetings was not favorable. However I was able to attend the Canadian Institute of Surveying and the Ontario Surveyors Annual Meeting in Ottawa last month. Based on those visits to our Regions, I am in agreement with my predecessors that much room for improvement exists relative to the inter-Region and Region-Nation Headquarters communications. Action is underway to improve this.

Another item of policy created a paid position of Assistant Editor of the JOURNAL, and a salary paid to the Chairman of the Publications Committee.

Although the Corporate Membership for 1963 was the second highest in the history of the Society, it should be noted that 704 old members did not rejoin and had it not been for the increase of 682 new members, our loss would have been very substantial. This is not a healthy state. Those responsible for obtaining the new members deserve a vote of thanks from the entire Society. While the reasons for the loss of old members is not known, it may be assumed that a major cause may have been the increase in dues. If so, I do not believe the dropouts fully understand the Society's financial structure. For instance, even with the increase in dues, the monies received therefrom were less than one half of the total income received from all sources. This "other" income cannot fully support the Society. I urge every member to review carefully the financial report in order to be fully aware and cognizant of where the money comes from—and where it is spent. Another thought in this same direction: Of 3,590 Corporate Members, only 1,204 submitted votes in the Annual Election. Let's make this Society a 100% participation by all hands!

As I stated in the beginning, the meat of my report is in the Committee Chairmen's reports in this JOURNAL. I urge you to read them. Some things notwithstanding, we have had a successful year. In summary, I refer to my acceptance address of last year: we have had a happy year and I am glad I was aboard.

—President R. S. Quackenbush, Jr.