News In Brief...

26th International Geological Congress: Highlights

The Occasion: A Centenary

When Paris hosted the first International Geological Congress in 1878, it started a tradition of quadrennial gatherings of geologists from all over the world - to share ideas and exchange information in wide-ranging interdisciplinary scientific dialogue.

Fittingly, the 26th session of the Congress, under the sponsorship of IUGS, returns to Paris to celebrate the centenary of the IGC and to pay tribute to Europe in general for its significant contributions to the origin and evolution of earth science studies.

To mark the occasion officially on a national scale, the French post office will be issuing a stamp dedicated to geology.

(For a historical account of the origin of the IGC, see Prof. F. Ellenberger's article "The First International Geological Congress, Paris, 1878" in EPISODES, Vol. 1978, No. 2, p. 20-24.)

The Setting: Paris

*"The last time I saw Paris,
her heart was warm and gay,
I heard the laughter of her heart
in every street café"*

The sheer fun of Paris needs no introduction. It has been echoed in lyrics such as Oscar Hammerstein's for centuries, and its magic will undoubtedly continue to delight visitors for centuries to come.

The many artistic, cultural, intellectual, social, gastronomic and other diversities of Paris are well documented. Maps, guide-books and descriptive literature of every kind will be readily available in most hotels and bookstores, at the International Centre of Paris and the Congress itself, which will operate in the registration area both a travel agency and a general information counter to advise participants on shows, tours and trips, and to facilitate the purchase of tickets. The 26th IGC Secretariat is also planning to issue a list of recommended restaurants.

In short, even the most die-hard "all work and no play" geoscientist is sure to be tempted in Paris!

The Site: International Centre of Paris

Almost all of the Congress meetings and functions are scheduled to take place under one roof - that of the **International Centre of Paris** (also called the **Paris Convention Centre**, or **Palais des Congrès** in French). Located in the Place de la Porte Maillot ("Porte Maillot" metro stop) on the edge of the Bois de Boulogne, the Centre is just five minutes from the famous Arc de Triomphe and the Champs-Élysées.

An elegant convention complex, unique in Europe, it can easily accommodate 5,000 people and boasts every modern technological facility. The Centre has an auditorium/amphitheatre which seats over 4,000 people (the permanent headquarters of the Paris Orchestra), conference and committee rooms of varying sizes, exhibit halls, offices, restaurants, bars, discothèques, four cinemas, 80 boutiques with a host of

other amenities (pharmacies, banks, hairdressers, tourist agencies) spread on two levels, a gymnasium, swimming pool and saunas. The 34-storey (1,000 rooms) Concorde-La Fayette Hotel is attached to the Centre, while the Hotel Meridien stands "next door" to it.

Many of the conference rooms are equipped with six-language simultaneous translation facilities. Congress organizers have made arrangements for simultaneous English/French and French/English translation during the Colloquia and the Congress Council meeting, though presentations during the latter (and during the Sections) may be made in any of the six official languages of IUGS - English, French, German, Italian, Russian or Spanish. Although no simultaneous translation will be available for the Section meetings, Section abstracts will be printed in the six above-mentioned languages, while the printed Colloquia papers will appear in both English and French.

All of the scientific meetings will take place in the Centre, including the Opening Scientific Session, the Sections and Colloquia, the Special Symposium on Geodynamics, and the various meetings of the scientific associations and societies. Registration for both the Congress and the different activities and excursions planned under the social, accompanying members', and juniors' programs will also take place at the Centre, as will the Festival of Scientific Films. It is anticipated that **Mr. Giscard d'Estaing**, President of the Republic of France will participate in the Closing Ceremony, which will take place in the Centre's auditorium.

The Opening Ceremony of the first General Assembly and the Reception immediately following this Ceremony will take place in the historic and expansive Grand Palais on Avenue Winston Churchill ("Champs Élysées/Clemenceau" metro stop). The Minister of Industry, **Mr. André Giraud** will take part in the Ceremony.

The modern International Centre of Paris offers two levels of boutiques, shops, amenities and entertainment facilities. (Photo courtesy Palais des Congrès)

Level 1 of the Palais des Congrès includes an impressive auditorium/amphitheatre - the core of the Centre, where the Congress' Opening Scientific Plenary Session will take place on July 8, as well as the Closing Ceremony on July 17. Each of the three main levels (1, 3 and 5) consists of two horse-shoe shaped storeys, the second being a "deck". Level 1 will house the Congress' scientific and technical exhibition - "GEOEXPO 80" and the main registration area.

Level 3 contains many of the smaller committee rooms, as well as the Salle Bleue (upper centre) where most of the Colloquia will be held. IUGS will have a permanent office on this level during the Congress - in Room 304.

Level 5 has some of the larger conference halls, including the Salle Havane (lower left) where both the Congress Council and the IUGS Council will meet (on July 7, and July 7, 10 and 15 respectively). Many of the scientific Sections will meet on this level as well.

Third Circular:

Latest on Scientific Program . . .

The Third Circular on the Congress containing the latest information on the scientific program, publication plans and scientific excursions will be available in April (and will be distributed at about the same time as this issue of EPISODES).

It will serve as a supplement to the Second Circular, which participants are asked to keep and bring to the Congress. Both Circulars are available from the Secretariat of the 26th IGC at the following address:

Secrétariat du 26e CGI,
Maison de la Géologie,
77-79, rue Claude-Bernard,
F-75005 Paris, France
Telephone: (1) 707-9196,
Telex: VOSEIL 202 353 (attention: 26th IGC)

Excursions

The international organizing committee for excursions has now finalized the list of pre- and post-Congress field trips to be offered this summer, as follows (* denotes excursions fully booked as of April 1):

001 C; 002 A*; 003 A; 010 A; 011 A; 023 A; 027 C*; 031 A; 032 C*; 034 A; 041 A; 042 A; 043 C; 063 C*; 066 C; 078 A*; 078 C*; 079 C; 080 C; 081 C*; 082 A*; 085 A; 087 A; 091 C; 093 A; 095 C*; 096 A*; 103 A; 105 A; 117 C; 122 A*; 126 A; 131 C; 133 C; 138 A; 140 C; 141 C; 149 C; 151 C; 160 C; 164 C; 204 C; 205 A; 206 A*; 208 C; and 210 C*.

Excursions have been organized by 16 European countries. In addition to these, several one- or two-day excursions will take place during the Congress itself - chiefly visits to nearby industrial and scientific institutions and to study the geology of the Paris Basin.

For further details, please consult the Second and Third Congress Circulars.

Exhibits

"GEOEXPO 80" - the scientific and technical exhibition of the Congress - promises to be a memorable one, with a total of 140 exhibitors occupying some 230 booths.

The accent is on Europe, where contemporary research and mining applications are among some of the more advanced in the world. Exhibitors include research institutes, governmental geological surveys, companies, manufacturers of field and laboratory equipment, publishers and scientific societies.

The exhibition will run from July 7 through July 11 on Level 1 of the Palais des Congrès.

Festival of Scientific Films

Focussing on earth sciences, their applications and results, a series of short films will be shown every afternoon from July 8 through July 12 in the Palais des Congrès.

Films to be projected will include both professionally produced and amateur ones, with either English or French soundtracks or sub-titles in one of these languages.

Bookshop

The 26th IGC has stimulated an impressive amount of geo-scientific publication activity all over Europe, and Congress organizers have made every effort to synthesize the different aspects of European geology in several series of publications

(see "26th IGC - Update...Publications" in EPISODES, Vol. 1979, No.4, p. 30).

To facilitate the purchase of these, and numerous other professional and general-interest publications, the Congress will operate a Bookshop on Level 1 of the Palais des Congrès - in the registration area. The Colloquia papers, a number of new publications on metallogeny, as well as the excursion guide-books will also be available at the Bookshop.

Social Program and one for "Junior" too!

