

EVENING MEETING—SEPT. 12, 1977

M. RAY THOMASSON—Biographical Sketch



Dr. Thomasson was born in Columbia, Missouri. He completed his undergraduate work and received a Master's degree in geology from the University of Missouri. After 2 years in the Air Force as an intelligence officer, he attended the University of Wisconsin, graduating with a PhD in geology in 1959.

He joined Shell Oil Company in 1959 and was assigned to the Permian Basin for 4 years. While in

Midland, Texas, he was president of the Southwest Section of the AAPG. In 1963 he was assigned to the Offshore Division in New Orleans, where he also taught two geology courses in the Tulane University night school program. During his tenure with Shell he held assignments as a geophysicist in the Houston Marine Division, Division Geologist in the New Orleans Marine Division, Manager of Geologic Research at Shell Development, Manager of Exploration Economics in New York, and Division Manager of the Offshore Division. In 1972 he moved to Head Office as Manager of Forecasting-Planning and Economics, and then to London in 1974 as Head of Strategic Studies at Shell International Petroleum Company. In 1976 he returned to Houston, Texas, as Chief Geologist of Shell Oil Company.

In February of 1977, after 18 years with Shell, Dr. Thomasson joined McCormick Oil and Gas Corporation as Vice-President—Exploration, with responsibility for expanding McCormick's operations in new areas.

Dr. Thomasson is a member of AAPG, GSA, SEPM, WTGS, RMAG, NOGS and HGS.

U. S. AND WORLD ENERGY OUTLOOK FOR THE 1980'S (Abstract)

by Dr. M. Ray Thomasson

The results of an assessment of energy supply and demand for the United States and the world to the year 1990 can be displayed as balanced volumetric energy flows disaggregated over the primary sources and major consuming sectors. On the national scene some of the projections and conclusions are: (1) between now and 1990 the world demand for oil will grow at 3.2% average annual increase (AAI), while U. S. primary oil consumption will grow at only 2.0% AAI; (2) most of the energy to be consumed in the U. S. over the projection period will be supplied as domestically produced fossil fuels; (3) oil imports will increase to about 10 million b/d throughout the decade of the 1980's, coming more and more from OPEC; (4) coal will supply an increasingly greater fraction of total U. S. energy consumption, primarily in the utility and industrial sectors; (5) new sources of energy will be developed, but before 1990 will have only a small impact on total supply; (6) nuclear power, although growing less vigorously than estimated in past projections, will be very important to the nation's economy; and (7) the successful balancing of long-term U. S. energy futures is contingent upon U. S. ability to achieve significant reductions in energy-consumption growth rates.

On the international scene it appears that: (1) the majority of the oil reserves are in communist countries and the Middle East; (2) over 60% of the gas reserves are in communist countries; (3) the same statement generally is true for coal reserves; (4) the U. S. will have to compete with the rest of the world for the available inter-regionally traded oil, and the U. S. can only obtain that oil at the expense of other countries; and (5) two scenarios in which 10 and 20 billion bbl of oil per year of new reserves are added indicate the following: Optimistically, a potential supply gap will occur in the late 1980's; pessimistically, a potential supply gap will occur in 1981. U. S. oil policy must accommodate these potential problems.