

PRESIDENTIAL ACCEPTANCE ADDRESS

Members of the American Society of Photogrammetry, ladies and gentlemen: This is the 30th Anniversary of the founding of this learned Society. We are prone to forget that our Corporate and Sustaining Members have, in thirty short years, revolutionized mapping, changed our country's concepts of intelligence gathering, accelerated our discovery and cataloguing of natural resources, made possible scientific observations of short-lived and other phenomena such that have added to our nation's posture, in all scientific fields. In my own field of applying remote sensing techniques to achieving a better understanding of our earth, other scientific societies hesitated; this Society published and encouraged. These accomplishments, and the demonstrated continuing scientific curiosity of our Society, lead me to say that I would rather stand before you as your President than as President of any other similar scientific organization.

Outgoing ASP President Robert S. Quackenbush, Jr. (left) presenting the key to the Society office headquarters to Incoming President William A. Fischer.



The accomplishments of our Society in no small part reflect the dedication and active encouragement of our Members, both Corporate and Sustaining, and those agencies of government that have actively encouraged our development. These contributions must be recognized but we should also ask ourselves: could our current missions in defense and government be accomplished without the scientific curiosity and communication that has existed within this Society; how many profitable photogrammetric innovations have resulted directly from communication fostered by this group; would your position and means of livelihood exist had it not been for the continued cooperative efforts of this learned association? In the answers to these questions you will find your Society's contribution to you.

It is well to look to the past and recognize our accomplishments; it is equally important to look to the future and recognize what more must be done to continue and increase our service. More needs exist than we can possibly fulfill; accordingly, we must direct our efforts to those needs which are seemingly most critical, as follows:

1. The need to actively encourage top scholars to enter the field of photogrammetry.
2. The need to collect and disseminate more detailed information than we are now able to generate, relative to the type of training the future demands in this field.
3. The need to increase our service to all of our Members, principally through further improvement and expansion of our already excellent publications and meetings programs, but also by more adequately recognizing outstanding services to our profession.
4. The need to accord our Regions a greater voice in the government of this So-

ciety and otherwise encourage their development. If we are to grow in stature and number, this growth must come in our Regions.

5. The need to bring to this Society a greater feeling of solidarity, and to our Members a regenerated feeling of pride in their association with this learned group.

6. The need to actively develop a library to document the growth and contributions of this Society and to make available to scholars a convenient assembly of significant documents not otherwise available.

If we can make significant strides towards fulfilling these needs, then we need have no concern for the future of this Society in terms of growth or increasing scientific posture. This growth and our service, however, can be accelerated with an active and appropriate membership campaign. There are few among us who, with little effort, could not entice one member into our Society. There are those among you who are in a position to call the importance of and benefits of Membership to the attention of their fellow workers. Each of you will be called upon to do this in the coming year.

Our past Presidents have prepared this Society well for a period of accelerated scientific service. The scope of photogrammetry has been redefined so as to weld specifically the previously interdependent, yet independent fields, of photogrammetry and photointerpretation into a single scientific group. The committee complex of this Society has been reorganized into a workable structure, and revised accounting procedures have been introduced so that decisions may now be made in light of the current fiscal position of the Society. With these actions, all significant administrative impediments to the progress and growth that must inevitably come to our Society have been removed.

What will be accomplished this coming year, I cannot say. For the government of the Society rests appropriately in your Board of Direction and Council. I can say, however, that our needs have been brought to the attention of these bodies, and to provide adequate opportunity for action, the number of meetings of these bodies will be increased this next year. If we are to make this a year of sound scientific accomplishment, however, we will need your suggestions, your views, and your support; will you help?

—*William A. Fischer*
President, 1964–1965

See Announcement of International Congress on page 361.