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K. H. Crandall <i>Transportation</i>	C. L. Lake, J. Boyd Best, George L. Herrington, J. L. Mathieu, E. H. Murchison, W. B. Milton, Jr., John N. Troxell, C. L. Herold
Al Ferrando <i>Golf</i>	W. G. Saville, R. J. St. Germain, R. B. Mitchell, Jack Chambers

ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS ON HOUSTON PROGRAM

GULF COAST

1. O. L. BRACE, consulting geologist, Houston, Texas
Review of Developments in 1940, Gulf Coast of Upper Texas and Louisiana

The poor discovery record of the upper Texas Coast for 1940 is no improvement over that established for 1939. Coastal Louisiana, however, showed an advance in both the number and quality of new areas uncovered. The most noteworthy improvement of the year in Louisiana has been the increasing importance of the new reserves added to old fields through extensions and new sand discoveries.

During the past few years, a shift in the center of successful activity has given coastal Louisiana the lead over upper Texas. This shift coincided with the opening of the large area of only partly explored delta territory of Louisiana to intensive exploitation.

The increase in the number of economically marginal areas that are now being developed is credited to improvements in the technique of well testing and completion, mainly the introduction of the electric log, gun perforating, and cement squeezing.

2. URBAN B. HUGHES, consulting geologist, Jackson, Mississippi
Developments in Mississippi in 1940

Development in Mississippi during 1940 passed through two phases. The first of these was hysterical, resulting from the fact that only a few of the major companies and independent operators had scientific data or lease protection prior to the discovery at Tinsley. This resulted in rapid, and necessarily sketchy, geophysical work, promiscuous leasing and drilling of wells by crews largely inexperienced in Gulf coastal formations. In the second phase, hasty, haphazard work gave way to sounder practices in both exploration and drilling.

During the first half of the year leasing activity was largely confined to the north portion of the state but during the latter months the play shifted to the south. The 1,221,412 acres of leases owned by major and larger independent oil companies on January 1, 1940, was increased to 4,775,610 acres during the year. A probable additional 1,500,000 acres were acquired by individuals and small independents in the same period.

On January 1, 1940, there were 61 geophysical parties operating in Mississippi. This figure was increased to 64 on June 1, and decreased to 22 on the last day of the year. At the peak, more than 60% of all geophysical parties were operating in the State.

No new discoveries of importance occurred. The Pickens field, with four producers, proved disappointing. Tinsley spread beyond early expectations and had 101 producing wells.