

## HURRICANE RESEARCH FOCUS IN MIAMI

by ROBERT C. MINGS

The 1969 Fall Meeting of the Florida Society of Geographers will be held Friday and Saturday, October 31 and November 1, at the Fontainebleu Hotel in Miami Beach.

Contemporary hurricane research is the program theme. This topic was chosen because of its obvious crucial importance to the Florida Peninsula. Enthusiastic offers of cooperation from eminent members of the National Hurri-

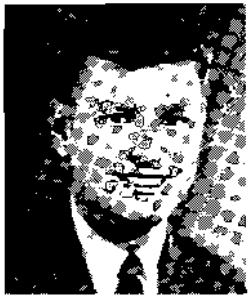
cane Research Center in Miami further convinced us of the merit of this topic.

Society members will have an opportunity to learn about the latest developments in a field of great relevance to us all—and from the men who are in the real vanguard of hurricane research. Dr. Robert H. Simpson, our Friday banquet speaker, is Director of the Weather Bureau's National Hurricane Center at Miami. He

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Let the geographer now add his belated voice to the surge of protest that currently sweeps across the nation. Seldom has the Florida geographer had such a stellar opportunity to address himself individually and collectively through his State Society to more crucial problems than those that confront the State of Florida today. He faces the challenge to protect, preserve, and conserve the natural and cultural heritage that is his legacy.



SCHALEMAN

The famed orange groves fall to the suburban bulldozer in the wake of seemingly endless urban sprawl. The products of human

and industrial waste continue to contaminate and pollute the air and water. The ocean waters erode the legendary beaches along the state's eastern periphery. Now Florida is threatened with a challenge that strikes at her very heart; namely, the struggle to preserve The Everglades, an area rich in a variety of rare flora and fauna. Such a controversial issue merits the geographer's support. He can serve as a bulwark against those men of limited political vision who attempt to sacrifice this unique wilderness area to the proposed Jet Port in Dade County. He can also struggle to restore his cultural and historical inheritance as well. Once more it is time to reiterate a former view expressed by this State Society; namely, to restore the historic name of Cape Canaveral to the geographic area currently designated as Cape Kennedy.

The Florida Society of Geographers has a vast multi-responsibility to educate the electorate, the legislators, and the youth so that they can make prudent decisions in the future. It, therefore, becomes vital to direct ourselves to the task of improving dialogue at all levels, particularly in the secondary schools and junior colleges. Let Florida lead the way! Let protest against our adversaries be loud, but above all, let our actions and constructive effort eclipse all else. If our State Society is to be something more than a semi-annual clan of congeniality, it is time to shift gears from lethargy to involvement.

See you in Miami Beach at the Fontainebleau the last weekend in October!

## CURRENT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF FSG

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received his MS in physics from Emory University and his Ph.D. in meteorology from the University of Chicago. He served as director of the Weather Bureau's Pacific projects from 1948 to 1952, and in 1955 organized and was named first Director of the National Hurricane Research Project. Dr. Simpson has been awarded the Department of Commerce's gold medal for outstanding contributions to the science of hurricanes.

Dr. R. Cecil Gentry will speak Saturday, November 1, at 10:00 a.m. He is Director of Project Stormfury and the National Hurricane Research Laboratory. Project Stormfury, an inter-departmental project that costs an estimated \$500,000 annually, began full operation in 1962 to study means of hurricane modification by cloud seeding.

Dr. Mariano A. Estoque will address the Society on Saturday, November 1, at 11:00 a.m. He is Professor of Atmospheric Science at the University of Miami.

After lunch on Saturday, the Society will be able to visit the specialized research aircraft used by the National Hurricane Center for first-hand observation of hurricanes.

For comfortable and ultra-complete resort accommodations, the Fontainebleau Hotel has no peer. Included in the room price (\$12 each/dbl. occ.) is use of all hotel facilities (e.g., ice skating rink, bowling alley, golf courses, etc.). It is a rare opportunity for members and their families to have a truly exotic weekend in one of the world's most famous resorts and at off-season group rates. Record attendance is expected.

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# GEOGRAPHERS IN STATE GOVERNMENT

by EDWARD H. CEDERHOLM

*Geographer, Department of Natural Resources*

The State of Florida is a very rapidly growing state with population already exceeding the previous projections. It is growing in industry, agriculture, and influx of tourists, which constantly increases the demand on water resources of the state. At present time there are only occasional seasonal and geographic shortages of water. However, planning is vital to prevent such shortages from increasing and becoming more critical.

This planning requires evaluation and projection of water availability and requirements by hydrologic areas of the state in order to identify the areas of deficiency and surplus to permit long range effective planning for storage, distribution and regulation.

Special emphasis must be given to ground water sources and storage because of the lack of reservoir sites in Florida. The exploration of means of storage in ground water aquifers will contribute to the ability of all areas to develop similar techniques.

The State of Florida has realized the importance of federal-state planning and for this reason has undertaken an active part in work on the Southeast River Basins Interagency Committee.

To help in this planning effort the Division of Interior Resources, Department of Natural Resources has added to its staff two geographers. These geographers are assigned directly to the river basin planning party. However, before describing their functions, a few comments on just what constitutes river basin planning is in order.

Section 373.131, Florida Statutes, requires the Division of Water Resources and Conservation (now the Bureau of Water Resources) to conduct a continuous study to determine the most advantageous and best methods for obtaining maximum beneficial utilization, development and conservation of the water resources of Florida and to make the legislature and the public aware of water resource needs, problems and solutions.

In compliance with the statutes and along with the guidelines of the Federal Water Resources Council, the Florida Department of Natural Resources, previously the Florida Board of Conservation, began its first river basin study in 1963. The state of Florida was divided into five river basins: Northwest, Suwannee-St.

