

KEEPING QUALIFIED MEN IN PUBLIC POSITIONS. 2-4-31

Governor Parnell's reappointment of George C. Branner as state geologist was the thing the general manager of a private business concern would have done under like circumstances. When a position requires special ability, training and experience, the public interest suffers when it is made a political prize and its incumbent is changed every few years. This is not to say that once a man has obtained a post in the public service, it should be regarded as his personal possession for the rest of his active life. But here again, as in private business, every question of tenure of office ought to be considered on its own particular merits. When the right man gets into the right place his retention makes his service increasingly valuable. Arkansas has profited greatly, for example, by having an incumbent of Mr. Branner's qualifications serve steadily as state geologist. There are other public positions to which the same reasoning applies, and other men in Arkansas who could do increasingly valuable work for the state if appointed on merit and qualifications and kept steadily on jobs for which they were particularly well fitted.

The report of the survey of the Arkansas state government directed attention to the waste and inefficiency involved in the heavy turnover of employes when elective offices change hands, and hundreds of employes, selected with little regard for their training and experience, replace employes who may also have come in as raw recruits and may have hardly had time to become familiar with the routine of the offices in which they work. Even in the case of ordinary

clerical workers, such a system fails to get the best results. In the case of positions calling for special training, ability or knowledge, the bad effects of frequent changes will of course be even more marked.

government. Passed, 20-1. Emergency clause, 24-0. *Senate 2-6-31 (Passed)*
S. B. No. 27 (Counts). To appropriate funds to redeem vouchers issued under authority of the governor's deficiency proclamation of December 27, 1929, for benefit of the state geologist. Passed, 21-0. Emergency clause, 24-0.
S. B. No. 28 (Counts). To appropriate funds to redeem vouchers issued under authority of the governor's de-

coffins. Committee on Education.
S. B. No. 278 (Milum). To appropriate funds for maintenance of the Geology Department. Budget Committee. 2-6-31 (Introduced) *Senate*
S. B. No. 279 (Milum). To appropriate

of revenues to supplement Act 263 of 1929. Calendar. 2-11-31
S. B. No. 27 (Counts). To make appropriation to redeem vouchers issued under the governor's deficiency proclamation of December 27, 1929, for benefit of the state geologist. Calendar. S. B. No. 28 (Counts). To make ap-

said he would try to call it up today. Appropriation Bills Read.

The House began the afternoon session as a Committee of the Whole, and consideration of the 18 measures soon was broken by Representative Toney of Jefferson. *Gazette*

"I'd like some explanation of these bills," he declared. "Before we place any more burdens on the people I'd like to know what we're doing."

Representative Deane of Arkansas had moved passage of Senate Bill No. 27 by Senator Counts to appropriate funds to redeem vouchers issued under authority of a deficiency proclamation of the governor for the benefit of the state geologist. 2-11-31

Representative Toney said he understood a deficiency proclamation was issued only in times of invasion or emergency, and wound up by demanding to know "what invasion occurred to warrant payment of \$3,000 to the state geologist?"

Representative Johnston of Johnson explained that the money had been expended to enable the state geologist to search for water in the rice belt and to investigate the vital shortage of water supply.

Representative Wilson of Clark suggested that the rice planters foot their own bills for water.

Representative Deane said he believed the measure was justified as a means of saving the rice industry. The incident was closed amid laughter, when Mr. Brown of Cleveland said:

"If Mr. Johnston and the governor of Arkansas agree on this bill it must be all right." The members voted passage.

S. B. 27 (Counts). Appropriating \$3,000 to redeem vouchers issued under governor's proclamation for water survey in rice area by state Geologist Department, 70 to 0. *Passed in House*
S. B. 29 (Counts). Appropriating \$10,000 to redeem vouchers issued un-

George C. Branner Confers With Federal Officials.

(From the Gazette's Correspondent.) Washington, D. C., Feb. 13.—George C. Branner, Arkansas state geologist today engaged in important conferences with officials of the Geological Survey and the Coast and Geodetic Survey relative to a phase of the flood control problem in Arkansas. Details of a plan he proposed are not ready for announcement.

Mr. Branner today was re-elected secretary of the National Association of State Geologists, at the annual meeting.

College. Passed 66 to 3.
H. B. No. 121 (Johnston). To transfer proceeds of the sand and gravel tax from the general fund to the credit of the state Geology Department. Passed 69 to 3. 2-20-31 *Passed*
H. B. No. 283 (Myers). To provide for retirement by the state of 50 per

S. B. No. 329 (Norfleet). Revising the act applying to the severance tax, to provide a severance tax fund to be used for benefit of common schools. Education Committee.

aries and fees of county officials in Benton county. Passed, 25-0.
H. B. No. 121 (Johnston). To provide for transference of the sand and gravel tax proceeds from the general revenue fund for benefit of the state Geological Department. Passed, 18-13. Emergency clause, 26-0.
H. B. No. 310 (Raney). To appropriate \$70,000 for maintenance and support of the Arkansas Confederate

Ozarks at Harrison, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933. Passed, 19-0.
S. B. No. 537 (Budget Committee). To appropriate \$70,000 for the state Department of Geology, for the biennium ending June 30, 1933. Passed, 23-0. 3-7-31 *Senate 3-3-31*
S. B. No. 561 (Budget Committee).

Other Confirmations. 3-5-31

Among the other appointees confirmed were J. Lan Williams of Osceola as a member of the state Highway Commission for a 10-year term; Parker C. Ewan, to succeed himself as commissioner of conservation and inspection for a two-year term; Ed Harper, Camden, and Reece A. Caudle, Russellville, for four and six-year terms as members of the Arkansas Railroad Commission and George C. Branner, as state geologist. Other appointments were: T. P. LeMay, as di-

rence of Boys Industrial School. Passed, 56 to 0.
S. B. No. 537. (Committee). To appropriate \$70,000 for biennial maintenance of office of State Geologist. Passed, 58 to 0. *House 3-10-31*
S. B. No. 508. (Committee). To appropriate \$116,000 to carry out provi-

ers College. 3-27-31
Act 183 (S. B. 537, Budget Committee). Biennial appropriation for state geologist. *Approved by House*
Act 184 (S. B. 547, George). Additional appropriation to county highway

Bank Department. 4-2-31
Act No. 293 (H. B. No. 121, Johnston). Amending Act No. 138 of 1915, affecting regulation of mines.
Act No. 294 (H. B. No. 548, Budget). General departmental appropriation bill. *GAZETTE-APPROVED*

fence law and stock law. Calendar.
H. B. No. 120—(Johnston of Johnston)—To reserve mineral rights to state on all lands sold by state. Committee on Mines and Mining.
H. B. No. 121—(Johnston of Johnston)—To amend Act 138 of Acts of 1915. Committee on Mines and Mining. *GAZETTE. 1-27-31*

THE MONEY NEEDED FOR OUR GEOLOGICAL WORK. 2-1-31

A bill introduced by Representative Johnston of Johnson county would supplement the funds supporting the work of the state geologist by devoting to this use the revenue from the sand and gravel tax now turned into general revenue. This office has been supported since 1927 by a small percentage of the severance tax, and about 98 per cent of this support has come from the tax on oil production. But during the last three years oil production has declined to such a degree that out of \$55,600 appropriated for geological work this year, it is estimated that not more than \$15,000 will actually be collected.

The Gazette understands that this shortage is having a serious effect on the continuation of the state geological survey, and is holding back the publication of reports on work already done, including reports on the oil fields of the Arkansas coastal plain, and on the lead and zinc regions and deposits of black marble and oil shale in northern Arkansas.

There never was a time when it was more desirable to forward every possibility of development in Arkansas. In its work of exploring and mapping the state geologically, the survey directed by Mr. Branner is laying the foundation for mineral industries. Our soil hides much wealth of this sort, and Mr. Branner is the agent we employ to bring this wealth to the attention of the mining and quarrying world. His office has on its mailing list some 7,000 names of members of scientific and technical organizations, companies and individuals interested in the development of mineral resources, and its publications go into colleges, universities and libraries all over the United States and Canada, and in foreign countries.

The average revenue from the sand and gravel tax for the last six years has been about \$15,715, not an important sum when added to the general revenue fund of the state, but a sum sufficient to relieve the state geological survey from the worst of the financial pressure by which it is now handicapped. It seems that there could be no more appropriate use for a tax on one class of our mineral resources than its appropriation for larger development of our mineral wealth as a whole.

Democrat HOUSE BILL NO. 121. 3-2-31

House Bill No. 121, by Johnston of Johnson county, has been passed by both houses of the Arkansas legislature and awaits the Governor's signature. It provides for the transfer of the sand and gravel tax from the general revenue fund to the state geologist fund.

The bill should serve to call attention to the almost deplorable condition into which we have allowed the State Geological Survey, one of our most vital departments of government, to drift during the last two years.

Now, of course, it can be argued soundly that the decrease in the severance tax, from which the survey draws its sustenance, can not be blamed upon any human agency. But the further fact remains that while the department received \$32,000 for operation expenses in 1927-1928, that sum has dwindled until it will have decreased to about \$12,400 for the next fiscal year, and a possible slump during the following year to \$9,900.

It is plain, even to the layman, that the Geologic Survey can do more than drag out a bare existence with any such income. The sand and gravel tax, it is estimated, will amount to between \$19,000 and \$21,000, and while that amount would have a trivial effect upon the needs of the general revenue fund, it can and will have a highly beneficial effect upon the usefulness of the state geologist department.

Let us assume that the department will be given only enough to keep its doors open, so to speak, what will be the result? The present State-Federal stream gaging program will be stopped, in fact, all State-Federal geological projects will be brought to a halt. Five completed reports now in the geological department will remain there because of lack of funds to have them published.

The reports furnish the latest information on Arkansas' greatest potential source of wealth in its minerals, its oils. It is in such reports that industrial leaders learn where they can turn for raw material need in their operations. Without them Arkansas' buried wealth might as well remain unknown forever.

Governor Parnell, by signing House Bill No. 121, can accomplish two things: He can add to the state's wealth by aiding the geologist department and he can save money for the taxpayers by forcing economy in expenditures from the general revenue fund.

THE SEVERANCE TAX AND THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Severance tax collections during a three-month period just ended amounted to \$107,243. For the same three months a year ago they amounted to \$171,421. The difference, \$64,178, represents a decline of nearly one-third in revenue from this source during a single year. Since five-sixths of the severance tax goes to the public schools, and the remaining one-sixth to county road building, such a falling-off affects two of the most important public activities.

