MEET OUR EXECUTIVE:

Gunnar Kautsky of Sweden

One of the most popular programs of the GSS, which Dr. Kautsky and his colleagues introduced from Finland some 15 years ago, is a bounty scheme called "Folkmalmetning" (hunting for float), designed both to make the public more aware of geology and to help in the search for new mineral deposits. Swedes submit rock samples for identification to a special body for which the GSS now acts as consultant and, if warranted, does further investigation in the field. A scale of rewards is given to the more "interesting" samples, including an annual first prize of \$5,000 with a great deal of publicity.

Thousands of specimens have been turned in, some of them "swiped from mine dumps", but a few of them have led to the discovery of new prospects. The program has become something of a national sport and farmers and fishermen are great participants. Indeed, it is not unusual to see weekend joggers in northern Sweden running with hammers in their hands.

Another program in which Dr. Kautsky has played a leading role is "Nortcallott", a multilateral project currently involving Norway, Sweden and Finland with Greenland acting as an observer. This ambitious program is investigating the geophysics, geochemistry, tectonics and Quaternary north of 60°, reducing and publishing the data on a uniform scale as a background to detailed mineral exploration. Nortcallott is especially interesting in that it involves not only geoscientists but also officials from government finance departments. As project leader, Dr. Kautsky's rationale for this is that the presence of economists on management committees gives them an insight into the scientific aims, objectives and operations of the program, thus providing an invaluable interface between scientists and government.

Dr. Kautsky's international activities are numerous. He has represented Sweden on many international commissions and at International Geological Congresses in Delhi, Prague, Sydney and Paris. He was involved in organizing many Swedish missions to developing countries, such as a recent biogeochemical survey in Indonesia and a geological team now assisting Nicaragua in gold exploration. A recent assignment has taken him back to Austria to advise on the reorganization of that country's geological survey. Dr. Kautsky is currently President of the Swedish National Committee for Geology, Swedish Representative to the Commission for the Geological Map of the World, and first Vice-President of the International Association on the Genesis of Ore Deposits.

As a worldwide organization it is not surprising that IUGS has an Executive Committee composed of geoscientists with wide international experience. One of the best examples of an internationalist, multilingual and multidisciplinary is **Dr. Gunnar Kautsky**, Vice-President of IUGS. Born in Finland, educated in Austria and now a naturalized Swede, he speaks Swedish, German and English, as well as a smattering of French and Italian. His parents were both geologists who moved from Austria to Finland after the First World War, later migrating to Sweden. His father was a well-known paleontologist and a successful prospector who worked in many parts of Europe so the young Gunnar Kautsky met many famous geologists of the day.

Dr. Kautsky received his formal education in Austria with his first independent geological studies concentrating on paleontology and Alpine tectonics. After the Second World War, he finished his dissertation on the Caledonides, and upon graduating, accepted a job with the Bolin Mining Company as a mineral exploration geologist. Soon, he switched to the Geological Survey of Sweden (GSS) where he returned to Caledonide tectonics, publishing several key papers on the famous Seve-Köli Nappe Complex. Indeed, he presented some of the early evidence for large thrust sheets moving into northern Sweden from more than 250 km to the west (see also Conference Report on the 1981 Uppsala Caledonide Conference, this issue of EPISODES.)

Dr. Kautsky later moved into the field of Precambrian economic geology with the GSS, and in the late 1950s, became its Chief Geologist. Two years ago, the GSS was split into northern and southern divisions, and he was asked to head the Solid Geology unit of the latter. The Survey has now become the largest exploration organization in Sweden. Dr. Kautsky helped to create its modern role, which is somewhere between that played by national geoscience agencies in the West and those of the centrally-planned economies of the East.

PERSONNEL NOTES . . .

Scientists in Wyoming, U.S.A., are proposing to name a new fossil species in honour of IUGS Vice-President **Dr. Zofia Kielan-Jaworowska**, a prominent Polish scientist and leading authority on multituberculates (see EPISODES 1981(2), p.51). The creature, believed to be the first leaf-eating mammal, would be called "zofiabaatar", meaning "Zofia's little heroic one." According to a February 8, 1982, Washington Post announcement, scientists believe that the chipmunk-like animal, which flourished in the early Cretaceous, may have played a vital role in the spread of angiosperms by scattering the seeds of the plants it ate...

Dr. M. King Hubbert, a consultant to the USGS and professor emeritus of geophysics at Stanford University, U.S.A., was awarded the 1981 Vetlesen Gold Medal in geophysics in early December. The Vetlesen Medal, which carries with it a cash award of \$50,000 (U.S.), is often referred to as the Nobel Prize of the earth sciences. It is given in recognition of achievements that result in a clearer understanding of the

earth, its history, or its relation to the universe. Dr. Hubbert's career spans both the academic and industrial fields, and he is well known for his untraditional approach to analyzing geological problems. By 1956, for example, he had developed "Hubbert's Pimple" - a curve that illustrated the complete cycle of U.S. crude oil production. He later applied the same technique to determine the cycle for production of world crude oil, coal and natural gas...

The Geological Society of London has nominated **Prof. Janet Watson** as President for 1982-84. Dr. Watson, who was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1948, has held a personal chair at Imperial College of Science and Technology since 1974. Although interested in many aspects of geology, her work has been mainly directed toward understanding the structural, thermal and chemical evolution of the earth's crust during the Precambrian, and in particular, during the Archaean. Since 1976, she has served on the IGCP Board and was elected to the Royal Society in 1979...