

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS

INCORPORATED

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
FRANK A. MORGAN
C/O RICHFIELD OIL CORPORATION
555 SOUTH FLOWER STREET
LOS ANGELES 17, CALIFORNIA

August 22, 1951

No. 12

Leslie Bowling, Chairman
Steering Committee
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies
510 California Building
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Bowling:

I appreciate your letter of August 14 and will attempt to give you the answer to your question as I see it.

Our Association is related to many organizations and a number of different types of organizations. Most of these are junior or regional in nature as compared to the Association. Most of these "relatives" are expressly provided for in the Association by-laws.

It seems to me there are many variations in types of affiliated groups or societies. Also there are variations in the character of regional sections. The by-laws are broadly written in this respect and much thought and care have been devoted through the years by able and farsighted men in making them so. The resulting pattern of loosely knit organizations demonstrates a loyalty and a unity of purpose due no doubt to the sound leadership of the parent Association, the existence of a common objective, and a uniformity in the character of members throughout.

With the above in view I believe that in those areas where strong affiliated geological societies do not exist, a regional section is the best unit of Association representation. In other areas where strong affiliated societies have long been in existence I believe, for many practical reasons, such societies or federations thereof, might very well constitute the best media of representation. I realize that with respect to the latter, certain incongruities exist but the relationship of such societies with the Association will continue to work well due to the sincerity of purpose which has proved to be inherent in all such societies in working toward the common objective.

Going one step further, I believe a regional section superimposed over a group of affiliated societies is well worth while if the Association members of a region want this type of organization. However I feel that such organization is not necessarily vital to the Association and if and when the time comes in any area that the creation of a section becomes a matter of importance such action will naturally follow on motion of our members.

Our by-laws state that, subject to the affirmative vote of our members, "the executive committee may arrange for the affiliation with the Association of duly organized groups or societies, which by objects, aims, constitutions, by-laws, or practice are developing the study of geology or petroleum technology." It seems

Leslie Bowling

-2-

August 22, 1951


quite possible that this can be construed to include a group such as the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies when it has become seasoned to the extent that its objects, aims, etc., are established and recognized. If such construction is questionable there is no reason why the by-laws cannot be appropriately amended.

I believe I have answered your questions. I am not speaking officially for the executive committee, although I believe most of my colleagues on the committee are sympathetic with the views here expressed.

I am looking forward with pleasure to attending your meeting in November. I hope it may be possible for me to visit New Orleans at some earlier date, in which event I will get in touch with you.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,


Frank A. Morgan

FAM:LMS
AIR MAIL

cc: Executive Committee
J. P. D. Hull