

Secretary - Treasure's Report: May 1987

John G. Malpas

Volume 14, Number 4, December 1987

URI: https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/geocan14_4sr01

[See table of contents](#)

Publisher(s)

The Geological Association of Canada

ISSN

0315-0941 (print)

1911-4850 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this document

Malpas, J. G. (1987). Secretary - Treasure's Report:: May 1987. *Geoscience Canada*, 14(4), 242–246.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report May 1987

Introduction

The Geological Association of Canada has had a progressive year during 1986-87 realizing many of the goals set by Executive and Council. The Executive and Council met together in Ottawa in May, Saskatoon in October, and St. John's in February. Additional Executive Meetings were held in Banff in September and in Hamilton in December.

It is clear that the links between the national body and its Sections and Divisions are strengthening, especially as a result of the actions of the Vice-President. Almost all Sections and Divisions now make regular reports to Council and financial statements are received promptly at headquarters.

Membership

Membership of the Geological Association of Canada, as of April 20, 1987 is:

	April 1985	April 1986	April 1987
Honorary Fellows	4	4	3
Life Fellows	5	5	3
Retired Fellows	77	74	182
Fellows	1709	1890	1847
Associates	546	515	503
Student-Associates	273	267	252
Corporate Members	66	60	46
	2680	2815	2836

The geographic distribution of members (Fellows, Associates and Corporates) is:

	2393	2514	2526
Canada	2393	2514	2526
Newfoundland	75	74	76
Nova Scotia	97	108	102
New Brunswick	58	59	52
Prince Edward Island	1	1	1
Quebec	254	261	263
Ontario	977	1013	1029
Manitoba	54	57	52
Saskatchewan	78	77	82
Alberta	310	330	306
British Columbia	461	501	531
NWT and Yukon	28	33	32
United States	180	183	187
Australia/New Zealand	27	31	30
South/Central America	12	11	11
Africa and Asia	18	19	20
Europe	50	57	62

Members elected since April 1986 are as follows:

Fellows:	P.E. Brown	W.R. Epp	M.N.H. Henderson
E.W. Abbott	R.F. Burns	K.L. Ford	G.L. Holland
M.S. Akhavi	J.D. Charlton	D. Forgeron	P.J. Hudleston
R.J. Anderson	P.J. Chernis	W.H. Fritz	M.D. Johnson
T.J. Armbrustmacher	P.P. Chung	B.J. Gajaria	L.P. Kennedy
G.J. Arseneau	I.P. Coster	J.B. Gammon	D. Keys
D.J. Bain	J.F. Cuttle	R.A. Gannicott	R.D. Kregosky
R.W. Barendregt	F. Daley	B.E. Goad	T.E. Krogh
C. Beaudry	P.G. Dasler	J.L. Gravel	D.L. Kuran
A.J. Beaugregard	L. Demczuk	D.A. Groves	E.E. Lambert
W.P. Binney	T.J. Drown	C.J. Hale	M.F. Lancaster
L.K. Boivin	D. Duff	D.G. Harder	D. Large
D.R. Boucher	P.J. Duhaime	J.F. Harris	G.F.T. Lay
M.E. Brookfield	D.S.C. Dunn	D.R. Heberlein	G.H.T. Lohman
			W.C. Lynch
			G.M. MacDonald
			B.E. MacKean
			A. Martin
			C.K. Mawer
			K. McCandlish
			J.C. McGilvary
			J.P. Mills
			L.J. Nagy
			J.L. Nelson
			M.A. Niarchos
			G.E. Norman
			D.J. Nowak
			G. Owsiaci
			E.A.V. Parviainen
			G. Prichonnet
			D.S. Reade
			R.S. Rogers
			P. Ruck
			M.E. Shaffer
			R.J. Sharp
			W.D. Skublak
			D.J. Sokoloski
			C.F. Staargaard
			B.V.U. Starke
			M.A. Tindall
			N. Tintor
			D.G. Troop
			K.W. Tymofichuk
			D.C. Unger
			E. van der Flier Keller
			C.R. van Staal
			M.R. Vulimiri
			Y. Wang
			G.D. White
			R.E. Whitehead
			S.H. Williams
			W.H. Willson
			G.C. Wilson
			T.D. Wilson
			A.W. Workman
			S. Yoshikura
			Associates:
			K.L. Acker
			R.N. Adair
			A.E. Aitken
			T.A. Al
			D.M. Allen
			D.L. Archibald
			A.J. Arthur
			P.W. Bateman
			R.D. Beckie
			G.A. Beischer
			H.T. Belenski
			T.J. Bell
			M. Bergeron
			N. Blais
			T.J. Boerboom
			D.J. Borre
			T.D. Boyd
			S. Brake
			A.D. Bray
			L.L. Brouillette
			S.P. Butler
			N.J. Butterfield
			B. Butterworth
			C. Champagne
			P. Charusiri
			A. Chemavska
			T.D. Chong
			M. Colpron
			J.A. Craven
			C.W. Cruickshank
			R.D. Cullen
			J.E. Dale
			I.A. Davis
			J.R. Devaney
			M.C. Digby
			J.P. Dixon
			M.C. Durose
			C. Du Toit
			S.J. Edwards
			J.R. Ellis
			R.L. Ellis Hayes
			K.G.I. Feltham
			J.D. Ferguson
			J.D. Fournier
			M. Franklyn
			G.M. Frotten
			W.A.H. Fuchter
			L. Gagnon
			P. Gagnon
			J. Gallagher
			M. Genereux
			J. Godin
			S.P. Godin
			P.J. Gorjup
			S.M. Grant
			M.E. Grier
			I.K. Haden
			J.H. Haid
			V.L. Hansen
			C.J.R. Hart
			A.J. Heath
			R.C. Hebig
			M.W. Hitch
			C.A. Holman
			T.C. Hudema
			T.A. Hunter
			S.A. Jenner
			P.J. Johnston
			S.V. Jones
			S.V. Kay
			P.E. Kelly
			M.W. Kilbourne
			O.B. Kjartanson
			I.I. Koehler
			K.P. Kurina
			L. Labonte
			T.N. Lackey, Jr.
			S. Lambert
			G.E. Lawson
			J.K.W. Lee
			M.V. Leroux
			A.J. Lisowyk
			G. MacFarlane
			P.J. MacLean
			P.A. Maheux
			W.S. Mandziuk
			P.B. Marechal
			K.A. Marentette
			B.W.R. McDonald
			B.I.A. McInnes
			S.B. Medd
			D.C. Merrett

M.J. Millard	S.D. Simpson	W.S. Hamilton	Deceased:	Resigned:	A.C. Newton
S.M. Miller	T.L. Smith	D. Hoy	The Council of the Geological Association of Canada	J.W. Allison	G.R. Nyberg
C.L. Millest	M.J. Solski	M.R. Johnson	notes with regret the passing	J.S. Amos	R. Rice
K. Minehan	D.C. Stachiw	D. Kresz	of the following members:	R.D. Beckie	P.W. Richardson
D.P. Money	Y. Thibault	A.D. McCracken		R.L. Borden	B.P. Robbins
P.M.N. Morisset	S. Trepanier	R.W. Metcalfe		M.S. Carr	M.N. Rogan
L. Morneau	M. Villeneuve	I.W. Moffat		J.A. Clark	D.M. Rudkin
M.J. Munroe	C.P. Whiting	G.Z. Mosher		M.J. Day	C.C. Ryley
M.J. Murray	H. Williams	V.V. Palma		P.M.D. Duff	J.C. Scott
M.E. Muttes	J.C. Wisse	J.A. Pell		V.G. Ethier	L.B. Smith
O.C. Nadeau	S.L. Woodend	M.D. Philpot		R.A.F. Graham	N. Stock
D. Pair	B.K. Yamamura	R.E. Shearing		P.A. Hacquebard	N. Tasse
J. Paquette	G.M. Zuiderveen	V.Z. Sterenberg		C.M. Healey	G.C. Taylor
S.S. Pecore		J. Valent		D.R. Hillier	M. Toderian
J.B. Percival	Transfer from	B.A. Van Der Pluijm	Corporate Members	J.C. Jackson	H.D.B. Wilson
B. Perrier	Associate to Fellow:	N.A. Van Wagoner	Resigned:	D. Jardine	D.V. Woods
R. Poirier	T.R. Carter	P. Verpaest	Alberta Energy Company	A.P. Kohut	C. Zurevinski
P. Rheaurme	P.J. Cashin	S.E. Williams	Bow Valley Industries Ltd.	J. Korstgard	
D.K. Riley	B.J. Christie	D.H. Wood	Discovery Mines Ltd.	R.F. Legget	
M.P. Rosatelli	N.J. Del Bel Belluz		E.G. and G. Instruments	R.W. Luce	
W.J. Rose	T.E. Ewing		Pickands Mather and Co.	W.W. Lynn	
B.R. Rowley	T.R. Foster		Soquip	J.A. McNutt	
J. Scodnick	T. Garagan		B.C. Mines, Energy & Petroleum Resources	E.B. More	
C.H. Shrady	J.C. Grant			O.C. Nadeau	