A concert in the Cathedral of Notre-Dame - the masterpiece of mediaeval Gothic art, a reception in the Grand-Palais, (originally erected for the Great Exhibition of 1900), a panoramic tour of Paris and its many wonders, outings into the delightful French countryside - to Chartres, the "Acropolis of France", and to Orléans, the city delivered from siege in the fifteenth century by Joan of Arc, now headquarters of the BRGM - these are just some of the many attractive options planned by the Organizing Committee for the socially-minded Congress participant and his/her accompanying member.

With July 14, France's "Bastille Day" and a national holiday coming right in the middle of the Congress, and with no scientific sessions planned for that day, some of the suggested social functions may prove to be very popular.

And as for participants' "juniors" (anyone between the age of 8 and 16 qualifies), a day-camp has been organized to run from July 8 to 12 inclusive, geared to make science exciting for the young mind; activities will include field geology, adventures into astronomy and even the launching of small rockets (all under the supervision of experts in each field).

IUGS Council: Session VI

IUGS Council will meet in three sessions during the 26th IGC - July 7 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.), July 10 (6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.), and July 15 (6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.); all meetings will take place in the Salle Havane on the 5th Level of the Palais des Congrès.

The provisional agenda for the VI Ordinary Session of Council has been distributed to all member countries, 34 of which have indicated (as of April 1, 1980) that they will be sending delegates to Paris. It is anticipated that the extensive number of key issues requiring Council debate will make it necessary to schedule another meeting - tentatively set for July 11 (6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.) - but this will be decided on during the July 10 meeting. The IUGS Treasurer and Secretary General are currently reviewing the status of payments for membership dues to determine which countries are eligible to vote during the Council Session.

Special IGCP Session

"Eight Years of IGCP" is the theme of a special session scheduled for Tuesday, July 15 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 51 (5th Level) of the Palais des Congrès.

Distinguished scientists addressing the session will include **D.J. McLaren** (Chairman of the IGCP Board), **J.V. Watson** and **A.W. Bally** speaking on "Scientific Achievements", **J.A. Reinemund** on "Project Linkage and Distribution", **G.O. Kesse** on "Application to Human Needs" and **C. Karunakaran** on "Further Development of the Programme".

This session will provide a unique opportunity for those interested in the IGCP, its Projects and Working Groups to attend and take part in the discussions.

Registration Kits

Congress registration kits will include seven volumes of papers (in English and French) presented at the Colloquia, three volumes of abstracts (covering both the Sections and the Colloquia), four maps (geological maps of Europe and France, a map on mineral deposits in France and a hydro-geological map of France), vouchers for some of the social functions, including the Opening Ceremony and the Reception following it, a copy of the magazine *Annales des Mines*, a souvenir bronze medal commemorating the centenary of the IGC, and, of course, the Congress Program and badge which will admit participants to all plenary, Section and Colloquia sessions.

92 mm in diameter and weighing 400 g, a handsome bronze medal showing the surface morphology of the earth in relief has been designed to mark the centenary of the IGC - a "souvenir gift" to Congress participants at registration.

In addition, a silk scarf has been specially designed for the Congress by the internationally acclaimed house of Hermes and will be offered as a gift to participants' accompanying members.

Preregistration, as of April 1, 1980, was nearing the 4,000 mark. (If you have not as yet sent in your registration form, please do so as soon as possible. To receive a form, send your name and address to: **Secrétariat du 26e CGI, Maison de la Géologie, 77-79, rue Claude-Bernard, F-75005 Paris, France.**

A Hermes scarf, beautifully designed in celebration of geology's many diverse sub-disciplines, will be presented to all participants' accompanying members.

Meet Some of the Organizers:

An active Organizing Committee, efficiently and effectively orchestrated by the Secretary General, **Paul Sangnier**, has been hard at work for the past four years "ironing out" every detail of the 26th IGC.

Congress planning and organizing has been handled by several groups of people. The 26th IGC Secretariat has been responsible for the overall coordination of planning and day-to-day administration and execution of Congress plans. The Secretariat includes **Mr. J. Halfon** - Deputy Secretary General, **Mme. Brigitte Sangnier** - Executive Assistant to the Secretary General, **Mme. M.J. Leinhardt** - Abstracts Compiler, **Mr. R. Bourrouilh** - Treasurer; **Mme. L. Boulard** - Secretary, and **Mr. J.F. Stuyck-Tallandier** - Consultant to the Secretary General.