Marys, St. Johns, Southwest, and Kissimmee-Everglades.

The Southwest Florida study was completed in 1966 and the second of five studies — the St. Johns River Basin — has been completed and is in review prior to printing. The Kissimmee-Everglades, Suwannee-St. Marys, and Northwest Florida Basins have been begun and it is hoped that these will be completed by the end of FY 73.

Major steps in river basin planning include the following: Development of the work plan and technical outline, analysis of data, projection of requirements for the three-time frames 1980, 2000, 2020, and finally the preparation of the report.

Upon the completion of the five area studies the overall water planning for the State of Florida will be prepared using the five study reports which are really water budgets for the areas as a basis for the state plan. The state overall plan should be ready within two years following completion of the final area study.

One geographer has been assigned the Kissimmee-Everglades Basin, the other the Northwest Florida and Suwannee-St. Marys Basins. Primary responsibility is to basin planning; however, since the Bureau of Water Resources is a small unit, there are no "specialists."

With respect to the planning reports, each geographer's area of interest consists of the basin's socio-economic resources, both present and future, with somewhat detailed discussion on agriculture, forestry, manufacturing, transportation, etc.; land resources, which include physiography and use; recreation, in conjunction with the Department of Recreation and Parks; and the programs of both Federal and state agencies that may affect the basin. In our basin, the geographer is additionally responsible for wastewater, municipal, and industrial water use.

Some of the non-planning responsibilities mentioned above include coordination by the Corps of Engineers on Flood Plain Information Reports, writing the "Water and Weather" reports for the Department of Natural Resources *Conservation News*, and keeping informed on the progress of the topographic mapping program in the state being carried out by the U. S. Geological Survey in a matching fund program with the state.

With the increasingly important role that water will be playing in the future, the importance of the positions held by each geographer can be seen. And, upon completion of these reports, a sense of accomplishment is felt, for what they have done will have benefited the state and all its people.

# NEWS FROM FLORIDA GEOGRAPHERS

## UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

The Department of Geography of the University of Miami has had a productive year. The faculty now numbers nine, with four appointments during 1969, including the new chairman. The following geographers joined the department: Donald L. Capone, who has just returned from a year's field work in Kenya on a project relating to wildlife ecology and political geography, David B. Longbrake, who is completing his doctoral dissertation at the University of Iowa, and whose interests lie in quantitative methods and urban geography, and William T. McGuire, who is also focusing on urban problems in his dissertation to be submitted to the University of Florida. Capone will handle courses in conservation and a new offering on East Africa; Longbrake will teach introductory and advanced courses on quantitative methods of analysis and urban geography; and McGuire is currently strengthening the department's introductory courses. Other faculty news: Dr. Paul Sanford Salter has been named Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, an appointment which permits him to continue his teaching in the department. Dr. Luella Dambaugh, who is secretary to the University of Miami chapter of Sigma Xi, has been awarded a half year's sabbatical leave. Dr. Robert Mings and Professor Richard Kreske participated, with Dr. Salter and Dr. de Blij, in a seminar for teachers in August. This seminar was the product of a successful grant application made by the department earlier in the year. It was intended as the beginning of closer contact and cooperation between the department and the teachers of geography in Dade and Broward Counties.

The department is currently involved in a complete revision of the curriculum at the undergraduate level and the establishment of a graduate program as well. The modernization of the department's programs is facilitated by the recent faculty appointments as well as the department's active participation in the new Urban Studies Center and the Center for Advanced International Studies. The faculty has decided that the twin systematic-regional foci of the department should lie in urban geography and tropical areas. No less than five of the faculty have published in some aspect of urban geography, and four have worked in tropical areas. Dr. de Blij was recently appointed Chairman of the new African Studies Committee in

the Center for Advanced International Studies.

The department has moved into new quarters. Ten new offices were made available during 1969, clustered at the south end of Merrick Hall, near the Map Library, the Physical Geography Laboratory, and the Cartography Laboratory. Mrs. A. K. Brennau has been appointed permanent secretary; a second secretarial position has just been made available.

In terms of research and publication, this has been a fairly productive year. Department faculty combined to publish one book, two chapters, nine articles, and several reviews.

## FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Growth in majors, curriculum, and research publications are evident in FAU's geography department this Fall. Over 30 students are now majoring in geography, and several graduate students in special status are related to the program.

Dr. L. Alan Eyre completed his dissertation on the "Geographic Aspects of Population Dynamics in Jamaica" for the University of Maryland and has been appointed Assistant Professor at Florida Atlantic University. Mr. Geoffrey Graut, advanced graduate student from Kent State University who is particularly interested in urban studies and remote sensing has joined the staff as Instructor and Research Assistant.

Among the publications recently released was Dr. Alan Craig's *Annals* article on "The Grouper Fishery at Cay Glory, British Honduras." Dr. Simon Baker will present a paper on "The Potential Contribution of Remote Sensing to World Food Production" on October 24th at the meeting of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics in New Mexico. The International Geographical Union will publish in its "Selected Papers" of the New Delhi meetings the presentations made by Dr. Robert Tata and Dr. James Latham at the December meeting in India. They are "A Space Potential Derived Measure of Transportation Efficiency" and "Instrumented Geographic Analysis of Multisensor Imagery."

In the Spring, the first offering of a senior level course in remote sensing was completed by several geography and some science students. A course in field methods has been introduced this Fall by Dr. Roy Lemon, Professor of Geology, and a new geology laboratory is being established. Political geography will be added to the curriculum this year. (See FAU, p. 8)