Medals and Awards

The GAC made several awards at its annual luncheon. The highest award of the Association, the Logan Medal, was awarded to Digby McLaren; the Past President's Medal to Jan Veizer and the Ambrose Medal to Atholl Sutherland Brown. In addition, the Duncan Derry Medal of the Mineral Deposits Division was awarded to Art Soregaroli and the Billings Medal of the Paleontology Division to Colin Stearn. Further awards are made at other functions during the Annual Meeting.

Logan Medal Award — Digby J. McLaren
The Logan Medal is the highest honour bestowed by the Geological Association of Canada. It is awarded annually to an individual who, in the long term, has made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the earth sciences in Canada. The Logan Medallist for 1987 is one of the true pioneers of the modern era of Canadian geology — Digby J. McLaren.

Digby McLaren was born at Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland. He studied geology at Cambridge, where he earned both the B.A. and M.A. degrees, and went on to the University of Michigan to obtain his Doctorate of Philosophy — all in preparation for coming to Canada in 1948 to join the Geological Survey of Canada.

For almost 20 years, Dr. McLaren devoted himself to research on the Devonian System in Western Canada and in the Arctic. His exhaustive paleontological studies set the framework for the Devonian stratigraphy of Canada, and indeed for North America. His recognition of the temporal relationships between the reefal and basinal Frasnian facies of the Western Canada Sedimentary Basin was a key to the successful exploration

for hydrocarbons in Alberta. In the late 1960s, Dr. McLaren developed original and controversial ideas about possible extraterrestrial causes for mass extinctions in the sedimentary record. His theories were not based on vague generalizations but on careful and detailed paleontological and stratigraphic research relating to the faunal event that marks the Frasnian-Famennian boundary in Western Canada. He was ahead of his time. Dr. McLaren was and is an original thinker.

In addition to his sterling research accomplishments, Digby McLaren also must be recognized for his distinguished record of service to the Canadian and international geoscience communities, as an administrator, and as an executive in geoscience institutions and scientific societies. He became head of the Paleontology Section of the Geological Survey of Canada in 1959; in 1967, first Director of the Institute of Sedimentary and Petroleum Geology in Calgary; from 1973 to 1980, Director General of the GSC, and in 1981 he was Assistant Deputy Minister, Science and Technology, for the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. Throughout his government career, he was a force for positive change. He was instrumental in modernizing the GSC and making it more open and accessible and responsive. He has been a leading participant in international geoscience, chairing the Silurian-Devonian Boundary Committee of the Commission on Stratigraphy of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). The work of the Committee led to a great deal of new research. It agreed upon a boundary stratotype and published a substantial volume of documentation and discussion. From its early days he was involved with the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP) the joint IUGS-UNESCO undertaking. He became

Chairman of the IGCP Board. On expiry of his term, UNESCO, loth to lose his counsel, appointed him their Earth Science Advisor.

Dr. McLaren is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and has the rare distinction of being both an FRS (London) and a foreign associate of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. He has been President of the Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists, the Paleontological Society and the Geological Society of America. In 1980, he received an honorary D.Sc. from the University of Ottawa.