As President of the 26th IGC, **Prof. J. Aubouin** (see page 51) has been ably assisted by his Vice Presidents, Messrs. **C. Allègre**, **J. Bodelle**, **J. Dercourt** and **C. Sallé**.

In addition, a series of committees have dealt with specific aspects vital to the success of the Congress: publications (headed by **L. Delbos** and **C. Lorenz**), excursions (**J.**

Dercourt, C. Cavelier and M. Degouy), finance (Mr. C. Beaumont), industrial liaison (P. Routhier and G. Trolly), scientific program (G. Aubert and R. Blanchet), program for accompanying members (Mme. A.M. Godard), social program (Mr. P. Cliquet and C. Sallé), public relations and exhibition (Mr. J. Ricour), travel/accommodation (Mme. F. Dubois and Mlle. M. Verdoia of Voyage-Conseil, the official travel agency of the Congress).

A full list of members of all committees will appear in the Third Circular.

Some of the key organizers of the 26th IGC gather outside the Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (BRGM) in Orléans, France; left to right: Mr. Paul Sangnier, Mme. Brigitte Sangnier, Mme. M.J. Lienhardt, Messrs. L. Delbos, M. Degouy and C. Cavalier.

50 Years Ago

Paul Charrin (now an oil and mining consultant in Houston, U.S.A.) has sent in a photograph of some of the participants in the XVth IGC, held in Pretoria, South Africa in July, 1929, with the following recollections:

"For most of us in Pretoria, it was our first contact with the old Gondwanaland and this may be one of the reasons why even after 50 years, the memories of the XVth Congress are still vivid.

This was the first Congress held in the Southern Hemisphere. The second one (in Sydney, 1976) would attract thousands of geologists, but in Pretoria there were only 298 in attendance. The fastest means of reaching South Africa then was by ship - 17 days from Southampton to Cape Town, and from there, two days and nights by train to Pretoria. I was lucky: coming from Katanga, it was just a three-day trip for me.

The atmosphere was friendly and conducive to meeting and exchanging ideas. The photograph below includes some well known faces and some who would later become well-known. Some have since passed away, including Don Garcia Sineriz (first row, in the middle) who represented Spain and officially opened the Congress."

XVth IGC, Pretoria, South Africa, 1929.

Survey of World's Geologists

At the initiative of J. Bodelle (Director of the French National Geological Survey in the BRGM and a Vice President of the 26th Congress), and in collaboration with national committees for geology across the world, a survey on the world-wide distribution of geologists has been completed, the results of which will be presented at the Congress under Section 20.

The survey contains data on the number of geologists around the world, the regional distribution of the geological community, correlations between this information and data on general population in countries, gross national products, and the like. A unique global venture, it should prove to be of interest to many Congress participants.

Possible Formation of EGA

European Geological Societies have been urged by the EGA Bridging Committee to have their Councils and representatives formally support a proposed European Geological Association (EGA) during a plenary session scheduled during the 26th IGC.

The Societies have met twice since 1975 (see MEGS II Conference Report in EPISODES, 1978, No. 2, p. 34), both meetings having been coordinated by the Bridging Committee (Convenor - J.V. Hepworth of the Geological Society of London). A constitution for the proposed EGA was drawn up and discussed in Amsterdam during MEGS II: its basic objective is to ensure that regular meetings focussing on European geology take place every two or three years on a continuing basis.

While the fourth "MEGS" meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Easter, 1985 in Edinburgh, Scotland - in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Geological Society of Edinburgh and the anniversary of the Geological Survey, a venue for the third meeting (1981) has not as yet been found; possibilities are being explored by a Dutch committee led by Dr. H.J.W.G. Schalke.

Geological Society of France Marks 150th Anniversary

To celebrate its "150th Jubilee", the Geological Society of France is publishing a book on the status of French knowledge in the different branches of earth science - paleontology, stratigraphy, sedimentology, petrology, tectonics, geophysics, geochemistry and applied geology.

Alain Perrodon, President of the French National Committee on Geology, informs us that the Society will celebrate its 1830 founding in a ceremony just prior to the 26th IGC. The Society hopes to maintain its tradition of close cooperation with other associations so as to better advance the development of geoscience and its application.

International Tectonic Lexicon

An International Tectonic Lexicon bringing together a first selection of important tectonic terms, explaining their meaning and suggesting equivalents in the six official languages of IUGS - English, French, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish, has been published on behalf of the former IGCP Project 100 - "International Tectonic Lexicon".

John Dennis informs us that Part I of the Lexicon ("Fundamental Tectonic Terms"), includes terms considered to be important in geological documentation, while Part II - "Terminology of Cleavage and Schistosity", is designed to be a prototype for similar compilations in other specialized areas. The Lexicon has been called a prodrome because it is a preliminary publication, completed with limited funds.

News In Brief . . .

Geological terms and, more particularly, tectonic terms have long suffered from disagreements as to their definition. Ideally, scientific terms are precisely defined, and carry a fixed, universally agreed connotation. If this were so in geology, it would be safe to say that a great many controversies need never have arisen. In reality, tectonic terminology suffers from semantic inconsistencies which hamper communication between geologists and other scientists, between geologists speaking different languages, and even between geologists speaking the same language.

The Lexicon became a project of CGMW's Subcommission for the Tectonic Map of the World at the 21st IGC in 1960. Responsibility for the project was assigned to CGMW itself at the 22nd IGC in 1964. Since then, a number of single-language terminologies have appeared both in published and in typescript format under the general sponsorship of the Commission.

At the 24th IGC (1972), **Frances Delany**, Secretary-General of CGMW, submitted a prototype international lexicon of 16 tectonic terms in French, compiled from existing single language terminologies and designed as a model for a planned larger multi-language compilation. The opportunity to implement this larger project arose with the establishment of the IGCP. In 1974, **J.G. Dennis** and **H. Murawski** submitted an implementation proposal to IGCP through CGMW, which led to the establishment of IGCP Project 100 (with Messrs. Dennis and Murawski as editors and Miss Delany as project leader).

The editors circulated a provisional manuscript to Project members **F. Dunning** (U.K.), **A. Caire** (France), **K.B. Jubitz** (G.D.R.), **R. Rey** (Spain), **M. Manzoni** (Italy), **H. Masson** (Switzerland), **V.E. Khain** and **V.P. Kolchanov** (U.S.S.R.). Copies were also sent to an Advisory Panel which included **J. Debelmas** and **X. Le Pichon** (France), **P.B. King** and **J. Rodgers** (U.S.A.), and **R. Trumphy** (Switzerland). Comments and suggestions were incorporated into the original manuscript, and an editorial committee (consisting of **J. Dennis**, Chairman, **H. Murawski**, **H. Masson**, and **R. Sacchi**) thoroughly evaluated and amended existing material for the Lexicon. The Lexicon can be ordered from: *E. Schweizerbart'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Johannesstrasse 3A, D-7000 Stuttgart-1, F.R.G.*

GEOREF Data Base Will Go Back to 1785

The American Geological Institute (AGI) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) will share the cost of adding 288 000 old bibliographic references to the GEOREF data base. The USGS has awarded AGI \$92,000 to cover its share of the project. By September 30, 1981, with the addition of the old citations, GEOREF's North American coverage will extend back to 1785, the time of Thomas Jefferson.

GEOREF provides access to the world's geoscience literature through printed bibliographies, indexes and computer searching. The data base contains more than 550 000 earth science references covering world geology back to 1967 and North American geology back to 1961.

Online searching allows a geoscientist or librarian to examine the entire data base from a terminal by telephone; specific topical searches may be ordered from GEOREF.

The old references will be taken from the Bibliography and Index of North American Geology for the years 1785-1960, and from the Bibliography and Index of Geology Exclusive of North America, for 1933-1966. GEOREF's Bibliography and Index of Geology, published monthly with cumulations, succeeded these publications in 1969.

The Bibliography and Index of Geology contains approximately 50 000 new citations each year. References in the monthly issues are grouped in 29 fields of interest, such as engineering and environmental geology, solid earth geophysics, and sedimentary petrology. The annual subscription rate is \$750.

New UN Secretariat for Science and Development

A new high-level advisory policy unit - the Centre for Science and Technology for Development - is being established to carry out the recommendations of the UN Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) held in Vienna in August, 1979 (see EPISODES, 1979, No. 3, p. 38).

Serving the new Intergovernmental Committee which is to coordinate the various UN programs applying science and technology to development, the unit will be headed by an Assistant Secretary General and will absorb some of the resources of the Office of Science and Technology (which will be abolished).

The Centre will report to the Director General for Development and International Economic Cooperation - **Mr. Kenneth Dadzie**. Establishment of a voluntary interim fund is planned to provide new resources for the implementation of projects and programs which will advance science and technology in developing countries. The target set for the fund (to be administered initially by the UNDP) is \$250,000,000 for the period 1980-81. Contributions to the fund and staffing of the new Centre are currently under debate.

International Comet Mission Proposed

The European Space Agency (ESA) and the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) are jointly seeking proposals for participation in an exploratory comet mission, tentatively scheduled to be launched in 1985 (if authorized). It would include a rendezvous with a short period comet - Tempel 2, and a flyby of a second, more active one - Halley's Comet, for comparative measurements.

Proposals are sought in three categories:

- (i) investigations involving scientific instruments, analysis and interpretation of data from the preferred scientific instrumentation other than rendezvous spacecraft imaging, altimetry and radio telemetry instruments;
- (ii) investigations from individuals who use the NASA-provided rendezvous spacecraft facilities (specifically, the imaging, radar altimeter and radio telemetry subsystems);
- (iii) interdisciplinary investigations to solve problems in cometary science and/or provide meaningful theoretical and analysis support to the mission.

To be selected, proposals must fall within the overall objectives of the mission:

- to determine the chemical nature and physical structure of the comet nuclei, and characterize the changes that occur as functions of time and orbital position;
- to characterize the chemical and physical nature of the coma of the comets as well as the processes that occur therein, and characterize the development of the coma as functions of time and orbital position;
- to determine the nature of the comet tails, the processes by which they are formed, and characterize the interaction of comets with the solar wind.

For further information on this proposed mission, write to: *Office for Space Sciences, NASA, Code SL-4, Washington, DC 20546, U.S.A.*

IUGS Executive Meets in Mexico

XXIst Executive Committee Meeting
February 6-9, 1980

An agenda chock-full of new initiatives as well as routine matters awaited Executive Committee evaluation early in February as members gathered in Mexico City (for the first time in IUGS history) to attend the XXIst Executive Committee Meeting.

Key results of the session include:

