

# TRANSACTIONS

VOLUME IX

GULF COAST ASSOCIATION  
OF GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES



**HOUSTON, TEXAS**

November 11, 12, 13, 1959



*Neil M. Fullman*

TRANSACTIONS  
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

VOLUME IX, 1959

DeWitt C. Van Siclen, *Editor*

*Prepared for the*  
**NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF G.C.A.G.S.**  
*and the*  
**1959 FALL REGIONAL MEETING OF THE  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS**

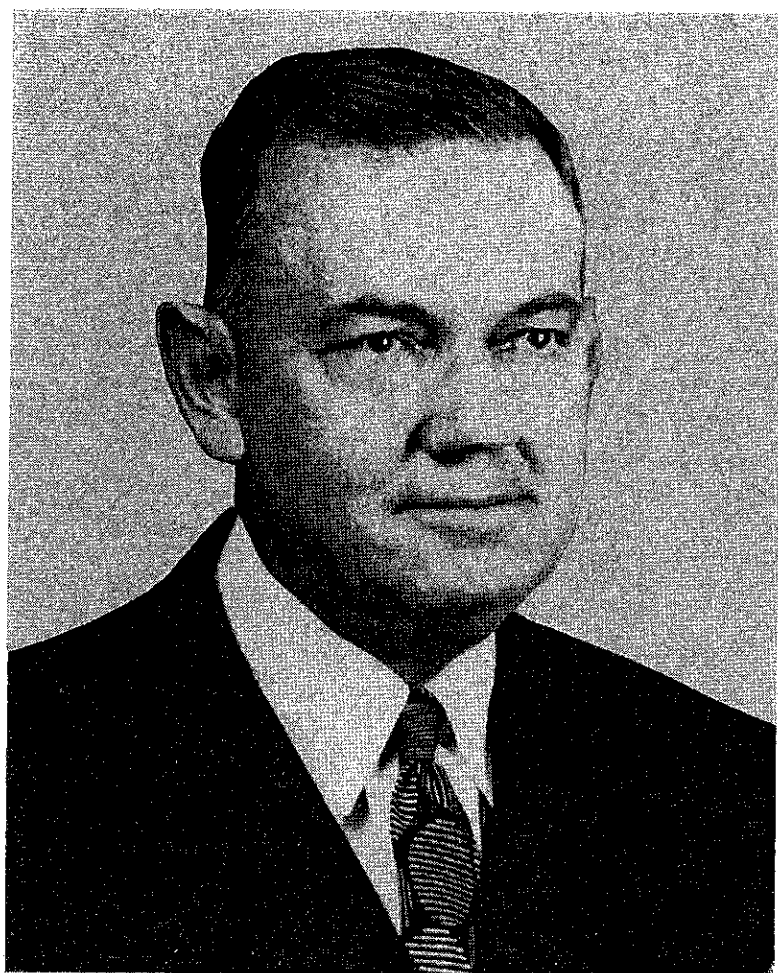
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**THE GULF COAST SECTION OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ECONOMIC PALEONTOLOGISTS AND MINERALOGISTS**

**NOVEMBER ELEVENTH THROUGH THIRTEENTH, 1959**  
*at*  
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Houston, Texas

*This Volume Is Dedicated to the Memory of Alexander Deussen (1882-1959)*



LAST month, the myriad friends of Alexander Deussen learned that he had passed away peacefully on September 5 at a Denton, Texas, hospital, where Mrs. Sue Campbell Deussen had escorted him four days previously from his home in nearby Ponder for a physical examination. His daughter, Lucille Deussen McRae, lives in Houston.

Alec was born in San Antonio, Texas, on January 19, 1882, the son of a San Antonio banker. After receiving his masters degree and a Phi Beta Kappa key from the University of Texas in 1904, he became a member of the faculty and taught geology for ten years. During seven of these years he also served the U. S. Geological Survey. In 1915, he came to Houston as a geologist for a predecessor of the Gulf Oil Corporation and a year later opened his office as a consulting geologist.

During his career he served as a consultant to many oil companies, both major and minor, includ-

ing Standard Oil of California, Marland Oil Company, Imperial Oil Company of Canada, The Texas Company, Gulf Oil Corporation, Humble Oil and Refining Company, Kirby Petroleum Company, Texas Gulf Sulphur Company, The Freeport Sulphur Company, and many others. He also advised state and federal governments in North and South America.

When geophysics came to this continent, Alec immediately recognized it not as a competitor but, as it proved to be, a valuable tool for solving the problems of geology. He was the first person who actually operated and used the seismograph for the purpose of discovering salt domes in the Gulf Coast. He was instrumental in introducing the electric well log in the Gulf Coast, serving as a director of the Schlumberger organization when it was first organized in 1932.

Not only did Alec make direct contributions to many oil discoveries in Texas and Louisiana but his more than 40 publications contain source material which has contributed to the discovery of numerous others. Four of his classic publications were written for the U. S. Geological Survey. His Professional Paper No. 126, "Geology of the Coastal Plain of Texas west of the Brazos River," published in 1924, was in such

demand that the University of Texas republished it in 1930.

Besides being a member of 14 professional and scientific societies, he was an honorary member of the A.A.P.G.; and, in 1947, the Sidney Powers Medal, a coveted award to outstanding and distinguished petroleum geologists, was presented to him by Wallace E. Pratt, the only other recipient of this award. Mr. Pratt's sincere felicitous expressions in the citation published in the A.A.P.G. Bulletin preclude additions without resorting to redundancy.

Alec was never too busy to assist young geologists who went to him for counsel. His dignified reserve, natural friendliness, patience to listen, clear vision, rugged honesty; devotion to his profession, and sage advice inspired ideas in young scientists. These have lost their mentor, guide, and beloved friend who will endure in their hearts.

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## GULF COAST ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

1959

The Executive Committee, consisting of representatives from each of the eleven local member societies, met at Houston in April and in August. A third meeting is scheduled for November 11, the first day of the IX Annual Convention. The fourth and final meeting will be held in December when the officers for 1960 will be elected.

The Executive Committee amended the By-Laws of the G.C.A.G.S. by including the following sentence as Paragraph V: "The Executive Committee of this Association may request that the American Association of Petroleum Geologists designate the Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies Annual Convention as a joint regional meeting with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists." Following the passage of this amendment, the Executive Committee, through the President, requested the A.A.P.G. to designate the IX Annual Convention as a joint regional meeting with the A.A.P.G. The convention was designated as the Fall Regional Meeting of the A.A.P.G. and is the first G.C.A.G.S. convention to be so designated. An A.A.P.G. Executive Committee meeting is to be held at the Shamrock Hotel in Houston during the convention.

Early in the year, all copies of volumes II and III of the Transactions had been sold. The Executive Committee voted to reprint these two volumes, and 300 copies of each were reprinted. The G.C.A.G.S. now has on hand a supply of all Transactions volumes.

I wish to express my personal appreciation to the representatives of the member societies for their diligence in attending the Executive Committee meetings and for their assistance in handling the various matters of policy and business that have arisen during the year. Special thanks are due to the Association officers.

The IX Annual Convention promises to have the largest attendance yet registered at a G.C.A.G.S. Convention. Arrangements for this convention have required the time and skill of many individuals. I want to express the gratitude of the Executive Committee and myself to those who have so generously donated their efforts to preparing for this convention.

The financial position of the Association continues to be sound, with approximately \$11,000.00 in cash and \$5,755.00 in bonds. Inasmuch as the annual budget for the Transactions and convention is in excess of \$30,000.00, this reserve is necessary for underwriting the Association's annual expenses.

GEORGE C. HARDIN, JR.