In 1981, he was appointed Senior Science Advisor in the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources and Visiting Professor in the Geology Department of the University of Ottawa. In his dual capacity he has been instrumental in maintaining vital liaison between the Geological Survey of Canada and the Ottawa-Carleton Centre for Geoscience Studies, a joint School of Graduate Studies and Research of the two Ottawa universities.

Some may have expected that his new posting would allow him to slip quietly into quasi-retirement. In fact, he has remained tremendously active, not only in academia, but also in his multitudinous national and international geoscience endeavours. Our Logan Medallist currently is President-Elect of the Royal Society of Canada and this summer, in something of a return to his scientific roots, he will convene, as General Chairman, in Calgary, the Second International Symposium on the Devonian System. He was a key player in the first, in 1967.

Past-President's Medal — Jan Veizer

Jan Veizer has been named the 1987 recipient of the Past President's Medal of the Geological Association of Canada for his distinguished contributions to the study of the geochemistry of sedimentary rocks and to the better understanding of the evolving interactions between the crust, the ocean, and the atmosphere.

Born in Pobedim, Czechoslovakia, Dr. Veizer was educated in his native country and received his first degree and two postgraduate degrees from Comenius University in Bratislava. In 1969, he moved to Australia and, during his Ph.D. studies, demonstrated that there is a broad coherence between secular variation in the isotopic composition of strontium, sulphur and carbon in the ocean which may only be explained by an interdependence between the organic and inorganic worlds. In 1973, he came to the Department of Geology, University of Ottawa and was named a full professor in 1979.

Jan Veizer has systematized chemical and isotopic diagenesis of carbonate rocks. His present research in geology and geochemistry adds up to a startling new look into the evolution of the earth's crust by using population dynamics in a major area of geology that in the past has been largely neglected. By meticulous, detailed studies of stable isotope occurrences and quantitative estimates of recycling fluxes he is in the forefront of those who are leading earth science to a better understanding of the chemical and biological evolution of the earth's crust, its hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere.

He has developed a quantitative concept of basement and sediment recycling that is complementary to its evolutionary counterpart, by refining the mass-age distributions of major global tectonic realms, and calculating specific average recycling rates for each. He has demonstrated that first-order features of global plate tectonics are amenable to theoretical treatment in terms of their spatial and temporal parameters. A general conclusion indicates that tectonism is the major control of ocean-atmosphere chemistry and of life on time scales greater than 10^7 years.

In addition to important theoretical concepts, Jan Veizer's work has deep significance in regard to the occurrence of economic minerals in a way that until recently was largely unsuspected. The studies of isotopes of carbon and sulphur are yielding information on the origin and early development of life that may also be categorized as revolutionary. His work on the carbon cycle is central to and understanding of the possible climatic effect of the much publicized dangers from CO_2 increase in the atmosphere resulting from the burning of fossil fuels.

He has proved himself a versatile and innovative research collaborator, and has brought new insights to an understanding of such diverse matters as Archean granites and greenstones, the evaluation of sedimentary basins, the development of the early ocean,

and the occurrence of many sedimentary ore minerals. Internationally recognized, a prolific and distinguished author and the recipient of numerous awards, honours and keynote invitations, Jan Veizer's more recent honours include Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada and the receipt of a Canada Council Killam Research Fellowship.

Today Jan Veizer is fulfilling his commitments as the Lady Davis Visiting Professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Dr. A.O. Dixon will receive this Medal on his behalf.

J. Willis Ambrose Medal Award —

Atholl Sutherland Brown

Atholl Sutherland Brown was born in Ottawa. At the outbreak of World War II, he maintained the family military tradition and joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. For his service he was awarded his first medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross. Following the war, he received a B.A. Sc. in geological engineering from UBC and a Ph.D. in geology from Princeton in 1954.

He then started his life-long career as a Cordilleran geologist with the British Columbia Department of Mines (later Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources). His fieldwork blended uncompromised mapping, thorough follow-up research and disciplined publication. He has many important contributions to the regional geology and tectonics of B.C. His Queen Charlotte Islands bulletin, published in 1968, still provides a standard by which any regional study can be measured. The practical conclusions about skarn iron deposits guided successful exploration for additional deposits. Atholl later expanded his interests to consider more comprehensive subjects, most notably porphyry copper deposits and Cordilleran metallogeny.