- agreement on plans for launching a new inter-union program tentatively referred to as "Dynamics, Composition and Evolution of the Lithosphere" during the 26th IGC. A Steering Committee for the successor program to the International Geodynamics Project, appointed by IUGG and IUGS in mid-1979, met at the IUGG General Assembly in Canberra in December, and will meet again early in July to prepare a final document outlining the program, and to propose Bureau members, as well as specific Working Groups. Current plans also call for the submission of a report describing project plans to the ICSU Priorities Committee in April, to IUGS Council in July, and to the ICSU Finance Committee in late July; ICSU's final ratification of the program is expected in September at the General Assembly;
- establishment of two new advisory groups: (i) a small Standing Committee on Comparative Planetology, with **Prof. W. von Engelhardt** as Convenor of its first meeting (during the 26th IGC), and with representation from IAP, IMA, IAGC, NASA and the former IUGS Commission on Meteorites; and (ii) an *ad hoc* Advisory Committee on Sedimentology, also scheduled to meet at the 26th IGC, with **Prof. K. Hsu** acting as Convenor and with IAS, SEPM representation;
- creation of a new simplified IUGS publication series to encourage and facilitate publications emanating from IUGS-sponsored (or partially IUGS-sponsored) work to be credited to IUGS - by assignment of a Publication Number and, whenever possible, use of the IUGS logo, on the title page and/or the front cover. Terms of reference for this series have already been circulated to IUGS constituent bodies by the Secretary General and **Dr. M.G. Bassett** (Chairman, Advisory Board for Publication) who participated in the XXIst session; since then, three publications have been designated under the new system;
- agreement on the need for an IUGS Trust Fund and establishment of a task group (headed by **Professor P.F. Howard**, a Vice President) charged with defining Trust Fund objectives and operating procedures, as well as strategies for soliciting contributions to it. The concept of a Trust Fund was proposed a year ago by the Treasurer, **Dr. J.A. Reinemund**, a key member of the task group;
- discussion of a number of projects recommended for future IUGS support by participants in the Symposium "Metallogeneses in Latin America", sponsored by IUGS, the Mexican Consejo de Recursos Minerales, and others, just prior to the XXIst session (see "Conference Reports" in this issue). Since then, agreement has been reached that the following projects be given priority consideration: publication of Symposium papers, publication of a series on ore deposits of Latin America, preparation of a report on geochemical and geophysical prospecting/exploration in tropical regions, conducting of regional metallogenic studies of tin and associated minerals, conducting of a study of stratiform and stratabound sulfide deposits, and carrying out a study of ore deposits associated with mafic and ultramafic rocks. **Dr. Reinemund** heads a group determining the terms of reference and possible resources for these projects;
- acceptance of the final report of the Scientific Review Committee, prepared by Committee Chairman **Dr. J.M. Harrison**. Its recommendations will be discussed at the VI Ordinary Session of Council in July, which Dr. Harrison will attend;
- further debate of the proposed revised constitution, which led to several minor suggested amendments. It was agreed that Council debate only those articles which had been

formally questioned by IUGS constituent bodies and member countries;

- a re-examination of the role of IFSEG in relation to its constituent societies - SEG, SGA and IAGOD - in the presence of representatives of all four bodies. The Executive encouraged continued cooperation amongst these societies, and agreed to approve applications for direct affiliation between them and IUGS; since then, all three societies have formally requested such affiliation;

Left to right: **Prof. Ulrich Petersen**, President of IFSEG, talks to IUGS Vice Presidents **Prof. I.E. Altinli** (Turkey) and **Prof. Peter F. Howard** (Australia) at the XXIst Executive Committee Meeting in Mexico City.

- appointment of a task group to examine the future of EPISODES and report on the various alternatives before the next Executive meeting in July. This followed the Committee's expressed concern that the current successful formula for producing EPISODES might be jeopardized in the imminent changeover of the IUGS Secretariat;
- approval of the plans for the 26th IGC as detailed by the Secretary General, **Mr. Paul Sangnier**.

The Committee reviewed the successful results of the two-stage contract between IUGS (COGEODATA) and CCOP (see EPISODES, 1979, No. 4, p. 28), commending **Dr. R. Sinding-Larsen** and **Dr. A.L. Clark** for establishing a model for augmenting IUGS resources which might be followed by other IUGS bodies. Members furthermore endorsed the Treasurer's assessment of the need for augmentation of IUGS income - through other international contracts, by increasing the units of contribution to IUGS (members' dues), improving the marketing and sales of IUGS publications, and establishing a Trust Fund.

Pending ratification by Council, the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association, the Geological Society of Africa and the International Commission for Palynology were granted affiliate status, while Guyana was welcomed as a new member country. Since the XXIst session, the application of

Dr. Grantley Wainwright Walrond, Deputy Commissioner of the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, meets **Dr. Eckardt von Braun**, Secretary of IGCP. Guyana has just been welcomed to the growing list of IUGS member countries.

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Somalia for membership and that of the Association of Arab Geologists for affiliation have also been accepted through an Executive postal ballot.

(Detailed minutes of the XX1st Session are available, on request, from: *IUGS Secretariat, Room 177, 601 Booth Street, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E8*).

IGCP Stresses Social Goals

An important social as well as scientific role is foreseen for the joint IUGS-UNESCO International Geological Correlation Programme during the next few years. This came out clearly in the opening remarks of **Dr. A. Kaddoura** (UNESCO's Assistant Director General for Science) at the eighth session of the IGCP Board meeting in Paris, February 25-29, and was echoed in the deliberations of the Board itself, chaired by **Dr. D.J. McLaren**.

