

shale in the Rockies, resources of the Green River Formation, occurrence of helium, and Project Gasbuggy.

A symposium of coal energy resources, moderated by Albert E. Roberts, will include papers by Charles B. Read and Edward C. Beaumont on coal resources and utilization in New Mexico; Paul Averitt on long-distance coal hauling in the southwest; Charles L. Pillmore on coal deposits of the western Raton basin; Tim Winterer on coal geology of the Navajo mine; Fred Peterson on coal in the Kaiparowits Plateau; James E. Fassett on environments of deposition of the Late

Cretaceous Fruitland coal; Ross B. Johnson on Trinidad coal field; William J. Mapel on western Wyoming coal fields; Thomas C. Woodward on Project Thunderbird; and Albert E. Roberts on Livingston coal field.

Field trip plans include a geologic tour up the Sandia Peak Tramway to see the geology exposed along the west scarp of the 2-mi-high Sandia Mountains, and view the regional geographic features within a 100 mi radius of Albuquerque from the peak.

FRANK E. KOTLOWSKI
Program Chairman

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

AAPG's Ballot Committee chairman has confirmed the tally of votes pertaining to three constitutional amendments referred earlier this summer to membership for vote. Deadline for return of ballots to AAPG

REPORT OF BALLOT COMMITTEE

Headquarters was August 24, 1968.

Members were asked to vote collectively or individually for or against three amendments. Results of the balloting are:

		<i>Individual Voting</i>	<i>Collective Voting</i>	<i>Total</i>
Article III, Section 1. Delete the "and" before "associate" and add the following words: "and students." This will conform to Section 7 of Article III, which discusses student members.	For	182	3,279	3,461
	Against	46	59	105
	No vote			80
				<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> Total
Article III, Section 8. Delete the word "Junior," from the first and last sentences of the first paragraph to enable sponsorship of applications for junior membership by university or company department head alone.	For	45	3,279	3,324
	Against	252	59	311
	No vote			11
				<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> Total
Article VI. Amend the second sentence to read: "The annual meeting shall be held at a time and place designated by the Executive Committee." This will permit flexibility in scheduling to adapt to climate and other circumstances.	For	229	3,279	3,508
	Against	68	59	127
	No vote			11
				<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> Total

Of the 12,974 ballots mailed to the membership, 3,646 (28%) were returned to Headquarters. The three amendments stand approved by large margins.

Ballot count was done by AAPG staff personnel

under the direction of R. S. Cary, Jr., and was verified by the Ballot Committee Chairman.

P. M. KONKEL, *Chairman*

LEWIS G. WEEKS TO BE ON DISTINGUISHED LECTURE TOUR, 1968-1969

We are pleased to announce the fourth Distinguished Lecturer for the 1968-1969 season. During early 1969 Lewis G. Weeks will be participating in the tour to present his lecture, "Oil Exploration in Australia, with Case History Lessons."

JAMES R. JACKSON, JR.
Chairman

ABSTRACT

A somewhat unusual manner of handling the exploration of a 64,000-sq-mi offshore area in Bass Strait, Australia, has resulted to date in 7 major and 2 minor

discoveries out of 16 "new field" wildcats. In addition, numerous stepout wells, all successful, have been drilled. Each of these wells was drilled offshore from the coast along which 140 onshore dry holes had been drilled in unsuccessful exploration for oil during the past 44 years.

Reasons are expounded why, despite the discouragement onshore, this particular offshore acreage was selected, and why a special manner of handling the exploration was followed.

The results of the exploration illustrate facts of oil occurrence which apply generally in young coastal basins, as is demonstrated repeatedly by rapidly growing worldwide offshore exploration. Geological analysis,

supported by various fundamental measurements, makes it clear that the best part of most of the world's Cretaceous-Tertiary coastal basins lies offshore. Reasons for this are discussed.

Australia has approximately the same area as the 48 conterminous states of the United States, and it has similarly extensive sedimentary basins. Significant comparisons are made, as between the largely Paleozoic basins on the land and the younger basins along the coasts.

In the search for oil on the Australian continent, about 2,000 wells have been drilled, and several tens of

thousands of bores have been drilled for water in the sedimentary basins during the past 80 years. This effort was without commercial petroleum discovery prior to 1962. From 1962 on, several discoveries of oil and gas have been made on the land. The first offshore discovery was made in Bass Strait in 1965 in the first well drilled in water off the Australian continent.

Current proved petroleum reserves in Australia are of the order of 2.5 billion bbl of crude and natural gas liquids, and 11 trillion cu ft of gas. About 92 percent of the oil and 64 percent of the gas have been found in the Bass Strait offshore.

PACIFIC SECTION OFFICERS, 1968-1969



Left to right: JOHN N. TERPENING, secretary, General Tabulating Service; WILLIS R. BROWN, treasurer, Buttes Gas & Oil Co.; LOUIS J. SIMON, president, Texaco, Inc.; RODNEY G. COLVIN, vice-president, Mobil Oil Corp.