As a senior Ministry officer, he accepted a leadership role, first as Deputy Chief Geologist and in 1975, Chief Geologist of the Geological Division. During the decade he served as Chief Geologist, he stood as a strong advocate and stalwart defender of public geoscience research. His efforts were both within the Province and on behalf of the larger, national geoscience community. He has served on innumerable committees and organization executives, most notably as Vice-President, Canadian Geoscience Council (1979); President, Geological Association of Canada (1979-80) and Chairman of the GAC-MAC-CGU 1983 Annual Meeting in Victoria. In addition, he was the first chairman of the Committee of Provincial Geologists and the founding father of the Victoria (later Pacific) Section of the GAC.

Atholl took early retirement from the Ministry in 1984 to renew his scientific involvement in the Cordillera. He quickly became involved with the Geological Survey of Canada LITHOPROBE study of Wrangellia on Vancouver Island. Currently he provides consulting geological services to the mineral exploration

and petroleum industries from his home in Victoria. In between annual trips, invariably involving some bird watching in exotic and some out of the way places, he maintains his fitness and vigour by active, year-round golf and gardening.

Headquarters News

Maureen Penney (Associate Secretary-Treasurer), Karen Johnston (Assistant Secretary-Treasurer), and Rita Patterson (Executive Director's Assistant) continued to improve the operations of the St. John's headquarters. To facilitate this, additional computing equipment has been installed, together with better facilities for photo-reproduction. GAC headquarters now has full control over publications inventory, and Rita Patterson is at present the member of staff who deals directly with GAC publications.

In September 1986, the Association was unfortunate to lose the services of its first Executive Director, Tony Berger. Tony returned full-time to the Geological Survey in Ottawa, leaving a considerable void at headquarters. His activities there were characterized by incredible drive, energy and originality, especially in terms of promotion of the Association and its publications. As an experiment, the Executive Director's position proved to be a success, the results of which are still becoming apparent. However, the Association's financial commitment to a future position will have to be considered, especially due to the fact that in the past the position was partially grant supported, and may not be in the future. The position of Executive Director has thus been reviewed by Council in light of other programs of the Association.

In early 1987, Executive and Council voted in favour of moving the GAC publication storage and handling facility from Business and Economic Services Ltd. (B & E), Toronto, to GAC headquarters, St. John's. Increasing costs incurred at B & E had made a review of the position necessary, and, although receiving excellent and improving service from B & E, the decision was made to move to St. John's in the summer of 1987. Renovations are at present underway at 4 Clark Place to handle the publications inventory, and a full-time publications secretary position is advertised. The move, when complete should provide substantial savings and a payback of capital moving expenses in two years. Executive and Council considers this to be a positive step in serving a more permanent, centralization of GAC activities. In this respect, a commitment to operate GAC headquarters for the medium-term future has been given by Memorial University, and facilities are planned in the new CERR Building.

The capital cost of moving the publications storage and handling facility to Memorial University precludes the possibility of hiring a full-time Executive Director in the next year or so. Council, therefore, has made the decision

to advertise for a part-time advertising and publicity manager at a more junior level to assist in publication promotion. This will be an important position in light of the new publications policy, but the position of Executive Director will be reviewed again during the next year.

Executive and Council, faced with the increasing activities of headquarters, and the probability of a year's sabbatical for the present Secretary-Treasurer, considered it an opportune time to vote to establish to separate Secretary and Treasurer positions for the next year of operations. Such a structure was envisaged within the constitution of the Association and will allow for a more suitable division of responsibilities at Headquarters. I will therefore be stepping down from the position of Secretary immediately following the Annual Business Meeting, May 1987.

Membership

The state of Membership, compared with previous figures, is reported above. The introduction of Spousal Membership has been a moderate success with some dozen memberships in this category. Membership fees were raised for 1986 to cover increased costs of member services. The new membership subscriptions are more clearly in line with professional associations of similar size and similar services elsewhere.

Committees to Council

I report here on the activities of the major GAC committees. Committee operation is an integral part of GAC affairs, and the Association relies heavily on the activity of its committees for week-to-week management.