The bulk of severance tax revenue comes from a two and one-half per cent levy on the gross value of petroleum produced by Arkansas oil wells, and a large reduction in collections is therefore to be expected at this time. General overproduction of oil in the United States has made the prevailing prices of crude very low. But aside from this factor in the situation, which might be regarded as temporary, there has been a steady decline in the severance tax yield since the flush production period passed in the El Dorado, Smackover and Camden

fields. The tax reached its highest point, \$1,838,952, in 1926. The 1927 total was \$1,383,055. That of 1928 dropped sharply to \$888,552. The revenue for the fiscal year 1929-30 was \$788,816, and now comes this further decline of one-third for the last three-months period as compared with a similar period last year.

It will be good business for Arkansas to encourage in every feasible way a larger and more rapid development of the great mineral resources it possesses in addition to petroleum and coal. In the state Geological Survey we have a public agency qualified to take the lead in this work. But it is handicapped by lack of funds. At the present time it has in completed form a number of reports on Arkansas mineral resources that cannot be published because no money is available to pay for their publication. The falling off in severance tax revenues would seem to furnish the most practical and urgent of arguments for making the Geological Survey more effective by giving it stronger financial support. *Fayette 3-12-31*

BRANNER TO ADDRESS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

(Special News Service)
Rogers, Ark., April 5.—Dr. George Branner, of Little Rock, director of the Arkansas Geological survey, will be the principal speaker at a meeting of the Ozark Research association to be held Monday at the Main hotel. Logan Leib is president of the association, H. W. Gipple, secretary, and Charles Potter, assistant secretary. Considerable interest has been manifested the last six months since a group of prospectors from Wichita, Kan., and another group from Denver, Colo., came here and have made extensive explorations in the five north-western counties of Arkansas. Thousands of acres of land have been leased and machinery is expected within the next few weeks for separating the gold and other precious metals from the rock. A number of these men will be among those who will attend the meeting.

Mineral Survey in Ozarks Is Promised

Rogers, April 7.—(AP)—A survey of mineral prospects in this section under sponsorship of the state geologist's department had been promised today. Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, conferred with 50 members in attendance at the meeting of the Ozark Research Association here yesterday and promised to send an expert to make the survey. Among the speakers was Dr. A. W. Giles of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

Democrat WHERE THE SCHOOL MONEY WENT. 3-24-31

While the question of more money for schools is being discussed there are certain facts, brought out by the educational leaders themselves, which should not be overlooked. While we are talking of a possible special session of the legislature to seek new fields and rates of taxation, let us see what has become of the money secured from taxation and originally set aside for school purposes only.

Here are some of the amounts diverted from the common school fund and the equalizing fund during the last two years:

- Maintenance Department of Education, \$139,343 (formerly supported from the general revenue fund).
- School for the Deaf, \$227,998, and School for the Blind, \$116,032 (both institutions formerly supported from the charities fund).

For support of State Geological Survey from severance tax, \$55,808. (Department formerly supported from general revenue fund.)

Total appropriations from school funds for two years, \$539,182.

These appropriations were made ostensibly to relieve the general revenue and charities funds, the teachers said, but at the same time \$240,000 was added to the appropriations from the general revenue fund for the support during the two years of additional state schools, establishment of which has been consistently opposed by the educational leaders of the state.

We quote further from the educators' statement: "At the time the Hall income tax bill was passed the avowed purpose of the act was to furnish revenue for the equalizing fund. In the last hours of the 1929 session of the legislature, after the income tax act was passed, which provided for appropriating funds not needed for the construction of state charitable institutions to a tax reduction fund. During the last biennium the amount of income tax going to tax reduction instead of to the equalizing fund was \$878,449.18. Thus the total amount of state funds diverted by the legislature for other purposes was \$1,657,631.95."

Which inspires these questions: Why should more taxes be levied when more than \$1,600,000 rightfully belonging to the common school fund has been diverted to other funds for apparent political reasons? Are the people of Arkansas contributing generously to their schools? The answer to the latter question certainly is in the affirmative.

Overlooked a Few.

In last week's Collier's Walter Davenport amusingly discussed Hot Springs under the somewhat lurid topic, "Sin Takes a Hot Bath." But Mr. Davenport is often more amusing than accurate, or, to look at it another way, he is often amusing when he is inaccurate.

I found George C. Branner, state geologist, one day last week chuckling over a passage in Mr. Davenport's earlier article on Arkansas and the drouth situation. The writer had said something to the effect that "of the 103 minerals known to geologists, Arkansas produces all except one, borax."

Any high school student knows there are more than 1,000 minerals in the Americas alone, and that there are between 300 and 400 in Arkansas. But this state, wonderful as it undoubtedly is, produces only a dozen or so minerals. . . . Maybe I'm wrong in these figures, but never so wrong as was Mr. Davenport.

In Letter to Editor of Democrat

Sept 16, 1931 COMMON SCHOOL FUNDS. *Democrat*

The common schools of Arkansas are so badly in need of funds that educational leaders favor a special session of the legislature to enact new tax legislation. The inference is that the limit has been reached in ability to collect tax money for the schools and the only alternative is higher rates or new sources of taxation. We submit the following as showing where some of the school money has been going:

- Maintenance of Department of Education, \$139,343.
- School for the Deaf, \$227,998.
- School for the Blind, \$116,032.
- For support of State Geological Survey from severance tax, \$55,808. (Geologist Branner denies any school funds go to his department but Legislative Committee of Arkansas Education contends otherwise).
- Total appropriations from school funds for two years, \$539,182.
- Additional state schools, declared "useless," \$240,000.
- Failure of tax collectors to collect half of poll taxes and 22 per cent of personal property taxes last year, \$722,852. (And the chairman of the tax commission says conditions only slightly worse than in previous years).
- A total of those few items representing money which should now be available to the common schools is, in round numbers, \$1,502,000.
- And yet we are told that taxes must be raised not only to meet demands of the future but of the present. Does any man believe that this million and a half total represents more than a small portion of the money lost to schools?

Editors Flay "Politics" in State Schools

Press Association Speakers Favor Cut in Educational Taxes.

Co-operation of Arkansas editors to effect a decrease in taxes through the discontinuance of colleges "built for political purposes," through a secession of Arkansas schools from the ranks of the North Central Association and through cutting expenses in county and state education departments was advocated by speakers at the opening morning session of the annual mid-winter meeting of the Arkansas Press Association at the Hotel Marion Saturday.

About 40 newspaper men were present at the meeting, called by Alfred Hawn of Huntsville, president. Details of the meeting were arranged by Clio Harper of Little Rock, secretary of the association. Mr. Harper announced that at the afternoon session C. E. Palmer of Hot Springs and El Dorado would speak on "Needed State Legislation Which Can Probably Be Best Secured by Initiated Acts or Constitutional Amendments."

William Folsom, editor of Brinkley, opened the discussion on taxation, speaking particularly of school taxes. He declared that to consider the establishment of any more tax supported schools in Arkansas would be foolish and declared that Arkansas could do without some of the schools she has already. "We must stand as a unit and fight against any increase in taxation," he said, "regardless of what effect such an attitude will have on our advertising business."

Curtis Hurley, Morrilton editor, said that state supported colleges would need as much revenue as they have formerly received and that if taxes are lowered tuitions will be raised. He warned against the dangers of political advertising, saying that it was the better policy to go after legitimate advertising business.

A sharp attack against school taxes and school administration in Arkansas was made by J. H. Henderson of DeWitt. He said that "the first thing we have got to do in the school affairs of Arkansas is to have a good housecleaning. A readjustment in the administration of schools is necessary. And the quicker the North Central Association is outlawed in Arkansas the better off the taxpayers will be."

Says Teachers Overpaid.

Mr. Henderson said that the North Central Association of schools required that teachers be paid too high salaries for the number of hours they were required to work. The North Central Association requirements were designed so that schools would have to employ more teachers from schools of the association. He denounced the practice of spending large sums of tax money for school athletics, saying that school athletics were proving more harmful than otherwise.

He said that expenses in the state department of education could be curtailed one-half. He proposed that a halt be put to the diversion of school funds for the state geological survey and other purposes. Newspaper men must lead a return to normalcy by a demand for retrenchments in taxation. Pension lists must be purged, he said, and schools that were built for political purposes must be abandoned so that other schools may not be deprived of the revenue these schools are receiving.

Mr. Henderson was loudly applauded at the close of his address.

The following resolution, presented by Clio Harper, was unanimously passed:

Resolved: That for the year 1932, we, the members of the newspaper fraternity of Arkansas, will particularly be honest with ourselves and with our readers;

That we will not deceive ourselves or them with an unreasoning optimism, or make ourselves miserable with an equally unfounded pessimism; but,

That we will accept facts as they are, publish the truth, encourage, wherever possible, sympathize when necessary;

That we will not yield to hysteria, but will keep our heads up and our eyes to the front, and maintain an intelligent grasp upon realities.

A telegram of greeting from H. C. Hotaling, executive secretary of the National Editorial Association, was read by Mr. Harper. Mr. Hotaling mentioned the fact that James R. Bettis of the Arkansas Democrat was once president of the National Editorial Association.

Science Club to Meet.—Dr. Howard A. Dawson, research worker for the state Department of Education, will address members of the Little Rock Science Club on various phases of special educational problems in the state, as principal speaker on the program following the dinner meeting of the organization at the Albert Pike hotel tonight. The meeting will convene at 7 p. m. George C. Branner, president, will preside.

ARKANSAS' SCHOOL SYSTEM CRITICIZED

Colleges Prosper at Expense of Lower Institutions, Says Educator.

By KARR SHANNON, (Izard County Superintendent of Schools.)

A birdseye view of Arkansas' school system would reveal something as follows: A foundation of poorly built, poorly equipped rural schools with frame buildings, broken windows, leaky roofs, open floors, inefficient heat, defective lighting, and playgrounds with no apparatus. These schools are in small districts, short of funds, maintaining short terms with teachers short of qualifications, turning out boys and girls short of training.

On this weak foundation come the high schools almost as sadly neglected, with poorly paid teachers, incomplete libraries, barren laboratories, low grades, and a crushing indebtedness. Down on this comes the weight of

numerous state colleges that make the foundation groan. They have well built houses, modern equipment and well trained, well paid professors. The high schools must make great sacrifices, and in many instances, impose upon the lower grades in order to meet the entrance requirements demanded of the colleges.

Declares Colleges Favored.

The last Arkansas legislature was careful to keep the roof of this school system in good repair by making appropriations totaling \$2,710,200 for these colleges for the two year period. Of this amount \$940,400 was appropriated for institutions sought to be abolished, including \$75,000 for the Beebe Junior Agriculture College, the weathercock of the whole system. This does not take into account the authorized issuance of over two million dollars for buildings and equipment of these institutions.

What was done for the foundation? Act 187 provides for taking \$116,200 out of the common school fund, \$46,200 out of the revolving loan fund, and \$28,000 out of the state equalizing fund for the maintenance of the state Department of Education for the biennial period. Acts 170 and 190 respectively allow the biennial appropriation of \$116,040 for the School for the Blind and \$234,000 for the School for the Deaf out of funds formerly going to the common schools. Act 183 allows

the state geologist to take \$70,000 from the severance tax collections levied and collected, supposedly for the common schools.

Common Schools Neglected.

We find that scarcely anything was done for the repair and upkeep of our common schools, the foundation of the system. But toward the close of the legislative session, Act 251 was passed which provided for a legislative committee on school problems and appropriated \$5,000 for the expense of the committee. This committee held several meetings and finally took a trip into neighbor states to find out how they were doing it. Nothing was accomplished, and they found out about as much about the other states as an average citizen could find out by spending 50 cents for postage.

Now while the "higher institutions" go unhampered, the common schools must carry on with short terms, reduction of salaries, cold, schoolhouses. Many unpaid rural teachers continue to teach, do their own janitor work, cut their own wood and drive school busses.

A house is no stronger than its foundation, and like the proverbial house "built upon the sand" cannot weather the storms and perils. Unless the whole system is made over with a firmer foundation, before we weather another financial depression, the whole system will fall.

NO SCHOOL MONEY GOES TO THE STATE GEOLOGIST.

Superintendent Karr Shannon of the Izard county schools is on solid ground when he insists that money raised by state taxation to support the public schools should not be used for anything except the public schools. But when he implies, in an article in this newspaper, that money from severance taxation levied for the common schools is being used to support the state geologist's office, it appears that a misunderstanding exists.

The common school severance tax, authorized by Act No. 118 of 1923, is still distributed two-thirds to the state common school fund and one-third to the counties of origin, which divide it equally between their school and road funds. By Act No. 142 of 1927 the legislature imposed additional severance taxes—one-tenth of one per cent on the gross market value of specified minerals and one mill per ton on manganese ore—to support the state geologist's office. The geological office severance tax therefore does not represent any diversion from the common school severance tax, but constitutes separate and additional taxation on certain mineral products. To supplement its inadequate yield, the 1931 legislature gave the geologist's office the entire yield of the sand and gravel tax. But that tax had previously been going into general revenue, not into any educational fund. 1-18-32

We maintain a state geologist primarily to promote the discovery, exploration and development of our mineral resources. There could be no more appropriate source of funds for this strictly practical work than a tax on the severance of mineral wealth from our soil. As a business proposition, it would probably pay us to pro-

vide more money for this work. At the present time the state geologist has a number of completed reports which he cannot publish because there is no money to print them. Among them are reports of large commercial and industrial importance—on oil and gas formations, on deposits of Arkansas black marble, on natural gas prospects in the Arkansas river valley. A relief map of the entire state is also awaiting publication, and field surveys on lead and zinc in north Arkansas, and ground water levels in eastern Arkansas, are being carried on.

Suspects Something Wrong in Operation of Severance Tax.

To the Editor of the Gazette: 1-21-32

I am very thankful to the Arkansas Gazette for the editorial of last Monday, January 18, that "No School Money Goes to the State Geologist." The favorable comments on the usefulness of the state geologist are undoubtedly true, and every citizen should know of its great value to the state. In my recent article to the Gazette I did not intend to cast any reflection against the state geologist as to his value. Neither do I want to be misunderstood in my attitude toward the schools for the blind and deaf. There are no two schools more deserving in Arkansas, and the state owes the highest duty to these unfortunate in providing for them the best possible facilities for learning. I simply was criticizing the recent legislature for appropriating funds supposedly levied and collected for the common schools to other institutions.

It is gratifying to know that the resources of Arkansas are so developed and so plentiful that the additional severance tax of one-tenth of one per cent on the gross market value of specified minerals and one mill per ton on manganese ore, according to Act No. 142 of 1927, will net \$70,000 for the state geologist. But to supplement its inadequate yield, I do not understand how the 1931 legislature could give the geologist's office the entire yield of the sand and gravel tax when Act 118 of 1923, severance

tax law, lists these two products specifically with others on which two-thirds of the proceeds are to go to the state common school fund and one-third to the counties of origin which are to divide it equally between their school and road funds. If this tax has been previously going into the general revenue, and not into any educational fund, as per the Gazette editorial, then it seems that in the light of the severance tax law something has been going wrong ever since the law went into effect in 1923.

Karr Shannon, Izard County Superintendent of Schools, Melbourne, Ark.

Mr. Branner Explains Funds of State Geological Survey.

To the Editor of the Gazette: 1-24-32

Permit me to thank you for your editorial in which you make it clear that the funds used for the support of the state Geological Survey have not been diverted from school funds.

It is correct that the appropriation for the support of the Geological Survey for the biennium 1931-1933 is \$70,000, or \$35,000 per year. This, however, does not mean that this amount actually will be received. Taxes received from all sources for the support of the Geological Survey for the first six months of the biennium 1931-1933, according to the records of the state treasurer, are as follows:

1931	Severance Tax	Sand and Gravel Tax	Sale of Publications
July	\$ 418.23	\$ 999.44	\$ 58.60
August	287.34	1,491.50	79.15
September	501.75	279.34	45.52
October	554.20	1,544.96	193.74
November	383.33	315.72	55.28
December	382.70	822.30	13.40
	\$3,127.55	\$5,453.26	\$445.74

The aggregate of the three totals is \$9,026.55. If we estimate the receipts during the remainder of the biennium on the basis of the above six month period, the total will be \$36,106.20, or \$18,053.10 for each fiscal year, which is about 51 per cent of the appropriation. It is apparent, that the one-tenth of one per cent on minerals taxed on an ad valorem basis and the one-tenth of one cent per ton on manganese, which was added to the severance tax in 1927 for the support of the Geological Survey, is not producing a revenue of anything like \$35,000 per year.

The severance tax authorized under Act 118 of 1923, and as subsequently amended, and the so-called sand and gravel tax authorized under Act 138 of 1915, and as subsequently amended are entirely different taxes. The severance tax on minerals is applied to minerals removed only from privately owned lands, whereas the so-called sand and gravel tax is a royalty paid the state on all minerals removed from state owned lands. Sand and gravel may thus be taxed under the provisions of either act but the funds received under each respective act do not have, and never have had similar allocations.

From 1923 to 1927 two-thirds of the severance tax was distributed to the common school fund and one-third to the county in which the mineral was severed. In 1927 the addition referred to in the third paragraph above was authorized and this supported the state Geological Survey from 1927 to 1931.

From 1915 to 1931 the sand and gravel tax was allocated to the general revenue fund but, on account of the fact that the severance tax support of the Geological Survey had dropped from \$32,829.15 in 1927-28 to an estimated \$15,608.00 in 1930-31, the 1931 legislature saw fit to allocate the sand and gravel tax as an additional support to that survey.

It will be seen that none of the funds which have been made available for the support of the Geological Survey have in any sense been diverted from funds set aside for the support of the schools.

George C. Branner, State Geologist, Little Rock, Ark.

Geologist Is Speaker At Luncheon of Co-Ops

The geological formations and mineral deposits of Arkansas were described to members of the Co-Operative Club by Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, at the club's weekly luncheon meeting at the Albert Pike hotel Friday.

"The common statement that Arkansas is the richest state in mineral resources has no meaning," said Dr. Branner. "Arkansas ranks 17th or 18th in value of mineral production." He said that he had considerable hopes for the commercial value of barite deposits at Magnet Cove. The deposit there is unique in the United States, he asserted.

He said that the recently opened cinnabar deposits in southwest Arkansas looked promising but that their commercial possibilities were still doubtful. Commercial diamond production in Arkansas stopped October 1, he said.

G. C. Branner Again Secretary Of American State Geologists.

George C. Branner, state geologist, has returned from Washington, D. C., where, for the third consecutive year, he was elected secretary of the Association of American State Geologists.

Mr. Branner also attended a conference with the director of the United States Geological Survey regarding work which the federal body plans in co-operation with the state geological surveys.

Previously, Mr. Branner attended a meeting of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers. He read a paper on "Cinnabar Deposits in Southwest Arkansas," discussing the geology of the territory, the development and recovery of the deposits.

The paper was illustrated with lantern slides and aroused considerable interest among the engineers from all over the United States. Several sought him out after the meeting and requested further details.

POPULARIZING GEOLOGY.

George C. Branner, state geologist, who is beginning his third term as secretary of the Association of American State Geologists returned recently from the East with several interesting ideas buzzing in his head.

First, having learned that a philanthropist interested in geology had left \$250,000 to the national association, he conceived the idea that some of the money would be well spent in "selling" geology to the layman.

"So few people have any conception of the work done by geologists or of the service they can give the public," he said.

As one method of popularizing geology, Mr. Branner would make a motion picture of the "creation" of the world. That sounds like a large order, but he believes it could be done easily and without great expense. Showing the various periods and ages would serve, among other things, to fix in the minds of the public the geologist's conception of time.

Mr. Branner has done something like this on a small scale, using a small camera, 100 feet of film, and maps. Although somewhat crude, it was an interesting experiment, he said, and attracted considerable interest when he presented it recently at a meeting in Wichita, Kan.

Would Make State Geological Survey the 'Sales Department.'

To the Editor of the Gazette:
If the present sources of revenue of the state are insufficient to meet the lowest possible cost of government would it not be good business to make a strenuous effort to develop new sources rather than hope to meet the obligations by additional taxation?

Arkansas has inexhaustible deposits of valuable clays, marbles, sands, manganese, zinc, etc., natural gas, electricity and coal, that should, from its geographical position, supply much of the country with articles made within its borders.

The present depression has caused a relaxation in every industry. To get into production every manufacturer is looking for an advantage over the past method and it is my thought that by getting in behind our state Geological Survey, considering "the sales department" for the natural resources of the state, furnishing them with funds, at the expense of other state departments, sufficient to enable them to properly survey and in detail, report on the various minerals we have, many large and varied industries could be induced to move to Arkansas.

To interest a manufacturer, concrete, scientific information is essential and if our Geological Survey is put in a position where it can obtain such information, development will follow.

William G. Rhinehart.

Batesville, Ark.

THE STATE GEOLOGIST AS ARKANSAS'S "SALESMAN."

It is the suggestion of William G. Rhinehart of Batesville that the state Geological Survey should be made a "sales department" for the development of new lines of business and new sources of public revenue. He points out that Arkansas has not only inexhaustible deposits of valuable clays, marbles, sands, manganese, zinc, and other minerals and metals, but also the natural gas, coal and electric power needed for their treatment and fabrication, and a geographical position favorable to wide shipment and marketing.

With more adequate financial support, the state geologist's office could serve Arkansas far more effectively as a "sales department." On its mailing list are libraries and technical schools all over the world. Notices of its reports on specific subjects are sent to all engineers and manufacturing concerns that might be interested. Last year, for example, a mimeographed report on the barite deposits in Hot Spring county was so distributed. A report on the cinabar discovery in southwest Arkansas will be sent out soon in as extensive form as funds permit. As for the clays of which Mr. Rhinehart speaks, the only existing report is a government one printed many years ago, but the state geologist is endeavoring to get the industrial departments of the railroads serving Arkansas to co-operate with his office in an exhaustive field survey and report that will make known the nature, location and extent of all

valuable clay deposits. Another project which is marking time for lack of funds is the practically complete report on an oil and gas survey of the Arkansas gulf coastal plain, containing 60 maps and graphs, and dealing with the geological structure county by county. A report on the black marbles of north Arkansas is also practically ready for publication. *April 13, 1932.*

How effectively the state Geological Survey shall function as a "sales department" for Arkansas seems to depend primarily on how adequately the state is prepared to finance its invaluable work.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN SERIOUS PLIGHT

Gazette
Forced to Stop Important Work Because of Lack of Funds.

5-15-32

By DUDLEY V. HADDOCK,
(Secretary, Arkansas Industries Association.)

The Arkansas Geological Survey didn't have to assure Governor Parnell that it would comply with his request to save 20 per cent of its appropriation during the remainder of 1932—lack of revenue has trimmed it nearly 50 per cent during the fiscal year ending June 30 and there are ample indications that this will continue through December 31.

The survey was appropriated \$35,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, which was to be derived from one-tenth of one per cent of the revenue from the severance tax on all minerals except coal and manganese, one-tenth of a cent per ton on manganese—which this year may amount to eight or ten dollars—and the tax on sand and gravel taken from the beds of navigable streams owned by the state. The survey does not benefit from the severance tax on lumber, but receives its revenue entirely from minerals.

With authority to spend \$35,000 during the fiscal year, its receipts the first 10 months aggregated only \$15,083 and if the revenue during May and June is in the same proportion it will end the year with an income of only \$18,099, or 48.3 per cent of its appropriation.

In the face of this, the salary list has been reduced in order that it might continue its activities after a fashion. The February pay roll aggregated \$932.60 while that for April was only \$778.22. This saving has been effected by dispensing with a part-time field man, putting the draftsman and librarian on part time and trimming salaries five per cent.

In Deplorable Plight.

This most important department of the state—for a large part of Arkansas' wealth lies in its vast store of undeveloped minerals and it must be determined definitely what they are, and their extent, before their exploitation can be expected—is in a deplorable condition because of lack of funds. Field activities have been sharply curtailed and co-operation with the United States Geological Survey in geological, topographic and stream gauging work—the latter has to do with ascertaining the water power potentialities of the state—has been discontinued.

Several major reports on resources compiled after painstaking research and work in the field, are unpublished although their distribution undoubtedly would interest new capital in the state. These include an exhaustive report on the oil and gas possibilities of the coastal plain of Arkansas, a stream gauging report for 1929-30, one on the black marble deposits of northern Arkansas and another relative to the cinabar or quicksilver deposits discovered in Pike county last year. Several reports of lesser importance also await the printer, one of which concerns elevations in the state and which represents three years of work.

Geological Survey Officials Visit Dr. Branner.

7-30-32
Dr. Walter C. Mendenhall, director of the United States Geological Survey, and J. C. Staack, chief topographic engineer of the department, conferred with George C. Branner, state geologist, yesterday concerning publication of a report on zinc and lead resources in northern Arkansas.

The Washington officials are on an inspection trip of topographic mapping projects in Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana, and left for Shreveport after visiting bauxite mines south of Little Rock.

The lead and zinc survey was a federal-state co-operative project and the manuscript of the official report will be ready for publication within the next month, Mr. Branner said. The status of the co-operative stream gauging work was discussed. Twelve gauging stations are being maintained and it is planned to continue the program.

NO MORE VOUCHERS FROM TWO OFFICES

Geological Survey and Identification Bureau Affected by Order.

Nov. 6 1932

Two state departments—the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Criminal Identification—have been rendered practically inoperative as the result of action taken last week by State Comptroller Griffin Smith, it was learned yesterday.

Mr. Smith has instructed State Auditor J. Oscar Humphrey to issue no more warrants against the funds of the two departments until all those outstanding have been redeemed. Since the outstanding obligations of both departments are so large there is little chance that their revenues will retire the warrants before next spring, it is probable that they will be forced to cease operations entirely.

A technical provision in the appropriation acts for the two departments caused Mr. Smith to act. The acts provide appropriations for operation of the departments, but stipulated that they shall not issue vouchers in excess of the amount of money in their funds. Outstanding warrants of the Geological Survey are almost \$15,000 greater than the treasurer's balance in that department's fund, while the Bureau of Criminal Identification is approximately \$12,000 in debt.

Others May Be Affected.

Mr. Smith intimated yesterday that there may be other departments in the same situation. An investigation of the finances of the various offices is under way, Mr. Smith said.

"It is unfortunate that the heads of these departments were not aware of the clauses of their appropriation acts prohibiting issuance of warrants in excess of funds on hand," Mr. Smith said. "My position is simply this: My duty in the matter is prescribed by law and I have acted accordingly."

George C. Branner, head of the Geological Survey, said last night that the practice of issuing warrants in excess of the cash on hand is common with almost every department of the state government at certain periods. He issued the following statement explaining the matter:

Mr. Branner's Statement.

"In May, 1931, approximately \$15,540 in vouchers were issued by me against the state geologist's fund to the Calvert-McBride Printing Company of Fort Smith, state printers. These were issued to pay for the printing of four geological reports which had been in the course of preparation for about two years. Publication of these reports had been undertaken when the department income was adequate to meet the printing expense, but on account of the rapid decline of the severance tax, was insufficient to meet the printing costs when the reports were completed.

"The Calvert-McBride Printing Company requested that vouchers be issued to cover the account against the department appropriation, as it was adequate to cover such vouchers, and further agreed to hold warrants issued until released in small denominations from time to time with the consent of the Geological Department.

"After the approval of the account by the state printing clerk, and after consulting with the state comptroller (at that time Howard Reed) as to the advisability of issuing the vouchers, they were issued. Corresponding warrants were then issued by the state auditor as the department appropriation was adequate to meet them.

"There was in the geological fund about \$1,600 at that time. Three warrants have since been cashed for \$280 on advice from the Geological Department.

Explanation Given Comptroller.

"In discussing department finances with the comptroller on October 25 last, I informed him of the issuance of vouchers in excess of the cash on hand in 1931 and stated that no other vouchers in excess of cash had been issued. On October 27, the auditor informed me that the state comptroller had notified him of the existence of a clause in the 1929-31 appropriation act limiting the issuance of vouchers to cash on hand, and stating that he could therefore honor no more vouchers until the outstanding warrants had been paid.

"The clause referred to is an unusual one, being found in only one other state appropriation act, so far as I know now. The attorney general, auditor and comptroller are attempting to work out some way whereby the Geological Survey may pay operating expenses until the legislature meets, when funds will be released by that body.

"The present situation, to which all concerned are innocent parties, cannot be adjusted the department will be without funds to operate until released by the legislature. There is adequate cash now in the fund to permit the department to operate. I very much hope that the department can be kept intact until the legislature meets as the survey has accumulated a vast amount of data and has built itself up to a relatively strong constructive force within the state since its creation under Governor McRae in 1923.

"Disintegration of the department would mean, I believe, a very great loss to the state mineral industry, both present and potential."

STATE GEOLOGIST SUBMITS REPORT

Includes Recommendations for Legislative Action to Assist in Work.

12-25-32
Activities of the state Geological Survey during the past year and an outline of work proposed for the next biennium are contained in the annual report of the department, filed with Governor Parnell yesterday by George C. Branner, state geologist. The administrative report covered the period from December 1, 1931, to November 30, 1932.

Although the 1931 General Assembly appropriated \$35,000 for the department, the tax accruing to the geological fund from the designated sources totaled only \$17,699.22 for the fiscal year 1931-32. This money was derived from the following sources: One-tenth of one per cent of the severance tax on certain minerals, \$6,901.52; from sand and gravel tax, \$9,762.71; sale of publications and miscellaneous sources, \$1,035.22.

The amount available for operation of the department was 17.9 per cent less than for the preceding fiscal year and was only 50.5 per cent of the amount appropriated. The decrease in receipts was attributed mainly to the decrease in petroleum, the principal revenue-yielding product under the severance tax law.

The department has co-operated with the federal government and private agencies in geologic, topographic and stream gauging work. Funds received from such co-operating agencies during the fiscal year ended last June 30, totaled \$1,700, and it was estimated that receipts from these sources for the fiscal year ending next June 30, will total \$2,350.

A summary of the status of mineral operations in Arkansas, the activities of the Geological Survey, and recommendations for increasing the usefulness of the department, as given in the report, follows in part:

Status of Operations Given.

In 1929, the last year for which complete figures are available, the mineral industries of Arkansas yielded mineral products valued at \$41,324,576. This amount was eight per cent of the total value of agricultural, mineral, timber and manufactured products for that year (\$515,231,800). Approximately 33,000 persons in the state were dependent on the mineral industries for support in that year. In 1929 these industries expended in the state at least 75 per cent of the values produced, or \$30,993,432. Of this amount, at least \$2,153,571 were paid into the state, city and county treasuries as taxes.

During the fiscal year 1931-32, 39 geological surveys were operating in the United States, with available funds aggregating \$1,381,357. This is an average of \$35,419 per state. The amount available for the Arkansas Geological Survey for the fiscal year 1931-1932 was \$17,698, or approximately 50 per cent of the above average.

It has been estimated that for every dollar of value of minerals produced in this state during the calendar year 1929, 0.93 mills were made available by the legislature for the support, during the fiscal year 1929-1930, of state agencies which contributed to the development of the mineral industries. However, for those state agencies contributing to the development of the agricultural industries, 1.56 mills per dollar of agricultural value were made available by the legislature.

In connection with stream gauging, the estimated potential economic water power available in Arkansas is about 525,000 horsepower. At the present time approximately 11 per cent of this has been developed. It is therefore important that stream-flow measurements for an unbroken long-term period be available to power companies when any hydro-electric development is contemplated. The total allotments by 36 states for stream gauging during the fiscal year

ending June 30, 1933, was \$456,891, an average allotment per state of \$12,691. The Arkansas allotment during that period was \$800, or 6.3 per cent of the average.

Recommendations Offered.

With the above facts in mind, it is recommended that:

1. Funds which have accrued to the state geologist fund during the present fiscal year be released by the legislature so that this office may continue to function for the remainder of the fiscal year. The income to that fund from the severance tax, sand and gravel tax, and sale of publications and miscellaneous sources, is sufficient to permit this office to operate until July 1, 1933.

2. So far as possible, increased funds be made available by the legislature to this office, during the biennium 1933-1935 for both geological and stream gauging work, and especially for the publication of six reports, aggregating 1,043 pages of text. No request for funds for topographic mapping is being made at this time. Co-operative federal funds are available for some types of geologic work and are available on a state-federal 50-50 basis for stream gauging. Unless sufficient funds are provided for stream gauging, the state-federal stream gauging program in Arkansas will, of necessity, be discontinued on July 1, 1933.

Measures which provide for an increase in the state geologist fund have been prepared for submission to the legislature. These provide for (1) a slight increase in the present severance tax percentage allocated to the state geologist fund, (2) an equitable increase in certain items affected by the sand and gravel tax, and (3) the reservation of a fraction of the mineral rights in state lands to the state for the benefit of the state geologist fund and the permanent school fund. These measures affect a relatively small group of industries only, and the estimated income which will be provided, as set forth below, will be used for the purpose of indirectly creating new tax revenues.

It is estimated that the total income resulting from the passage of the above measures, if they are enacted, together with that derived from the present sources of income, will be as follows:

Fiscal year Fiscal year	
1933-1934	1934-1935.
Estimated amounts from present sources of income	\$12,614,520 \$ 8,583,590
Estimated amounts from passage of proposed bills	15,629,000 11,204,000
	\$28,243,520 \$19,787,590

3. Provisions be made to enable this office to co-operate with county assessors for the purpose of equalizing assessments on mineral properties. Instances have been brought to our attention which lead us to believe that a considerable increase in the general property tax revenue of the state can result from such co-operation.

4. Sufficient funds be provided the state mine inspector so that he can properly collect and check mineral pro-

Release of Geological Funds Sought

Dec 25, 1932
Branner Makes Recommendations for Operation of Department.

Recommendations that funds accrued to the state geologist fund during the present fiscal year be released by the 1933 legislature to insure functioning of the department during the remainder of the fiscal year, that a slight increase in the present severance tax percentage to the geologist fund be made and reservation of a fraction of mineral rights in state lands be credited to the fund are contained in the annual administrative report of the Arkansas Geological Survey submitted yesterday by George C. Branner, state geologist, to Governor Parnell.

The funds recommended to be released for the survey during the remainder of this fiscal year are derived from the severance tax, sand and gravel tax and the sale of publications and miscellaneous sources.

Mr. Branner recommended that so far as possible increased funds be made available to the department during the 1933-35 biennium for both geological and stream-gauging work, and for the publication of six reports. No request is made for funds for topographic mapping. Unless sufficient funds are available for stream-gauging, he said, the state-federal stream gauging program in Arkansas will be discontinued on July 1, 1933, the end of the present biennium.

Measures have been prepared, Mr. Branner said, for an increase in the geological fund. These include a slight increase in the present severance tax percentage allocated to the fund, an increase in certain items affected by the sand and gravel tax, and the reservation of a fraction of the mineral rights in state lands for the state for the benefit of the state geologist fund and the permanent school fund. Estimated incomes from enactment of these proposed measures is set at \$15,629 for the 1933-34 fiscal year and \$11,204, for 1934-35. These amounts, added to estimated amounts from the present sources of income, would bring the total revenues to \$28,243.52 for 1933-34 fiscal year and \$19,787.59 for the next fiscal year.

The request is contained in Mr. Branner's report that his office be permitted to co-operate with county assessors in the equalization of assessments on mineral properties, with a view to increasing the general property tax revenue from such co-operation.

It is asked by the geologist that sufficient funds be provided the state mine inspector so that he can properly collect and check mineral production statistics in connection with his present duties.

During the fiscal year of 1931-32, the state geological department had available for its operations \$17,699.45, or 17.9 per cent less than during the preceding fiscal year when \$21,577.39 was available, and 50.5 per cent of the amount appropriated by the legislature for the fiscal year, a total of \$35,000.

"The decrease in receipts has been due primarily to the decreased production of petroleum, which has not been offset by the income from the sand and gravel tax. It is estimated that the income from all sources for the fiscal year 1932-33 will be approximately \$13,900," the report to the governor said.

PUBLIC PROFIT FROM THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

From the severance tax on petroleum, the state has received literally millions of dollars. From the viewpoint of revenue alone, Arkansas has a tremendous interest in the opening of new oil and gas fields. We would profit in the same way from the development of other mineral resources subject to the severance tax.

The state geologist's office has done the field work and prepared an exhaustive report on oil and gas formations in the coastal plain section of the state, but lack of funds has held up its publication. Reports on other mineral deposits are ready or nearly ready to be published. Other field surveys are under way or projected. Stream gauging, which lays the ground work for water power development, is being carried on, while in conjunction with the United States Geological Survey the state geologist is making topographical maps.

The Little Rock Engineers Club has adopted a resolution urging the legislature to make an appropriation to continue this work. It is generally understood that Arkansas has a richer variety of mineral resources than most states. But they do us no good, either as economic assets or sources of public revenue, so long as they are undeveloped. To assist in their development by locating and mapping them and laying authoritative facts before the mining industry of the country, we have maintained the state Geological Survey. Though most of its work may not seem to touch the average person directly, its results are fruitful for all the people of the state.

Space in Chicago Exposition Offered Geological Survey.

The Arkansas Geological Survey has been offered space in the International Exposition in Chicago and the director of the Geology Section has requested that exhibits be prepared showing the geological, topographical and relief maps of the state which have been prepared by the state survey and also has asked for exhibits of cinnabar, black marble and bauxite, George C. Branner, director of the state Geological Survey, said yesterday.

ENGINEERS SUPPORT GEOLOGICAL WORK

Club Adopts Resolution Urging Continued Appropriation by Legislature.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting of the Little Rock Engineers Club at the Hotel Ben McGehee yesterday urging the legislature to appropriate money to continue the work of the Arkansas Geological Survey. The survey makes topographical maps, gauges streams and rivers and makes reports on its investigations. It was pointed out that the work the survey has already done will be lost unless the survey is continued.

Federal aid will be withdrawn from the state for this work unless at least \$3,000 is appropriated, George C. Branner, state geologist, said. Another resolution was adopted asking the survey and the state Highway Commission to set aside funds for carrying on the work of making topographical maps. The resolutions were introduced by W. Terry Feild and were given to Mr. Branner and M. Z. Bair, engineer of the state Health Department, who will confer with the Legislative Committee of the club. Arrangements will be made for funds to have six reports of the survey, which have been completed, published.

Don A. MacCrea, who recently received information from the American Engineering Council on advance planning of public works by state and local government as an aid in the stabilization of employment and industry, submitted the inquiry as to whether the club would sponsor legislation along this line, but no action was taken.

Bills to permit municipalities in the state to borrow money from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to build waterworks and sewage systems on a self-liquidating basis have been sent to T. J. Gaughan, legal representative for the R. F. C., in Washington, for his approval. Mr. Bair, a member of the subcommittee of the Arkansas Division of the National Committee for Trade Recovery, which prepared the bills, said. As soon as Mr. Gaughan's approval is received the bills will be introduced in the legislature, Mr. Bair said.

Committees for the eighth annual meeting of the Arkansas Engineers Club, which will be held in Little Rock February 24 and 25, were announced by W. W. Zass, president of the state club. They are: Stunts and entertainment, R. A. Kern, chairman; Sam Brady and Fred Hargett; registration and arrangements, R. C. Gibson, chairman; D. H. Daugherty and M. E. Bordwell; finance, A. C. Galt, chairman; J. H. Crossman and Henry Graupntner.

George Suter, president, read the resolution on technocracy recently adopted by the American Engineering Council. George Lescher was introduced as a new member of the club.

State Geologist's Article Will Be Published.

George C. Branner, state geologist, has sent an article on "State Geological Surveys" for publication in the American Yearbook for 1932 at the request of the American Yearbook Corporation. The article, which includes 2,800 words, deals with activities of 40 geological surveys of the United States. About \$1,056,292 was expended during the year, \$1,043,050 from co-operative funds, making a total expenditure of \$2,094,342 subject largely to the control of the state. Approximately 95 full-time geologists and 255 part-time geologists and other technically trained men were engaged in carrying on 409 survey projects. These included geologic, topographic and soil surveys, stream gauging and miscellaneous projects.

G. C. Branner, state geologist, was notified yesterday of his re-election as secretary of the National Association of State Geologists, a position he has held for the past three years. The association is composed of the geologists of 40 states.

Dr. Branner Heads Subcommittee Of National Council.

George C. Branner, state geologist, was notified yesterday that he has been appointed chairman of the subcommittee on Public Relations of the National Research Council for 1933. The subcommittee is part of the general Committee on State Geological Surveys in the division of geology and geography of the national council.

The Committee on State Geological Surveys will prepare a report this year on the scope of work which geological surveys may undertake to meet present industrial needs, Mr. Branner said.

The subject will be studied with regard to new industrial trends in the use of minerals, the kind of information required by industries, refinements in fundamental geological work which new needs require, the necessity for mineral economics and sound conservation policies, and the relationships which should exist between state geological departments and engineering and industrial activities.

BACK FROM SHREVEPORT.

George C. Branner, state geologist, has returned from Shreveport, where, at the invitation of the Shreveport Geological Society, he delivered a paper on the oil and gas possibilities of northeastern Arkansas. Publication of an extensive report on the oil and gas possibilities of southern and eastern Arkansas, prepared by the Arkansas Geological Survey, was discussed and the society voted to assist in raising funds for publication of the report, which contains information of great value to petroleum geologists. The report, now ready for the printer, contains about 500 pages of text and 90 maps and plates.

Bulletin on Rock Salt Discovery In Union County Out Soon.

A bulletin on the discovery of rock salt in a deep well test in Union county will be published soon by the state Geological Survey, it was announced yesterday by George C. Branner, state geologist. The bulletin was written by H. W. Bell, vice president of the Lion Oil Refining Company, which drilled a well 7,255 feet deep in the East Smackover field to determine what geological structures exist at that depth. This is the deepest well ever drilled in the Gulf Coastal section, Mr. Branner said. Salt rock was encountered at 5,950 feet and the drilling continued through the same structure 1,295 feet. The 35-page litho-printed bulletin will discuss the geological possibilities of the origin of a salt deposit of that thickness at such a great depth.

RELIEF MAPS OF STATE AVAILABLE

Plaster Models Similar to That Displayed at World's Fair in Chicago.

Plaster models of a relief map of Arkansas, similar to one placed on exhibition in the Geology Division of the Hall of Science at the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago recently, are ready for distribution by the Arkansas Geological Survey, it was announced yesterday by G. C. Branner, state geologist. The map is about 36 by 33 inches and is suitable for framing under glass for use in schoolrooms, offices, etc. The horizontal scale is about eight miles to the inch and the vertical scale is 3,750 feet to the inch. Differences in elevation over the state thus are brought out by exaggerating the vertical scale approximately 10 times that of the horizontal, Mr. Branner said.

Mrs. D. C. Sawyer was employed by the Geological Survey to construct the original model, which was based on the topography of the state as shown by a larger topographic map published by the Geological Survey in 1930. Several months were required to construct the original model, which was made of cardboard cut by hand and pasted on in successive layers to represent valleys, ridges and mountains. The rough map thus constructed was given a wax treatment and a negative was cast in plaster of Paris. Any number of positive copies now may be cast from the negative.

The geology of the state was painted on the copy sent to the Chicago fair. A map bringing out the different elevations by different tints now is on exhibition in the office of the state Geological Survey on the fourth floor of the capitol.

Mr. Branner said the maps may be used to show effectively the soils, geology, water power, highway and railroad systems, etc. He said copies of the un-painted map may be obtained at low cost, sufficient to cover production, and that they may be prepared for particular purposes at slight additional cost.

Circular on Rock Salt Deposit In Deep Well Issued.

The Arkansas Geological Survey has issued an information circular on discovery of a rock salt deposit in a deep well in Union county, giving a detailed report of the significance of the discovery from a geological standpoint. The booklet, which has been photolithographed from the author's manuscript, was written by H. W. Bell, vice president of the Lion Oil Refining Company, driller of the well. A solid structure of rock salt was encountered from a depth of 5,960 to 7,255 feet, a thickness of 1,295 feet.

The well, located on the highest structural point in the Graves sand in the East Smackover field, was drilled to determine the character of deep formations in that field. It was the deepest well ever drilled in the Arkansas Gulf Coastal region, the deepest well previously drilled in that field having been 4,570 feet deep. Drilling was discontinued because of the sticking of a drill stem. Drilling was started April 15, 1931, and was carried on continuously with two 12-hour shifts of five men each until April 12, 1932.

Corps samples were taken from the well at intervals and samples were sent to paleontologists throughout the country for their examination. Mr. Bell reached the conclusion that the thick layer of pure rock salt occurred as a stratified deposit older than the Trinity beds.

It was said that it is planned to resume drilling operations by side-tracking the drill stem when economic conditions permit and that an effort will be made to penetrate the salt formation in the hope of obtaining oil production.

GEORGE C. BRANNER HEADS GEOLOGISTS

Elected President of Association at Annual Meeting, Held in Washington.

George C. Branner, state geologist, was elected president of the Association of American State Geologists at the annual meeting February 23-25 at Washington, D. C., it was announced yesterday upon his return to Little Rock. Mr. Branner had served as secretary of the association for the past four years.

The principal part of the session was taken up with conferences with the director of the United States Geological Survey and representatives of other federal bureaus on various federal-state co-operative projects, Mr. Branner said.

Charles W. Elliot, executive officer of the National Planning Board, addressed the conference.

Other officers elected were Arthur Bevan of Virginia, secretary, and Raymond C. Moore of Kansas, third member of the Executive Committee. The association is made up of state geologists of 39 state surveys, the aggregate appropriations for which are about \$700,000 for the present fiscal year. Mr. Branner said.

Dr. Branner Is Honored By National Association

Dr. George C. Branner, Arkansas state geologist, last week was elected president of the Association of American State Geologists at the association's annual meeting at Washington, D. C.

He served as secretary of the association for the past four years. He has been state geologist of Arkansas for six years.

The association is composed of state geologists of 39 state surveys, the aggregate appropriations of which amount to about \$700,000 for the present fiscal year.

Dr. Branner said that the principal part of the annual meeting was taken up by conferences with the director of the U. S. Geological Survey and representatives of other federal bureaus on various federal-state co-operative projects. Among the speakers were Charles W. Elliot, executive officer of the National Planning Board, and Lieut. Col. Harris of the Commodities Division of the office of the assistant secretary of war.

NEW STATE EXHIBIT IN CHICAGO DESIRED

Movement Begun by Mrs. W. C. Mortimer With Governor's Approval.

A movement to establish a suitable Arkansas exhibit at the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago next summer has been launched by Mrs. W. C. Mortimer, 4819 Lee avenue, with the endorsement of Governor Futrell, Mrs. Mortimer said yesterday.

Governor Futrell will handle the official correspondence, Mrs. Mortimer said, and she began the movement to obtain an exhibit because of the display which gained the state considerable criticism last year.

Mrs. Mortimer said she is requesting each chamber of commerce in the state to obtain \$1 from each member for the exhibit, and she is asking the lumber companies to construct a house for the exhibit. The utility companies will be asked for contributions.

Checks for contributions should be sent to Governor Futrell, Mrs. Mortimer said.

Group to Foster Arkansas Exhibit

An executive committee composed of L. J. Arnold of Crossett, L. J. Longino of Pine Bluff, E. L. Howlett of Hot Springs, Harley C. Stump of Stuttgart, and James A. Ward, representing various business organizations and industries, was appointed Monday afternoon by Governor Futrell to proceed with plans for financing an Arkansas exhibit at the Century of Progress Exposition, which opens May 26 in Chicago.

The committee will meet at the capitol next Monday to consider further plans in connection with the proposed exhibit, which sponsors have estimated will entail an expense of about \$25,000. Various industries will be asked to provide suitable exhibits and to make contributions to the general overhead expense of maintaining the display.

Monday's conference was held at the governor's reception room in the state capitol. Besides the governor and members of the new executive committee the following attended:

George C. Merkle, manager of the Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce; Jack Porter, Forrest City; Dudley V. Haddock, secretary of the state chamber of commerce; Scott D. Hamilton, manager of the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce; J. K. Mahoney, El Dorado; James Lucas, Morrilton; Guy Ansler, secretary of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission; F. W. Scott, Huttig, president of the state chamber of commerce; Robert H. Brooks, Little Rock, representing the pine lumber industry; W. E. Phipps, state commissioner of education; W. W. Shaver, Wynne; Mrs. Frank H. Dodge, Little Rock; D. A. Matthews, farm representative of the General American Insurance Company; Mrs. W. C. Mortimer, Warren; E. C. Hornor, Helena; T. Roy Reid, assistant director in charge of agricultural extension service; George C. Branner, state geologist; Roy W. Spence, secretary of the state highway commission; L. Branting Bauxie; C. D. Hyten, Benton; E. R. Lynn, Memphis, representing Hardwood Manufacturing Institute; W. A. Wall, Little Rock, representing natural gas interests, and A. W. Parke, secretary of the Arkansas Centennial Association.

Responsibility Put Up To State Geologist

In another opinion, Mr. Smith advised George C. Branner, state geologist, that he had no authority to purchase copies of a geological report, privately printed, unless the geologist believes the purchase of the reports necessary for the proper maintenance and functioning of the department. The report could not be bought from the department's appropriation for printing, Mr. Smith said.

It was reported that arrangements had been made for a Little Rock printing company to print the reports. The department would buy the reports and sell them to those interested, it was said.

Dr. Branner Will Attend Mining Congress in Chicago.

8-28-35
Dr. G. C. Branner, state geologist, will go to Chicago September 23 to attend the meeting of the Metal Mining Section of the American Mining Congress. He is especially interested in a report to be given at the meeting by C. Leith of the University of Wisconsin on mineral conservation policies. Leith is vice chairman of the Committee on Mineral Policies of the National Resources Board. Dr. Branner will cooperate with J. H. Hand of Yellville, designated as special agent of the governor at the conference, in displaying Arkansas lead, zinc, cinnabar and other minerals.

GEOLOGIST TO WASHINGTON.
Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, will leave tomorrow night for Washington for 10 days' special duty as a member in the Reserve Department where he will be assigned to the planning branch to assist in making a special study of industrial mobilization, particularly of materials and mineral resources.

PROJECT STARTS MONDAY.
A WPA project for compiling records in the state geologist's office for publication has been approved and a staff of 30 WPA workers will start on the project Monday, it was announced yesterday by Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist. Desk space has been arranged in a hallway adjacent to the...

State Geologist to Attend Two Meetings

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, left last night for New York and Washington where he will attend two national meetings during the coming week. At New York he will attend sessions of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, in session through Wednesday. Dr. Branner will preside as president at the annual conference of the Association of American State Geologists at Washington Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The state geologists will meet with representatives of Federal agencies for discussion of allocation of funds for cooperative Federal-state projects in geology.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, is to return tomorrow from Washington where he attended the annual meeting of the Association of American State Geologists. Dr. Branner was re-elected president of the organization at the meeting last week.

Dr. Branner Again Named Geology Head

Democrat 2-21-36
State Geologist Is Re-Elected President of National Group.

Washington—Dr. George C. Branner of Little Rock today was re-elected president of the Association of American State Geologists which just concluded its annual meeting in Washington.

Besides Dr. Branner, the executive committee of the association is composed of Arthur Dean of Charlottesville, Va., and Raymond Moore of Lawrence, Kan.

During the session held this week, many matters of national importance were considered by the association, among which was the urgent need for catching up with the ever-growing demand for topographic maps.

Pointing out that less than half of the country has been mapped and that many of the maps published are the results of surveys made years ago far below present-day standards. The association went on record as favoring the program of the board of surveys and maps for completing the topographic atlas of the United States at the earliest practicable date.

SURVEYS PROGRESSING.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, said yesterday that material being compiled by WPA workers on projects sponsored by the state Geological Survey will be ready for publication within the next two months. The surveys include a study of 2,000 oil wells, about 2,000 deep water wells and more

than 300 springs; listing of about 9,000 elevation points, and data on 75 lakes. The information is being assembled from unpublished records in the department and will be published in convenient bulletins.

U. S. Official Here To Assist in Survey

A computer from the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey is to be sent to Little Rock to direct work on a project sponsored by the State Geological Survey. Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, said today, *March 12, 1936*. The project will be for compilation of data already secured on triangulation, traverse and level surveys in the state. About 20 workers would be employed in this work, Dr. Branner was advised by Paul C. Whitney, acting director of the national survey.

