

C.M.S. NEWSLETTER NO. 1

C.M.S. Council has held a meeting November 20th, 1972 and taken the decision to appoint a reporter on news items of interest to local Centres and the membership at large. The idea is to promote a more effective flow of information from the executive and thereby evoke a more active feedback. I was approached by the President and invited to attend the Council meeting. I accepted the job for the duration of the present executive.

C.M.S. BUDGET

A source of continuing worry to the Society is the question of its funding. As you are probably aware, 1971 was a bad year financially for the Society and, as a result, the year ended with a deficit which ate into the financial reserves in an alarming manner. Fortunately, the A.E.S. came to the rescue with the purchase of 200 subscriptions to Atmosphere which helped to stay the financial drain temporarily. To achieve financial security, Council has prepared a submission to Treasury Board for an annual grant. The Society is hoping to get somewhere around \$10,000 annually from Treasury Board. The submission cited precedents and elaborated on the aims and responsibilities of the C.M.S. The grant money would be used in part to fund the expenditures expected to arise from routine SOMAS functions estimated to run to \$3,500 annually, also to increase substantially the support of regional Centres; furthermore, to improve the quality of Atmosphere, to help defray the costs of representatives at relevant scientific meetings where the Society has a contribution to make, and a number of smaller budget items. One can only hope that Treasury Board will come through with this grant which would enable the Society to better fulfill its responsibilities without placing too heavy a financial burden on its members.

Another item under consideration is to start the publication of a Canadian Journal of Meteorology as soon as possible.

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

This Committee, which is under the chairmanship of H. B. Kruger, is now almost complete and has started to evaluate various courses of action which it might pursue. One step already taken which brought positive results was in support of a letter-to-the-Editor written by Dr. R. Shaw and published in the Halifax Chronicle-Herald and the Halifax Mail-Star. The letter concerned the possible adverse environmental effects, especially air pollution, which could result from a proposed deep-water port at St. Margaret's Bay.

A publication entitled "Science News Communications", a guide for scientists, physicians, public relations officers and information specialists, has been forwarded to each Committee member. Other interested Centre members should be encouraged to contact their Committee representative for an opportunity to peruse this interesting little manual.

Committee membership now stands as follows:

N. Powe - Montreal (English-language media)  
A. Ouellet - Montreal (French-language media)  
J.R. Hendricks - Regina  
A.D. Gates - Halifax  
D.J. Webster - Ottawa  
M. Ferland - Québec City  
H.P. Wilson - Edmonton  
A.J. Chisholm - Toronto

It is expected that representatives for the Winnipeg and Vancouver Centres will be named soon.

Centre Executives should make a point of discussing with their Committee representative all matters which could involve the provision of information to the public and to specific groups. It is suggested that items which might be of national public interest should be communicated to the Committee Chairman, H. B. Kruger, through the Centre Committee representatives.

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL MATTERS

Dr. B. Boville, the Chairman, was unable to attend the meeting and Mr. Gordon McKay read the Chairman's report. Among other items it dealt with business arising from the last SOMAS meeting, especially the possibility of transferring the functions of this body into the C.M.S. Standing Committee on Scientific and Professional Matters. In his last letter to you, the President has already reported in some detail on this issue. Council discussed some of the financial aspects of the expected transfer which are reflected in the budget news mentioned earlier in this letter.

Another item under discussion was the S.S.T. issue. Council felt strongly that steps should be taken to ensure that this issue should receive high priority among research projects in universities and other relevant institutions.

Aeronomers and hydrologists are groups that have much in common professionally with meteorologists. They are "homeless" - should C.M.S. attempt to provide a home for them? After all we are a "learned" society and, as such, we should perhaps try to get more involved with related groups.

MISCELLANEOUS

It might be of interest to you that Atmosphere is getting a bilingual jacket.

A new design for the letterhead of the C.M.S. stationery featuring a lightning symbol is under development.

The Postal Authorities have come out with the new Postal Codes in this area. Our code is M2N 5S7. That of A.E.S. is M3H 5T4.

MEETINGS

The Seventh Annual Congress of the C.M.S. will take place at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, May 30 - June 1, 1973. The theme is "The Atmosphere and the Oceans". Nancy Waller is in charge of the local arrangements. Particulars will be found in the next issue of Atmosphere.

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The 11th A.M.S. meeting on Forestry and Agricultural Meteorology will be held at Duke University, Durham, N. C., January 8-10, 1973. The program is outlined in the October issue of the Bulletin of the A.M.S.

BOOK BY THE C.M.S.

It has been proposed that the C.M.S. produce a meteorological reference book for use by students from grade eleven to the first year of university. Such an undertaking is directly in line with the Society's stated objective of promoting meteorology in Canada, and is being organized by the Toronto Centre. Given the present favourable climate for Canadian authors and the fact that a publisher has shown marked interest in the proposed book, it is anticipated that there will be little difficulty in getting the finished work into the market.

Such a book will fill a gap which has long existed in the resource material available to students and teachers of physics and geography. While providing a real contribution to the educational field there would also be substantial benefits to the Society in the form of increased prestige, and hopefully some royalty income to fatten the rather meagre purse.

Within the C.M.S. membership there is a large pool of meteorological expertise covering a spectrum of fields. The difficulty facing the organizing committee is that of determining those members who are not only able to write but who are also willing to donate time and talent to the Society. Besides writers, an illustrator will be required preferably one with the ability to draw diagrams and edit the photographic content of the book. In addition a panel of experts - a representative from each of the divisions within meteorology - would be required to review the writer's work and to suggest any additional material that might usefully be included. It might be added here that the committee is particularly anxious to include the subject of extraterrestrial meteorology.

If you wish to be associated with this enterprise in any of these categories write for further information to:

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News on forthcoming meetings of interest to all meteorologists will be published from time to time. I would be interested in learning your reaction to this newsletter, so please let us hear it!

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