Membership Drive Committee: Grant Mossop chaired the Membership Drive Committee for 1986-87. During this period, the committee drafted the following priorities for membership drive campaigns — student members, practising geologists in prairie provinces and in Quebec, corporate members, and lapsed members. A modest national campaign to attract new members was expedited in January through local GAC representatives. The results are currently being evaluated.

Membership Review Committee: The Membership Review Committee, under the chairmanship of David Piper, continues to streamline and speed-up the processing of applications. The introduction of the new application form has corrected some previous inadequacies. There is a major review of the dues structure underway, in order to reduce its complexity.

Finance Committee: The Finance Committee was chaired by John Hamilton. The audited financial statement for 1986 was prepared by Doane Raymond and sent to all Fellows during March 1987. The budget for 1986 was struck tentatively in December 1985 and finalized by Council in February. It forecasts revenues and costs of \$496,000, both up approximately 20% from 1985. The balance

sheet shows assets of \$272,582. The members equity surplus shows a decrease of \$13,621 over 1985 (2.9% of revenue). Expenditures for members services increased from \$198,932 to \$216,754 in 1986 and was offset against an income of \$266,296 from all sources except publications. A major portion of income came from larger than budgeted net proceeds from the Ottawa Annual Meeting. In June, 1986, publications costs and sales produced a net loss of \$63,163 which includes grants for publications to a total of \$55,500. The net loss results from the printing of 3 Special Papers in 1986, only one of which appeared early enough in the year to realize specific cost income from sales and the purchase of the "desktop" publishing equipment. The latter comprises a Compaq Deskpro 286 personal computer, and Apple LaserWriter Plus printer and software called MagnaType. It is anticipated that the system will lower costs for *Geoscience Canada* and it is hoped to recover the cost of the system in three to five years. Special Papers 31 and 32, produced in late 1986, are expected to increase income for the 1987 Fiscal year.

At year end, the Retained Surplus of the Association stood at \$131,892 or 25% of budgeted 1987 expenditures of \$521,000. The budget approved by Council in February, 1987 forecasts further erosion of retained surplus to about \$103,000 at December, 1987.

Publications Committee: The Publications Committee oversees the production of *Geoscience Canada*, GEOLOG, GAC Special Papers and other publications of the Association. It advises the Editorial Board of the *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*. Godfrey Nowlan has served as Chairman of this committee during 1986.

Geoscience Canada appeared regularly under the editorship of Andrew Miall who has been re-appointed as editor until the end of 1989. The new "desktop" publishing has been in use for production since the September, 1986, issue and has proved very effective in subsequent production. Monica Gaiswinkler Easton, the managing editor of *Geoscience Canada* has been greatly responsible for the success of the new equipment. The capital outlay for the equipment is expected to be recovered within three to five years.

Geoscience Canada Reprint Series #1 — Facies Models — was reprinted (10,000) and sales continued to be reasonably brisk in the early part of the year, but have fallen steadily in the latter part. Production of *Reprint Series #3 and #4 (Ore Deposit Models and Diagenesis, respectively)* might be expected in 1987. A new series (Paleocene) started during the year.

GEOLOG was published quarterly in 1986 under the co-editorship of Mike and Monica Easton.

Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences remains the principal journal of the Association, and, following significant debate during 1986, Council voted for mandatory subscription to the journal for Fellows and Associates of the GAC. During the latter part of the year,

Council approved an undergraduate student membership category with no subscription to CJES.

Three Special Papers appeared during 1986: Special Paper #30 *Quaternary Evolution of the Great Lakes*, edited by P.F. Karrow and P.E. Calkin; Special Paper #31 *The Grenville Province*, edited by J.M. Moore, A. Davidson, and A.J. Baer; Special Paper #32 *Turbidite-Hosted Gold Deposits*, edited by J.D. Keppie, R.W. Boyle and S.J. Haynes. Special Paper #32 was the first volume to be produced with a colour dust jacket.

Four Special Papers were under production. Special Paper #33 *Saline Water and Gases in Crystalline Rocks*, edited by P. Fritz and S.K. Frapre, has made its appearance at this meeting.

