



# ASH FALL

*News Letter of the Volcanology Division  
Geological Association of Canada*

November, 1978

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the Division was held in the Royal York Hotel on October 23, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Approximately 35 members were in attendance. Lorne Ayres, the Vice Chairman, presided in the absence of the Chairman, Jack Souther, and Bob Baragar took the place of Secretary-Treasurer Maurice Lambert, who was not able to attend. The following items of business were transacted.

### 1. Financial Report

A copy of the Treasurer's Report is appended to the Minutes. Of principal interest is the balance on hand of \$1,026.29. This gave rise to a discussion of fees and whether or not in light of our healthy budget they could be reduced. However, it was pointed out that present printing, stationary and postage costs for more than one newsletter a year would soon eat into our surplus and it was generally agreed to continue with our present \$2.00 fee.

### 2. Reports from Councillors

a) Erich Dimroth gave a report on volcanological studies being conducted at Chibougamau campus, Université du Québec. These are presently concentrating on changes away from the source as interpreted from field studies in the Rouyn-Noranda area. Many of the critical sites will be included in the field trip to the Rouyn-Noranda area that will be run in association with the Annual General Meeting to be held in Québec City next spring.

b) Neil Church reviewed activities of volcanological interest that have been taking place in the Cordillera this past year. Prominent among these are isotopic studies being conducted by Dick Armstrong and his students on the Kamloops Group, a study of the Garibaldi volcanics by Nathan Green, the compilation of the mammoth work on the Mount Edziza volcanic complex by Jack Souther, and uranium mineralization in Miocene-Pliocene plateau volcanics being investigated by Peter Christopher. Neil Church himself is working on the alkaline rhomb porphyries of southern B.C.

c) Bob Baragar reported for the Canadian National Committee for I.U.G.G. Two items of special interest are: (i) a call for nominations for the Wager prize and (ii) the I.U.G.G. meeting in Canberra in December, 1979, where a particularly strong volcanological program is planned. The Wager price, awarded every four years, and next at the Canberra meeting, is worth 150 pounds plus fare to Canberra. It is for outstanding contributions to studies of volcanic rocks by scientists under 40 years of age and nominations must be made by National Committees of I.U.G.G. Suggestions for nominations were asked to be forwarded to Bob Baragar at G.S.C., Ottawa, before November 25.

### 3. Canadian Geophysical Bulletin

Lorne Ayres noted that editorship of the Volcanology Chapter of the Bulletin passes to the new Vice Chairman as part of his duties and that members would, no doubt, be contacted soon for contributions. He urged everyone to reply with a statement of their current research so as to make the report as complete as possible.

### 4. Field Trips

Bob Baragar gave a report on the progress of the Canary Islands trip. The questionnaire sent out in May yielded 48 replies, of which only 15 were strongly, and 14 mildly interested. A majority favoured the April 9-23 date. However, when those who stated that this date was impossible were eliminated and accompanying persons were counted, a total of 16 people seemed likely and a further 16 possible. The next step will be to send an additional questionnaire to all members and to all other interested people requesting a definite commitment. These should go out about November 15, probably with the Minutes.

In the discussion that followed, information was requested on the possibility of combining this field trip with the Cypress Conference on ophiolites (April 1-8) and a suggestion was made to investigate package tours which might be cheaper.

Further discussion on other possible field trips included the following points:

a) Lorne Ayres noted that he received only one reply to his request for views on overseas field trips from the G.A.C. meetings in Halifax and Victoria, and judged that interest may not be high in overseas trips. He suggested that we might look to the western U.S. where there are some magnificent recent volcanos and the cost should be less. He also noted that he does conduct student field trips to a number of these latter sites from Winnipeg and would be willing to include non-students if room were available.

b) Nick Arndt drew attention to a komatiite conference to be held in Saskatchewan the last week of next August which would have field trips to the komatiite occurrences in Munro Township.

c) Various other field trips were noted as follows: Gilles Allard - to Chibougamau next May from G.A.C., Québec. R.M. Easton drew attention to Intraplate Volcanism Conference in Hawaii next summer. John Moore noted a short course at Carleton late next April on metavolcanic rocks in laboratory and field.