The new project would be conducted in co-operation with other WPA projects now under way at the capitol under sponsorship of the state survey, Dr. Branner said. He expressed belief that compilation of the data as provided by the new program would be of great benefit to the survey and to others interested in the information compiled.

Branner, Dr. George C., state geologist, will read a paper on "Sandstone Porosities and Densities of the Paleozoic Region in Arkansas" before the American Association of Petroleum Geologists at Tulsa. He left for Tulsa yesterday. 3-10-36

March 29, 1936 Arkansas Gazette

A GREAT GEOLOGIST

JOHN C. BRANNER, WHO WON INTERNATIONAL FAME AS A GEOLOGIST, WAS BORN 1850 IN NEW MARKET, TENNESSEE... STUDIED AT MARVILLE COLLEGE AND CORNELL UNIVERSITY... IN 1874 HE WENT TO BRAZIL AND REMAINED SIX YEARS AS ASST. DIRECTOR OF GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION... IN 1880 MADE TRIP TO BRAZIL FOR EDISON IN SEARCH OF FIBRE FOR INCANDESCENT LIGHTS... MADE THIRD TRIP TO STUDY COTTON CULTURE OF BRAZIL... MADE THREE MORE TRIPS BETWEEN 1899 AND 1911 TO STUDY COAST AND BLACK DIAMOND AREAS... SERVED WITH PENNSYLVANIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.



JOHN C. BRANNER

WAS APPOINTED STATE GEOLOGIST OF ARKANSAS BY GOV. HUGHES IN 1887... RE-APPOINTED 1889 AND 1891... BRANNER'S SURVEY OF THE STATE PUBLISHED 18 VOLUMES OF REPORTS AND 60 MAPS... THIS SURVEY ATTRACTED ATTENTION TO THE VALUABLE MINERAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE AND BROUGHT IN CAPITAL TO DEVELOP THEM... BRANNER DISCOVERED ARKANSAS' BAUXITE DEPOSITS... HE WAS PROFESSOR IN INDIANA UNIVERSITY AND STANFORD UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA... ELECTED PRESIDENT OF STANFORD 1913... DIED AT STANFORD ON MARCH 1, 1922...



TO REPRESENT STATE.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, has been appointed by Governor Futrell as a delegate to the National Rivers and Harbors Conference in Washington April 27 and 28. Congressman W. J. Driver of Arkansas is chairman of a committee in charge of projects to be considered by the conference.

Speaker for May 10, 1936
Yellville Welfare Forum



GEORGE C. BRANNER.

George C. Branner will address the Public Welfare Forum of Little Rock at the May meeting, Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Hotel Marion. Mr. Branner, geologist for Arkansas, is president of the American Association of State Geologists. He was a delegate to the recent Rivers and Harbors Congress in Washington, D. C.

At the Forum he will discuss some of the problems confronting those who seek the future development of Arkansas, with emphasis on findings of Rivers and Harbor Congress, and of those of the Arkansas State Planning Board, of which Mr. Branner is vice chairman.

He will be presented by Mrs. Branner, chairman for the divisional program on Community Service. Any interested persons are cordially invited to hear the address.

Welfare Forum Dinner.

Dr. George C. Branner, vice president of the Arkansas State Planning Board, will address the Public Welfare Forum of Little Rock and their guests, on "Possibilities for Arkansas's Governmental Development" at the annual dinner at the Hotel Marion Wednesday evening at 6 o'clock. Guests of honor will be, Mrs. J. W. Velvin, Lewisville, president of the Arkansas Federation Women's Clubs; Mrs. S. H. Mann of Forrest City, General Federation director for Arkansas; Mrs. Elwood Baker, Dermott, first vice president, and Mrs. W. H. McCain, Cotton Plant, second vice president, A. F. W. C. A number of invitations for this affair have been issued by Mrs. J. H. Scroggin, president of the Forum, who will preside at the dinner, and Mrs. George C. Branner, chairman on invitations. The speakers will be presented by Mrs. Vaughn W. Root, who arranged the program. Reservations may be made through Mrs. Clio Harper, 4-5357, until noon Wednesday. Board members of the Arkansas Federation Women's Clubs who will be in the city for conferences prior to the opening of the two-day biennial state convention of the Federation Thursday morning, are cordially invited to make reservations for this affair.

Head Reserve Officers 333



DR. GEORGE BRANNER and LT. COL. FRANK E. LOWE.

Dr. George Branner, state geologist, a major in the Organized Reserve of the United States Army, yesterday was elected president of the Arkansas Department of the Reserve Officers' Association of the United States to succeed Maj. A. L. Theiss. He was elected at the annual convention which opened yesterday morning and will continue through this morning. One of the principal speakers at the meeting was Lt. Col. Frank E. Lowe of Portland, Me., president of the national association, who arrived here by airplane Friday night. He spoke yesterday afternoon and last night at the annual dinner and dance. Other officers elected yesterday, who will assume their duties July 1, follow: Maj. Joe A. Day, Fort Smith, vice president; Capt. J. L. Lay, Little Rock, secretary-treasurer; Capt. Bernard T. Heinze, Little Rock, historian; Capt. Leo Murphy, Junction City, judge advocate, and Lieut. J. A. Kilburn, Arkadelphia, chaplain.

Reserve Officers Branner Names Hear Col. Lowe National Group

Arkansas reserve officers in their annual convention here yesterday heard Lieut. Col. Frank E. Lowe of Portland, Me., president of the Reserve Officers' Association of the United States, discuss national defense and activities of the association and elected Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, as state president to succeed Major A. L. Theiss. Dr. Branner is a major in the Organized Reserve. The convention opened yesterday morning and will continue through this morning when delegates to the national convention late in June in Springfield, Mass., will be elected. In addition to Dr. Branner, other officers elected yesterday are: Major Joe A. Day, Fort Smith, vice president; Capt. J. L. Lay, Little Rock, secretary-treasurer; Capt. Bernard T. Heinze, Little Rock, historian; Capt. Leo Murphy, Junction City, judge advocate, and Lieut. J. A. Kilburn, Arkadelphia, chaplain. Members of the association attended a dinner and dance last night at which Colonel Lowe was the principal speaker. Major Day was toastmaster and short talks were given by Mayor Overman, who welcomed the visitors; Lieut. Gov. Lee Cazor, representing Governor Futrell and Lieut. Ellis M. Fagan, representing the National Guard Association of Arkansas.

Other guests attending the convention include: Col. C. H. Muller, St. Louis, chief of staff of 102nd Division; Lieut. John S. Snyder, St. Louis, commanding officer of 381st Field Artillery; Major M. R. Baer, former co-ordinator of reserve affairs for Arkansas; Major Grover C. Graham, district commander of the CCC; Major Benjamin H. Hensley, co-ordinator of reserve affairs; and Capt. Grant Heninger, unit instructor of the 381st Field Artillery.

Dr. Branner said that topographical maps have never been made for half of the land in the United States and many of the maps for area which have been surveyed are inadequate. Cost of completing the work has been estimated at more than a \$100,000,000 and it has been suggested by engineering authorities that the work be undertaken on the basis of a definite program with sufficient funds available to complete the project within five or 10 years.

Dr. Branner Names Group To Seek Mapping Program.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist and president of the Association of State Geologists, announced yesterday that he has appointed an advisory committee to work with the American Engineering Council in an effort to obtain legislation to authorize completion of a national mapping program. F. M. Feigker of Washington, executive secretary of the Engineering Council, suggested appointment of the committee and asked Dr. Branner to serve as chairman. State geologists named on the committee by Dr. Branner were F. M. Bevan of Virginia, M. M. Leighton of Illinois and George H. Ashley of Pennsylvania.

Arkansas Geologists On Special Committee

Acting at the request of Col. E. T. Harris Jr. of Washington, D. C., director of the planning branch of the office of the assistant secretary of the United States War Department, Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist and president of the Association of American State Geologists, has designated each of the state geologists on a special committee to assemble information on certain strategic mineral resources essential to an adequate national defense. The information will be assembled by Dr. Branner and forwarded to war department officials when the state geologists submit their reports to him relative to a list of 17 minerals about which the planning branch of the War Department is seeking information.

States' Geologists to Provide Data for War Department. Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist and president of the Association of American State Geologists, announced yesterday that he has appointed a series of committees to assemble information on certain minerals in which the War Department is interested for possible national defense uses. All the state geologists were named on committees and their reports will be assembled by Dr. Branner, a major in the Reserve Corps, who will forward them to War Department officials.

State Geologist Says Funds Due Department. Advised by Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, that a compilation of severance tax figures from 1927 to 1936 has disclosed that \$855.28 apparently is due the geologist's fund from the turnback and common school funds, J. Hugh Wharton, assistant attorney general, today in an opinion held that the money may be transferred from the two funds and credited to the fund for the operation of the state geology department. Wharton, however, suggested that the amounts due to be refunded should be certified by either the state auditor or the state comptroller to the state treasurer before the treasurer makes the transfer. Dr. Branner in suggesting the transfer said that he has found errors indicating \$285.06 is due from the turnback fund, and \$570.22 from the common school fund, as moneys due under acts creating the office of a state geologist and providing for the maintenance of the new office.

Geologist Receives Maps. Lithographic copies of a map for the Alexander quadrangle, an area southwest of Little Rock covering about 185 square miles, have been received by Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, from the United States Geological Survey, he announced today. The quadrangle takes in a part of Little Rock, but the Little Rock sector is not shown on the map and the entire city will be shown on a separate map to be completed later. The map shows contour lines based on elevation variations of 20 feet.

Geologist to Publish Nine-Volume Report. Publication of a mimeographed report of 1,290 pages in nine volumes, which will show more than 9,000 elevations in the state, including the elevations of cities and towns, will be started tomorrow, it was announced today by Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist. The report is based on data assembled by a WPA project working under the supervision of George Rogers at the state capitol in conjunction with Dr. Branner and members of his staff since the first of the year. The first of the nine volumes will deal with elevations in the oil fields area of the state and will include data on 11 counties in south and southwest Arkansas. Each of the volumes will contain four maps of the state and separate maps also have been prepared for each county. The report will be available for general distribution, Dr. Branner said, but a charge will be made to cover the actual cost of publication. Considerable interest in the report has been shown by engineers over the state and also the utilities companies, Dr. Branner stated.

MAPS RECEIVED. Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, has received from the United States Geological Survey lithographic copies of a map of the Alexander quadrangle, southwest of Little Rock. This is one of four quadrangles cornering on Little Rock which is being mapped by the Geological Survey. The Sweet Home quadrangle map was issued several weeks ago.

