

MEETINGS

JOINT GSH/HGS DINNER MEETING— MARCH 12, 1990

ALBERT W. BALLY—Biographical Sketch



Albert W. Bally received his Ph.D. from the University of Zurich in 1953. After doing post-doctoral research at the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of the Columbia University, he joined Shell Canada where he was chief geologist from 1962 to 1966. His work in Canada involved exploration in the Canadian foothills, in the Northwest Territories and northern Yukon. Bally

moved to Houston in 1966, where he first was Manager, Geologic Research from 1966 to 1968, then became chief geologist for Shell Oil, 1968-75; consulting geologist, 1975-1980; and Sr. exploration consultant, 1980-81. In 1981 he joined the department of geology and geophysics at Rice University, where he was chairman from 1981-1986. He is currently the Harry Carothers Wiess professor at Rice University.

PROBLEMS OF THE GEOLOGY OF NORTH AMERICA

The Decade of the Geology of North America (DNAG) of the Geological Society of America is an effort to recapitulate progress in North American geology. In my talk I will attempt to put in perspective North American Phanerozoic mountain systems, and sedimentary basins as well as the evolution of the Precambrian to illustrate where I think we stand today. This in turn will lead to the future directions of our earth science enterprise.

As we enter the 21st century we will face more advances in the specialized subfields of Geophysics and Geochemistry. All these will have to be integrated into a coherent Earth-System Science to show linkages between all geological processes. Because in Houston, cooperation between geochemists, geophysicists and geologists is already a way of life, members of our societies will be leaders in the integration process.