### 5. Election of Officers

No other nominations having been received from the membership in response to the call for nominations made in the spring newsletter, it was moved by Al Goodwin and seconded by Les Coleman that the slate be accepted. This was carried.

Officers elected are as follows:

Chairman:	Lorne Ayres, Univ. of Manitoba	1978-80
Vice-Chairman:	John Scoates, Man. Dept. of Mines	1978-80
Secretary-Treasurer:	Maurice Lambert, G.S.C., Ottawa	1978-80
Councillor (east):	Steve Papezik, Memorial University	1978-81
Economic Geology Representative:	Roly Ridler, Newmont Exploration of Canada Limited	1978-81

These join the Serving Executive as follows:

Past-Chairman:	Jack Souther, G.S.C., Vancouver	1978-80
Councillor (west):	Neil Church, M.N.P.R., British Columbia	1976-79
Councillor (central):	Erich Dimroth, Université du Québec, Chicoutimi	1977-80
Councillor (Geophysics):	Allan Jessop, Earth Physics Branch, Ottawa	1977-79
Ex-officio: CNC/IUGG representative:	Bob Baragar, G.S.C., Ottawa	1974-79

we have an oversupply, to double rooms (we understand that this is possible). Hence, anyone interested in coming at this late date can still be accommodated. However, the full payment of \$900.00 must be made to Allan's Travel Service, Ottawa, before March 1. All that is required in the way of documentation is a valid Canadian passport. Travel within the Islands will be by rented automobile and for this, participants, whom we hope will help drive, should arm themselves with an International Driver's License (easily obtained from the Canadian Motor League). For the field, light work clothing and a wide-brimmed hat are desirable, plus, of course, field boots. For other occasions the choice is yours.

### Yellowstone-Snake River Plain Field Trip

September 4-15, 1979

(L.D. Ayres)

Immediately after Labour Day, I will be running a field trip to examine Eocene to Recent volcanic rocks in Yellowstone Park and on the Snake River Plain. The trip is designed for 4th year and graduate students at the University of Manitoba, but there will probably be space for extra people. The total number of participants will be limited to 30, including students.

The following features will be examined:

- 1) Thermal features of Yellowstone Park including geysers, hot springs, mud volcanoes, and fumaroles.
- 2) Dissected subaerial andesitic stratovolcanoes of the Absaroka Volcanic Field. Features to be seen include lava flows, dykes, pyroclastic rocks, vent breccia, transported and reworked pyroclastic rocks, and hydrothermal alteration.
- 3) Plio-Pleistocene unwelded to welded rhyolite ash-flow tuff. Features to be seen include spherulites, lithophysae, surge deposits, flow contacts, and various welding characteristics.
- 4) Rhyolite lava flows.
- 5) Plio-Pleistocene rhyolitic air-fall ash.
- 6) Columnar jointing in basalt flows of Yellowstone Park.
- 7) Pleistocene to Recent basaltic volcanism of the Snake River Plain, including pahoehoe and aa flows, lava rivers, squeeze-ups, lava tubes, spatter cones, collapse craters, lava lakes, feeder dyke, shield volcano, cinder cones, tree molds, and a palagonitized tuff cone.
- 8) Effects of the 1959 Hebgen earthquake.

Travel will be by university vans and private vehicles. Two days will be spent travelling from Winnipeg to Yellowstone, followed by eight days of geology, and two days returning to Winnipeg. Participants can meet the trip at Winnipeg or Billings (about noon on the second day), or if they have their own transportation, at Gardiner, Montana, the headquarters for the first four days of the trip. There will not be sufficient room for all participants to travel in the university vans. Thus, ability to provide transportation for yourself and others will enhance your chances of obtaining a space on the trip.