As previously mentioned, the committee and Council have discussed at length and approved a plan to move publications from Business and Economic Services Ltd. in Toronto to Headquarters in St. John's. This move has come about as a result of several factors including the kind offer of space from Memorial University, a 30% increase in rates charged by B & E and a realization of cost savings that could be effected in other areas relating to distribution.

Program Committee: Frank Blackwood, as chairman of the Program Committee, is our form of liaison between the parent body and Local Organizing Committees (LOC), has overseen the completion and printing of the Annual Meeting Manual on behalf of the GAC. Another major contribution has been the co-ordination of the First Field Conference to be held in Yellowknife in August of this year. It is hoped that such conferences will be a forerunner of future GAC activities.

Professional Affairs Committee: The Professional Affairs Committee has carried out a major survey of members during this year as part of their consideration of the questions of accreditation and professional registration. The results have just been made available to Council and will be reproduced in GEOLOG.

Education Committee: Strategy — reach out to students in schools. The committee will prepare a budget for operations as directed by Council. It continues to make GAC awards to university undergraduate students.

Planning Committee: Its main activity has been to produce a position paper on priorities which was reproduced in GEOLOG. The Committee plans to proceed with comparison of GAC with societies of similar size and scope and then to study options open to GAC as it makes a transition from a fully volunteer organization to an organization with professional headquarters.

Howard Street Robinson Committee: Art Soregaroli is stepping down as chairman of the committee. As usual the committee has been actively supporting GAC enterprises and has sponsored the second Howard Street Robinson lecture tour by A. (Tony) Davidson.

Public Information Committee and Special Projects Committee: Under the direction of Council, these committees are being asked to prepare a position paper, including budgetary requirements, on how GAC and the Earth Sciences as a whole might be brought to better attention of the public.

Logan Geological Foundation: They have been establishing a relationship with the other geoscience foundation in Canada — the Canadian Geological Foundation (CGF). Refinement of terms of reference of the Logan Foundation indicate that it has very similar objectives to CGF. The Committees are at present looking into relationships between the two foundations.

Sections, Divisions and Affiliated Societies

Most sections, divisions and affiliated societies have complied with the request that a final year-end report be submitted to headquarters. The following are some highlights.

Cordilleran Section: Membership of the Cordilleran Section has increased from 300 to 530. Three newsletters were produced and 6 lectures were sponsored, 3 short courses and a 2-day conference on "Mineral Exploration Computer Applications" jointly sponsored with the local COGS chapter were held. Educational programs remain a high priority of the section.

Edmonton Section: Membership at 48 is down somewhat. Six lectures were sponsored and EDGEO is planned for August 1987. Financial support was extended to the Western Inter-University Convention and the Warren Prize.

Newfoundland Section: The Newfoundland Section has been, as usual, extremely active. Events included a lobster-ado, Logan Day activities and a Winterfest, on the more social side. In addition, there was a fall meeting and field trip to the Springdale caldera, and a spring meeting on the geology of Labrador. On-going projects are the road map, production of the *Newfoundland Journal of Geological Education*, and the awarding of a scholarship to Memorial University.

Pacific Section: Another very active section. The section held functions on Dawson Day and Logan Day. In addition to a number of other social functions, a fall field trip, spring symposium and 5 lectures were sponsored. The section awarded a scholarship at the University of Victoria and supplied a prize for the Victoria Science Fair. In addition, the section sponsored an 8-week extension course at the University of Victoria on the geology of Vancouver Island.

Winnipeg Section: This section sponsored 7 lectures during the year. A highway map of Manitoba is now complete. The section will award an annual scholarship of \$300 at the University of Manitoba.

Environmental Earth Sciences Division: This previously inert group is holding a meeting during the annual meeting in Saskatoon to recommend its future. A newsletter was

produced in early 1987.

Marine Geosciences Division: This is a new division which has produced an impressive first newsletter mailed out to more than 300 parties. The division will be presenting its findings on the future of Marine Geosciences at the "Major Projects" session in Saskatoon. It is planning a session on eastern Canadian marine geology at the 1988 St. John's meeting.

