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EXPLORATION GEOPHYSICISTS

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THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Centennial year has been a significant one for our Society. Membership is at an all-time high and should top 700 by the end of this year. Committees have been active and Society-sponsored functions continue to flourish. Through the co-operation of the University of Calgary and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, a variety of evening courses is available for the continuing education of our members, as a partial defence against the current information and technology explosion in exploration Geophysics.

History has a way of repeating, and it is axiomatic that the lessons of history are frequently ignored. Our segment of the industry is too young to have developed a significant historical base, but cyclical trends are sufficiently evident to suggest certain parallels with past events. The supply-demand couplet, as it relates to skilled personnel and to equipment, has had several reversals in recent memory. As professionals, we have a responsibility, not only for the recognition of these trends, but for the reduction of the dislocations and imbalance resulting therefrom. Within the framework of an inevitably cyclic industry, the stabilization of supply of personnel and equipment will come only with the demonstration of balanced requirements and challenging opportunities. Longer range planning and budgeting, increased communication with students and educators, selective and restrained hiring policies, opportunity for continuing education, encouragement of local research and development, and increased exchange and dissemination of fundamental knowledge, must surely contribute to a healthy, steadily expanding, yet excitingly competitive industry.

Our Society will host the annual convention of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists in the Fall of 1969. Organization for this international meeting is well under way. An important measure of its success will be the quality of the technical program. Geophysicists in Canada are engaged currently in the most fundamental and exhaustive earth science investigation in our history. Significant advances are being made in exploration techniques. Equipment available to the geophysicist has increased in intricacy. Exploration personnel have greater skills than ever. The interaction of these factors is producing new information at an almost exponential rate. Much of this information must be restricted for competitive reasons, but the dissemination of some could result in advances in the state of the art which would compensate the contributors several fold. The 1969 Society of Exploration Geophysicists' Convention provides a unique opportunity for the contribution of worthy local material to the content of the technical program.

E. A. FULMER*

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President of the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists.