

VOLCANOLOGICAL DIVISION NEWSLETTER

GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Newsletter #3 - April, 1976.

Annual Meeting

This will be held at the unearthly hour of 8:00 a.m. on Friday, May 21st, during the annual GAC/MAC meeting in Edmonton. The location is V102.

According to the Constitution additional nominations are to be received by the Secretary at least 40 days prior to the Annual Meeting, but in view of my tardiness in sending out this newsletter, I am sure we can bend the rules and accept nominations at the Annual Meeting.

The Executive serves a two-year term, with the exception of the three Regional Councilors, who serve three-year overlapping terms. This year is election year for the major part of the Executive and for the Regional Councilor for the West.

The slate of nominees presented is as follows:

- Chairman: J. G. Souther,
Geological Survey, Vancouver
- Vice-chairman: L. D. Ayres,
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg
- Secretary-Treasurer: M. B. Lambert,
Geological Survey, Ottawa
- Regional Councilor West: N. B. Church,
B.C. Dept. Mines and Petrol.
Resources, Victoria
- Geophysics Councilor: A. M. Jessop,
Earth Physics Branch, Ottawa
- Economic Geology Representative: C. D. Spence,
Rio Tinto Exploration, Vancouver

Executive Members Serving Out Existing Terms

- Regional Councilor Centre (1977): L. Gélinas,
Ecole Polytechnique, Montreal
- Regional Councilor East (1978): D. B. Clarke,
Dalhousie University, Halifax

Field Excursions

There was general agreement at the founding meeting that one of the principal functions of a Volcanological Division would be field excursions. This has proved to be extraordinarily difficult. Several people have been approached to organize trips but have been tied up for a year or two. There is no doubt that we will get an excursion organized before too long. Last year a questionnaire was sent out to check on interest. The results were not exactly overwhelming (see below), but I assume that more people would respond to a firm date and price.

	Iceland 1976	Martinique 1976	Noranda/Timmins 1975	Canary Islands 1977
good chance	3	7	17	} 12
fair chance	16	9	2	

A word or two about the proposed Iceland trip is in order since I offered to organize it. The situation on Iceland is essentially this. The only time to do an extensive trip is July. Many of the passes in the interior are not free of snow until late in the month, and in view of the cost of getting there, it seems pointless not to plan on seeing as much of the country as possible. The southern coast and the Westermann Islands can, of course, be seen over a much larger part of the year. An adequate excursion in the interior would involve camping, and I have been in touch with an organization that specializes in hiking tours in order to use their transport and equipment. The cost for two weeks would be only about \$200 but to this must be added a return air fare of about \$500 assuming 15-20 participants. In short, Iceland would cost approximately \$750. My own plans for this summer subsequently ruled out any further work on the Iceland trip for 1976.

The Canary Islands was also mentioned. This I expect to be able to offer for early 1978. The most convenient method is to use a package holiday tour out of England and use charter flights to England. Since I shall be in England this summer and much of 1977, I shall get definite costs worked out while over there so as to be able to offer something definite before the end of this year, and allow time for budgeting. The Canary Islands offer numerous possibilities but the first one to offer is probably Tenerife with its splendid volcano, the Teide, rising nearly 12,000 feet and accessible by cable car. February 1978 would be a good time (sun in mid-winter!), but other times could be used if a significant number preferred it.

Any offers to lead and organize excursions of whatever scope will be gratefully received. We must get a programme organized, and so far the situation has been essentially that people are prepared to go if only someone will do the organizing. We need more field trip planners.

The newsletter is unduly late this year. Jeff Fawcett is on leave in Otago, and I undertook to look after the secretarial work while he is away. Unfortunately it has fallen victim to my customary lethargy.

A closing reminder - try to get to the annual meeting of the Division, - 8:00 a.m., May 21st, in Edmonton.

J. Gittins,
Acting Secretary-Treasurer.