Paleontology Division: Membership of this division is now approximately 100. Two volumes of *Palaeontographica Canadiana* were published in 1986 and another is presently expected. In addition, the division is sponsoring the "Paleocene" series in *Geoscience Canada*. Two full issues of the division newsletter have been issued and a membership list has been distributed. The annual seminar was held in Albany, N.Y. The Billings Medal is awarded this year to Dr. Colin Stearn of McGill University.

Structural Geology and Tectonics Division: The Canadian Tectonics Group meeting, sponsored by this division, was held in October 1986 in Sudbury, and a report of this meeting appeared in *Geoscience Canada*. The next meeting will be held in Thunder Bay in October 1987. A newsletter was distributed in January.

Volcanology Division: Membership of the Volcanology Division is about 200. The division will make the second presentation of the Gélinas Award in Saskatoon. Also at Saskatoon, the division is sponsoring a special session on trace elements and volcanic processes, and a session on volcanic regimes is planned for St. John's. The divisional newsletter was distributed in February and a compilation of volcanological research in Canada will appear in the Canadian Geophysical Bulletin. A field trip to Italy is planned for Spring 1988.

Canadian Geophysical Union: Membership of the Canadian Geophysical Union is about 300. Their annual meeting was held in Ottawa and a short course on gravity and magnetic anomalies has been sponsored. The division awarded the J. Tuzo Wilson Medal to D.W. Strangway. Discussions are continuing regarding CGU's aspirations for independent status.

Canadian Sedimentology Research Group: The main event of this division in 1986-87 was the regional meeting and field trip held at the University of Western Ontario from May 14-16. About 60 people attended. The division also sponsored the symposium on Oil Shales and Oil Sands at Saskatoon.

Mineral Deposits Division: As the largest of the Association's divisions, the MDD has had a successful year. The Duncan Derry Medal for contributions to the field of economic geology is awarded to Dr. Art Soregaroli of Westmin Resources, Vancouver. The MDD has a new logo, now appearing on their stationery, etc. The MDD continues to sponsor publications such as the Gold '86 proceedings volume, and produces its regular newsletter, the *Gangue*. MDD held a field

course on structural mapping techniques at Nelson B.C., which realised a financial profit and might possibly be repeated. As well as Gold '86, MDD co-sponsored the symposium on "Sediment-Hosted Copper Deposits", and two special sessions are co-sponsored by the MDD in Saskatoon. MDD propose to make a new award "The William Harvey Gross Medal" for Canadian Contributions in Economic Geology to a young geologist for significant contributions to economic geology. This medal is designed to fill the gap between the Boldy award and the Duncan R. Derry Medal.

Affiliated Societies

Both the Toronto Geological Discussion Group and the Atlantic Geoscience Society have held full social and scientific programs and maintain regular contact with GAC. The video project of AGS is proceeding actively with the first video, "Mineral Resources of Atlantic Canada", due to appear shortly. The production of the second video, "The Appalachian Story", is on schedule and involves some funding from GAC.

Final Comments

The GAC maintains a steady, if small, growth rate and is well received as the national geoscience society. As part of a move towards consolidation and "centralization" of resources, the publications operation was moved to St. John's in June from Toronto. Our long standing agents, Business and Economic Services Limited, have given excellent service, but the Association now feels that it is of a size and possesses a management capacity that allows for consolidation of a headquarters operation.

Problems still arise in the production of financial standing. These centre around the terms of payment of membership dues, the variability in annual meeting costs and profits from year to year, and the scheduling of special paper publication. Efforts are continually being made at headquarters to improve financial predictions and budgeting.

I will be relinquishing the dual part of Secretary-Treasurer this year as I take sabbatical leave. This has provided an opportunity to appoint a new Secretary, R. Frank Blackwood, to this position, and I will continue as Treasurer. It has been my pleasure to work with a number of outstanding geologists in the management of the Association over the last five years, and with a magnificent headquarters staff. I would like to thank them all heartily for their encouragement and support. In particular I would single out Dr. C.R. Barnes. Chris placed GAC on a new and exciting path both in his term as the Secretary and later as President. Let's hope we can continue to grow and flourish.

Respectfully submitted

John G. Malpas
Secretary-Treasurer
St. John's, May 1987