Participants will pay for all direct costs of the trip including transportation, rooms, and meals. However, I will make all room reservations in advance. Estimated costs are as follows (based on double occupancy):



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1979

April 2-7 International Ophiolite Symposium, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Purpose to review and discuss current research on all aspects of ophiolites. Sessions will cover structure, emplacement and geological implications of ophiolites; petrology, geochemistry and metamorphism; associated mineralization and exploration problems. The field excursions in Cyprus are intended to focus attention on some of the principal features and problems as illustrated by the Troodos complex. Further information from: Secretary, International Ophiolite Symposium, Geological Survey Department, Nicosia, Cyprus.

May 17-22 Archean Vulcanology and Sedimentology in the Rouyn-Noranda area: E. Dimroth, P. Cousineau, M. Leduc and Y. Sanschargin. G.A.C. Annual Meeting, Quebec City. Pre-Meeting Field Trip A-1.

May 23-25 Symposium: Early Precambrian Volcanology and Sedimentology in the Light of the Recent. G.A.C. Annual Meeting, Quebec City.

The sessions will deal with (1) subaqueous lava and hyaloclastites, (2) pyroclastic rocks, (3) volcanostratigraphy, (4) sedimentology of epiclastic sediments, and (5) chemical sediments.

July 16-22 Hawaii Symposium on Intraplate Volcanism and Submarine Volcanism.

Sponsored by the United States Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, University of Hawaii, Inter-Union Commission on Geodynamics, United States Geodynamics Committee and IAVCEI. All aspects of intraplate volcanism, both continental and submarine, will be discussed, but with special emphasis on the Hawaiian Islands. A variety of tectonic settings will be considered. Magma energy research will be an additional specific topic for discussion. Four days of scientific meetings will be interspersed with three days of field trips on the Big Island of Hawaii. Field trips to other Hawaiian Islands will be offered before and after the symposium, if interest dictates.

Deadline for abstracts: 1 March 1979.

For information contact: Hawaii Symposium, c/o Ms. Lois Elms, 1140 Pearl Street #219, Boulder, Colorado 80302, U.S.A.

Aug. 20-25 Komatiites: Geological Society of America Penrose Conference, Abitibi, Canada (convenor N.T. Arndt).

Topics: field, petrological and geochemical characteristics of komatiites; regional variations; petrogenesis; associated mineral deposits; problems of definition and nomenclature. Field trip to komatiite localities. Attendance limited to 60 persons. Fee: about \$300.

For information contact: N.T. Arndt, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon S7N 0W0; C. Brooks, Département de Géologie, Université de Montréal, Montréal H3C 3J7.

Dec. 2-15 XVII General Assembly IUGG, ACT, Australia

IAVCEI will play a leading role in the following interdisciplinary symposia: 1. Volcanism and climate; 2. Evolution of the upper mantle; 3. Heat production and magma generation; 4. Physico-Chemical properties of mantle materials at high pressure. The deadline for abstracts is 1 September 1979 and they should be prepared according to the instructions given in the 2nd Circular, obtainable from the Secretary, Organising Committee, IUGG 1979, Australian Academy of Science, P.O. Box 783, Canberra City, ACT 2601, Australia.

QUESTIONNAIRE

FIELD TRIP TO ICELAND, 1980

1. Name: Robert Michael Easton

Address: DEPT. GEOLOGY

MEMORIAL UNIV.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND A1B 3X5

Telephone No.: 753-1200 Ext 3142

2. Are you interested in this field trip?

Mildly \_\_\_\_\_

Strongly X

No \_\_\_\_\_

3. This trip must take place either before or after the Annual Meeting.

Which time would you prefer? before

How long do you think the trip should last? 1 to 2 weeks.

4. Remarks or suggestions:

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5. General Remarks:

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Please return this questionnaire as soon as possible to:

Dr. L.D. Ayres,  
Department of Earth Sciences,  
University of Manitoba,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.  
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