The Board gave full support to the recommendations of the IGCP Scientific Committee which had met during the week immediately preceding the Board meeting. Specifically, the Scientific Committee, under the chairmanship of **Dr. A. Bally**, had suggested that IGCP Projects be grouped under two major categories - those dealing with geological events in space and time, and those pertaining to natural resources and the environment.

The recommendation came in the wake of the Scientific Committee's initiative to examine the fundamental objectives of IGCP, and in particular, the way in which the Programme could show leadership in more effective application of earth science to the problems facing humanity.

The Board strongly supported the Committee's proposal to launch a major regional program for the Precambrian of West Africa, and requested **Dr. G.O. Kesse**, one of the Board members, to head the study group which will examine how such a project might best be coordinated, implemented and financed.

The role of training as it relates to IGCP Projects was reviewed. There was general agreement that the development of workshops, seminars and courses at the early stages of certain Projects would be useful but would require increased funding from UNESCO.

The Board recognized that there was still a regional imbalance both in the location of Projects and that of Project Leaders; greater effort is required to promote IGCP through regional meetings that focus on the scientific results of Projects, and to use these in stimulating participation in current Projects as well as in proposing themes for new ones.

Conditional acceptance was given to one new Project entitled "Geological Events at the Eocene-Oligocene Boundary", proposed by **C. Pomerol**. **Dr. E. von Braun**, IGCP Secretary, noted that during 1980, the total number of Projects will be reduced to about 50 (from a high of 64 in the past) which should increase available funding for existing Projects. In reviewing the life-expectancy of the Programme, the Board concluded that in the future no Project should be accepted for more than a five-year duration.

In recognizing the changing goals of the Programme, the Board felt that it would be useful to prepare another comprehensive statement on IGCP's achievements by 1983, and that IGCP's participation in gatherings of potential global impact, such as ACAST (prior to UNCSTD) which **Drs. McLaren, Karunakaran** and **Oyawaye** attended on behalf of the Board, be encouraged.

In his closing remarks, Dr. McLaren paid tribute to **Dr. E.M. Fournier d'Albe**, the former representative of UNESCO in IGCP, who retired in September, 1979 as Director of UNESCO's Earth Sciences Division, and to the IGCP Secretariat in Paris (**Drs. E. von Braun, I. Rousko** and **Z. Huang**, as well as **Mme. C. Espinasse** and **Mme. S. Stoullig**).

The Scientific Committee was ably assisted this year by some energetic newcomers - **D. Ager** (U.K.), **G.P. Cooray** (Sri Lanka), **U.G. Cordani** (Brazil), **A.K. Mikkola** (Finland) and **M. Shannon** (Liberia).

At work during the eighth session of the IGCP Board in Paris, February, 1980 are, left to right, **Dr. E. von Braun** (IGCP Secretary), **Dr. A. Kaddoura**, Assistant Director General for Science, UNESCO, and **Dr. D. J. McLaren** (Chairman, IGCP Board).

UNESCO: New Educational Project in S and T

A new project aimed at adapting education in science and technology to a changing society and to the diversity of needs of UNESCO's Member States has been announced in the planned UNESCO program for 1979-1980.

Studies to be carried out under this project will pay attention to the dimensions of space and time in an effort to introduce more relevance and self-reliance in science education programs. To make certain that related "real-life" problems (food, shelter, health, hygiene, water and other natural resources, artificial materials, energy) and their social impacts are not neglected, specialists in these various areas will join efforts with science educators in reviewing educational needs and problems.

The emphasis will be on short studies-in-depth (focussing on concrete, well-defined situations) rather than long global studies, so as to ensure that all regions of the world and their diverse systems are covered and that attention is paid to problems that arise within the working life-time of the students.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this project (bibliographic information, analysis of needs in their part of the world, case studies, and the like) may write to: *Director of the Division of Science, Technical and Vocational Education, UNESCO, Place de Fontenay, 75700 Paris, France*.

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