State Geologist Back From Map Conference

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, today returned from Washington, D. C., where he conferred with representatives of the National Resources Committee and the American Engineering Council in connection with a federal mapping program to complete adequate maps for Arkansas and other states in the Union at an estimated cost in excess of \$100,000,000 under a 20-year program authorized several years ago. Twenty-seven per cent of the land in Arkansas never has been mapped, he said, and an additional 39 per cent has never been adequately mapped for general purposes, and the lack of adequate maps is delaying work undertaken by some of the federal agencies in their work relief projects launched for this and other states. Dr. Branner made the trip to Washington in the interest of securing funds for completion of the work in Arkansas, and also as president of the American Association of State Geologists. He has been named on a committee to present to the next Congress the need for funds to complete the mapping program.

Dr. Branner Will Go To Washington Oct. 24. Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist and president of the American Association of State Geologists, will go to Washington October 24 for conferences in connection with plans for securing federal funds for a national mapping program, he announced yesterday. As president of the organization of state geologists he is serving on a committee on surveys and maps and will work with officials in the geological survey, the coast and geodetic survey, and the national resources committee in an effort to have Congress pass an appropriation measure to carry on a mapping program authorized in earlier legislation.

GEOLOGIST RETURNS. State Geologist George C. Branner returned yesterday from a trip through the marble quarrying regions in north central Arkansas, where he gathered material for an address to be delivered at a national geological meeting in February. 10/23/1936

Dr. Branner Completes Study Of Batesville Formations. Special to the Gazette. 10-24-36. Batesville, Oct. 23.—George Branner, state geologist, completed a study of marble and sandstone formations here yesterday. He will use material gathered from Fayetteville to Batesville in preparing a paper on "Building Stones of Paleozoic Rocks" for presentation at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Mining Engineers at New York in February. Chief among the rock in which the geologist showed major interest here were the Batesville white marble, black marble and sandstone. The marble is found here in larger quantities, has greater tenacity, finer texture and greater accessibility than that found at other points in north Arkansas. Transportation facilities here also are an advantage. Dr. Branner also visited the Cushman manganese mine.

Geologists to Map Area Near England. Democrat 10-28-36. A topographical map of a quadrangle of about 250 square miles near England, which has never before been mapped, will be made by the United States Geological Survey, using WPA labor, it was announced today by Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, following a conference with C. L. Sadler, chief of the Central States Section of the topographical branch of the Federal mapping agency. The area to be mapped is north and east of England and extends about 18 miles north and south, and 13 miles east and west. The project has the approval of R. C. Limerick of the WPA district office here and Sibley Ward of Dr. Branners' staff will supervise the work it was announced. Employment will be provided for 33 men and work is to be started soon.

Gov. Bailey Urges Federal Map Funds. Gazette 3-15-37. Governor Bailey has written to President Roosevelt urging favorable action on a proposed appropriation of \$5,000,000 annually by congress for 20 years to provide funds for a systematic mapping program to complete topographic maps of the nation. The mapping program has been planned by Secretary Ickes of the department of the interior. Sixty-five per cent of this state, or an area of about 35,000 square miles is inadequately mapped and the lack of data, which would be available upon completion of such a program, makes it difficult for public agencies to select locations for highways, plan flood protection and soil erosion projects. The Arkansas legislature was asked to pass a bill providing \$15,000 annually to be used by the state geologist to pay the state's share of a joint mapping program to be financed largely by federal authorities. The measure secured a majority vote in the House and was declared defeated because it failed to secure a three-fourths vote from the House. The bill passed the Senate and Jack Holt, attorney-general, has been asked for an opinion if the three-fourths vote is necessary for passage.

Big Gain In October Revenues

11/1/1936

October revenues from 26 special tax sources totaled \$1,666,027.10, compared with \$1,667,399.77 in September, and \$1,377,044.99 in October, 1935, it was shown in the monthly statement of tax collections issued yesterday by state Revenue Commissioner Earl R. Wiseman. Gasoline tax collections for October fell about \$10,225 short of the all-time record of \$81,061.08 set in September, but were \$90,000 higher than October collections last year. Liquor tax revenue jumped from \$68,445.70 in September to \$131,305.66, a large part of which was said to be due to extra stocks being acquired for fall and Christmas trade. Sales tax collections increased from \$281,864.65 in September to \$364,625.11. Toll bridge receipts decreased about \$5,300 from September, but were more than \$9,000 higher than in October last year.

Comparative Table. October receipts from all special sources, compared with revenue for the corresponding period last year, are shown in the following table:

	Oct. 1935.	Oct. 1936.
Auto Division, chauffeurs' fees, etc.	2,570.20	2,309.41
Auto license fees	42,854.83	36,803.36
Gasoline tax	778,018.49	870,835.92
Cigar and cigarette permits	4,157.25	3,507.50
Fines and penalties	583.80	10.00
Severance tax	25,706.45	30,187.05
Geologist tax-severance	700.05	856.90
Geologist-sand and gravel	444.76	2,910.77
Sales tax	217,449.95	364,625.11
Feed inspection fees	1,476.00	1,116.30
Fertilizer inspection fees	1,670.00	1,100.00
Oil inspection fees	7,962.72	8,764.68
Inheritance tax	53,913.36	4,351.40
Malt tax stamps	175.26	177.79
Income tax	10,091.42	10,715.82
Ferry tax	81.91	None
Oleomargarine tax	None	None
Auto operators' license	1,637.50	1,449.50
Liquor permits (beer)	3,000.00	3,334.34
permits	1,715.00	2,805.00
Beverage (beer) tax	15,225.55	24,006.61
Pool table tax	107.50	37.50
Slot machine tax	1,470.00	1,220.00
Wine tax	326.50	631.29
Wine permits	162.00	262.00
Liquor tax	60,813.54	131,305.66
Toll bridges	43,776.41	52,935.53
General revenue		.49
Total	\$1,377,044.99	\$1,666,027.10

NEW VOLUME ON ELEVATIONS. The second volume of a six-volume report on grade elevations in Arkansas has been completed under a WPA project under supervision of George A. Rogers, it was announced yesterday by Dr. G. C. Branner, state geologist and sponsor of the project. The volume shows elevations at several hundred points in Bradley, Chicot, Drew and Desha counties. The complete set will give the elevation of about 14,000 points in the state. The information is being compiled from unpublished state and federal surveys made several years ago.

Geologists to Map Area Near England. Democrat 10-28-36. A topographical map of a quadrangle of about 250 square miles near England, which has never before been mapped, will be made by the United States Geological Survey, using WPA labor, it was announced today by Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, following a conference with C. L. Sadler, chief of the Central States Section of the topographical branch of the Federal mapping agency. The area to be mapped is north and east of England and extends about 18 miles north and south, and 13 miles east and west. The project has the approval of R. C. Limerick of the WPA district office here and Sibley Ward of Dr. Branners' staff will supervise the work it was announced. Employment will be provided for 33 men and work is to be started soon.

Governor Endorses Mapping

Gazette 3-16-37

Systematic completion of topographic mapping of the United States within 20 years, as proposed by Secretary Ickes, was endorsed by Governor Bailey in a letter to President Roosevelt yesterday.

Governor Bailey, in urging the acceptance of Mr. Ickes' program, which provides for an annual appropriation of \$5,000,000 for mapping work, called the president's attention to the fact that "at the present time it is estimated that approximately 35,000 square miles, or 65 per cent, of the area of the state of Arkansas is either inadequately mapped or entirely unmapped." "This lack of accurate and modern maps in Arkansas, in many cases, has made it difficult and often impossible for public agencies to plan public works effectively and has resulted in many delays in planning and constructing. The time element involved in the compiling of needed maps often makes their preparation impossible," he said.

Act in Dispute. Senator Hall of Scotland introduced a bill at the last General Assembly to provide an appropriation of \$15,000 annually, should that sum become available in increased severance tax collections, for use in matching funds of the United States Geological Survey for topographic mapping work in Arkansas.

The bill received a majority in both houses, but Speaker of the House John M. Bransford ruled that 75 votes were needed for passage. The attorney general has been asked for an opinion on its status.

In its 1936 progress report, the state Planning Board recommended an annual appropriation of \$15,000 to enable the Arkansas Geological Survey, in co-operation with the United States Geological Survey, to complete mapping of the state within 17 years.

Maps Needed. The board said that "accurate topographic maps are a basic need for many social and economic uses," among which were listed: Location of roads and highways, estimation of water power, flood control and protection, soil surveys, mineral surveys, forest surveys and fire control, health surveys, location of airways, location of oil and gas pipelines, location of power lines, parks and ownership maps.

Fifty Years Ago.

(Arkansas Gazette, June 29, 1887.)

The Geological Survey has taken rooms in the Odd Fellows building on Markham street. As soon as the bookshelves are put up, all the geological and natural history books in the state library will be made available for the use of the survey. All the rooms in the statehouse were crowded, and hence the survey was forced to secure rooms outside.

Fifty Years Ago.

(Arkansas Gazette, June 25, 1887.)

Hon. John H. Rogers, Member of Congress, is in the city en route home to Fort Smith from Hot Springs, where he has been spending a few days. Governor Hughes yesterday ordered a special election in Logan county on July 16 to choose a county treasurer to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of W. H. Pearson.

All members of the Little Rock Baseball Club are now registered at the Capitol hotel. They returned yesterday from a tour during which they played Pine Bluff and Hot Springs. Their next game will be here with Pine Bluff. Prof. John C. Branner, newly appointed state geologist, has arrived and is now stopping at the Capitol hotel. He is a graduate of Cornell University of the class of 1874. In the same year he went to Europe and later to Brazil as principal assistant geologist to Charles F. Hartt of Cornell University. He held this position until 1879 when he accepted a similar one, with the duties of interpreter added, with a mining company in the diamond fields of Brazil. In 1880 he returned to the United States and was commissioned by Thomas A. Edison, the electrician, to explore the West Indies and South America. Professor Branner is a widely known authority and author, writing on geological and other scientific subjects. He is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Philosophical Society, American Institute of Mining Engineers, Boston Society of Natural History, New York Academy of Science, Institute Archaeologico of Brazil and other domestic and foreign societies.

Fifty Years Ago.

(Arkansas Gazette, June 28, 1887.)

Dr. Thomas B. Comstock yesterday was appointed assistant state geologist by Prof. John C. Branner, and the appointment was approved by Governor Hughes. Dr. Comstock at present is professor of mining engineering at the University of Illinois. He is a native of Ohio. He was graduated at Pennsylvania State College in 1868 and then took a course at Cornell University for the purpose of continuing his studies in geology and chemistry. In 1879 he went to the mineral fields of Colorado and remained there until appointed to his recent position at the University of Illinois.

Gazette - July 25, 1936