

Report of the President

Joseph P. Burns

DURING THE past year I have been guided by a personal conviction that each incoming president brings unique talents to the society—that if he capitalizes properly on his own particular skills, he will make a meaningful contribution to the continued welfare of the organization. Accordingly, I have concentrated my attention to a large degree on the more mundane business aspects of our society operations, hoping frankly that I might single out and shore up any weak areas in our 38-year-old organization during my short term of office.

Specifically I have attempted to nurture and encourage the continued expansion of our *sphere of influence* through emphasis on new membership both individual and corporates; I have fostered the conception, care and feeding of new chapters through correspondence and personal visits; have promoted the revival of one region where interest has sagged in recent years; and have taken the first steps in developing means of publicizing our society through portable displays. Finally, by responding promptly and thoroughly to the expressed interests and problem areas of our members outside of Washington I have endeavored to bring about greater participation by these members, particularly those in the commercial field who traditionally have been less involved in society affairs.

ALONG this line the society has recently opened a line of communication with the Federal Aviation Agency which, culminating in an open forum this morning, promises to alleviate some of the urgent problems arising from the conflict between free-flying mappers and federal regulators.

Our Sustaining Membership now includes over 90 companies and agencies, loyal participants who indicate by their continued support, a strong and concerned interest in photogrammetry. This increased participation, in a slow economic year, has been a source of real satisfaction to General Jacobs and myself.

Although substantial progress has been made on our certification program, largely because of the untiring efforts of Jim Webb and his implementation committee, much remains to be done before the program be-

comes a reality. In the January issue of *Photogrammetric Engineering*, members were asked to read and study a proposed code of ethics. The March issue contains an interim report by this committee which should be carefully read by all. In the near future a clear and realistic proposal should be ready for consideration by the membership. If approved, this will represent, in my opinion, a positive and beneficial action long overdue.

CORRESPONDENCE and personal contact with members in various parts of the country have confirmed my feeling that the country badly needs nationwide uniform standards in the fields of photogrammetry by which qualified individuals may be readily identified, by which cameras, plotters and supporting peripheral gear may be evaluated with confidence and technical procedures may be realistically compared.

During the past year I have listened to serious complaints regarding lack of uniformity and interchangeability between cameras and plotters brought about by requests for special fiducial mark orientation and location. I have spent an evening listening to serious complaints by a large user of mapping services regarding the lack of performance standards for topographic mapping by private firms. Many requests for help in preparing specifications or evaluating proposals have been presented to the society or to me personally. These continuous calls for assistance portray vividly the urgent need for the society to take positive action and to assert its leadership in this confused national situation.

I AM HAPPY to report strong and productive activity by our three technical divisions, each of which promoted and arranged very successful seminars during the year. In this respect the Photography Division, through five very enthusiastic committees under the overall direction of Divisional Director Abe Anson, engaged in a wide range of activities including seminars, panels, membership surveys, joint participation with other societies in holography, marine technology, and plant sciences. Altogether this Division engaged in a wide series of productive actions.

The Photogrammetric Surveys Division contributed substantially to the excellent program at our fall technical meeting in San Francisco, assisted the Rolla region in arranging its very successful October Seminar, and will soon sponsor a meeting on the important theme of Coastal Zone Mapping to be held in Washington in June. Division director Charles Theurer has lent strong personal support to these and many other activities.

Last, but far from least, the Remote Sensing and Interpretation Division, under the guidance of director Earl Leonardo, recently sponsored at Houston, Texas, an outstanding seminar on operational aspects of remote sensing. This well-conceived and smartly-executed event attracted over 500 enthusiastic registrants, thereby setting a new high-water mark for this type of meeting in our society.

Working with our active Texas-Louisiana Region, an informative Seminar on Remote Sensing was held at Nacadoches, Texas, in May.

In addition many division members are working long hours in the preparation of our new Remote Sensing Manual, which promises to enhance our reputation for quality in the field of technical publications.

THE Publications Committee has made a substantial contribution to the society this year by preparing a much-needed report on the operation of our Journal. Based on this well-prepared study a major restructuring of the operation will soon be initiated. Hopefully the proposed changes will result in increased revenues, lower production costs and a more regular flow of journals throughout the year.

Under *Carp Tewinkel's* guidance, we have enjoyed another year of timely and informative papers. He has been ably assisted by *Bob Eller* and *Kal Maki*, among others, who deserve public acclamation for their contribution to our excellent Journal.

Many exciting events are on our schedule starting with the ISP Congress in Ottawa in July. In 1973 we will hold a joint seminar in Mexico City with the Mexican Photogrammetry Society as part of a very large Scientific Conclave. Later in 1973 we will hold an international meeting in Sioux Falls, S.D., to mark the opening of the EROS Data Reduction Center. These will be in addition to our fall meetings in Columbus this year and in Orlando, Florida, in early October 1973.

IN CLOSING, I look back on one of the most satisfying experiences of my life during my year as President. Within limits of available funding, I visited many of our Regions, Local Chapters, and Sustaining Members from coast to coast. I regret that I missed the Northwest, the Northeast and our Alaskan supporters. To meet and speak with our members, to be treated as a friend and honored guest is one of the great pleasures of the office. I express my deep gratitude to my fellow officers and directors, to the active committee chairmen, division directors and to all who have assisted the Society by lending me their support.

The cooperation of General Jacobs and his enthusiastic staff have made my year a very pleasant one. Finally my deep thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Madigan, who served very capably as my secretary, to the Survey Officials for maximum support and to my wife Gladys, who looked forward to this day for the past 12 months.

International Archives

The *International Archives of Photogrammetry*. Series XVII, Volumes 1 to 10 (which constitute the proceedings of the Eleventh International Congress of Photogrammetry in Lausanne in 1968) may now be ordered. Briefly, the Contents are: Vol. 1: Congress Affairs. Vol. 2: National Reports and Commission Reports. Vol. 3 and 4: "Invited" Papers. Vol. 5-10: "Presented" Papers.

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