KEEPING QUALIFIED MEN IN PUBLIC POSITIONS

Governor Farwell's reappraisal of George C. Branner as state geologist was the thing the general managers 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 bribe and its incumbent is changed every year. This is not to say that once a man has obtained a post in the public service, he should be regarded as his personal possession for the rest of his active life. But here again, as in private business, every appointment 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. Arizona 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 Arizona 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 Arizona state government directed the attention to the wastefulness and inefficiency in the general revenue fund for benefit of the state geological Department. Passed, 19-12. Enrolled, S. B. No. 113 (Committee). To provide for reimbursement in case of unappropriated funds of redeem vouchers issued under authority of the governor's deficiency proclamation of December 27, 1916, for benefit of the state geological Department. Passed 21-0. Emergency clause. Passed S. B. No. 26 (Committee). To appropriate $10,000 to carry out provisions of revenue to supplement Act 269 of 1916. Calendar, S. B. No. 30 (Committee). To appropriate $100,000 for biennial maintenance of office of State Geologist. Passed, 50 to 0. Additions to Appropriations for county highway. Pairing Act 158 of 1916. Appropriation bill. General departmental appropriation bill. As the cost of geology increases, the state must provide an adequate fund to carry on the work properly.
BRANNER TO ADDRESS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Special News Release

Roger, Ark., April 16—Dr. George Branner, of Little Rock, director of the Arkansas Geological Survey, will be the principal speaker at a meeting of the Chuck Research Association to be held in the Capitol, Friday, April 22.

Logan List is president of the association, J. W. Gipps, secretary, and Charles Porter, assistant secretary.

Considerable interest has been manifested in the last six months since a group of prospectors from Winter, Eau, and another group from Denver, Colo., came here and made extensive explorations in the northwest counties of Arkansas. Thousands of square miles have been searched for mineral deposits, and money has been invested within the last few weeks for the purchase of some of the more promising properties.

A number of these men will be among those who will attend the meeting.

Mineral Survey in Ozarks Is Promised

Roger, April 16—A survey of mineral prospects in this section, under sponsorship of the state geological department, has been promised to the State Department of Education.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, has been invited to attend the meeting of the Chuck Research Association here Friday and promised to send an extemporaneous talk to make the survey. Among the speakers will be Dr. A. W. Gillis of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

WHERE THE SCHOOL MONEY WENT

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, $65,808. (Department formerly supported from general revenue fund.)

Total appropriations from school funds for two years, $559,182.

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 session of the legislature, after the income tax act was passed, which provided for appropriations from the equalizing fund for the construction of state charitable institutions to a tax reduction fund. During the last session the amount of income tax going to tax reduction instead of to the equalizing fund was $878,440.18. 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.

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 $17,421. The difference, $84,822, 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 few and one-half per cent levy on the gross value of oil 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 price 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 21 Dorado, Smackover and Clendenin fields. The tax reached its highest point, $1,838,928, in 1926. The 1927 total was $1,830,006. That of 1928 dropped sharply to $880,905. The revenue for the fiscal year 1929-30 was $988,905, and now comes this further decline of one-third for the last three months of the year 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 a 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 to compete for a number of reports on Arkansas mineral resources that cannot be published because no money is available to pay for their publication. The failure of severance tax revenue to meet the most practical and urgent of arguments for making the Geological Survey more effective by adequate financial support.
Editors Flay "Politics" in State Schools

Press Association Speakers Favor Cut in Educational Taxes.

The operation of Arkansas editor in chief of the Arkansas Press Association "built on the authority of the common schools" has been a subject of much discussion in recent years. The association, which has jurisdiction over the state's 258 school districts, has published several reports and recommendations on the subject of educational taxes. The association has also been involved in various legal battles related to the constitutionality of the state's school tax laws.

The association has been criticized for its lack of transparency and accountability. Some members of the association have been accused of using their positions to advance their personal interests rather than the common good. The association has also been criticized for its failure to address the needs of low-income students and schools.

In recent years, the association has faced several legal challenges related to its operations. In one case, the association was sued by a group of parents for allegedly failing to provide adequate funding for their children's schools. The association was also involved in a legal battle over the constitutionality of its governing body.

Despite these challenges, the association continues to operate and promote its agenda. The association's future success will depend on its ability to address the criticisms and concerns that have been raised against it.
GEOLeOgICAL SURVEY IN SERIOUS PLIGHT

Forced to Stop Important Work Because of Lack of Funds.

Geological Survey and Identificat ion Bureau Affected by Order.

By Dudley Haddock

The Arkansas Geological Survey has been ordered to cease operations, effective May 31, because of lack of funds for all but the most essential services.

The survey, which has been in operation since 1907, has been working on a limited budget, and the order to cease operations is due to the fact that the funds provided by the state legislature have not been sufficient to cover the expenses of the survey.

The survey has been conducting geological and mineralogical studies throughout the state, and has produced valuable information on the geological structure and mineral resources of Arkansas.

The cessation of operations will mean a loss of about $10,000 per month, and will result in the loss of about 20 jobs.

The survey has been working on a number of important projects, including the mapping of the state, the investigation of the geology of the coal fields, and the study of the effects of mining on the groundwater resources.

The state legislature is expected to provide additional funds for the survey in the next session, and the survey hopes to resume operations as soon as possible.

STATE GEOLOGIST SUBMITS REPORT

Includes Recommendations for Legislative Action to Assist.

Activities of the state Geological Survey during the past year and an outline of work proposed for the year ending June 30, 1933, are reported in a new report submitted by George C. Bannister, state geologist, to the legislature.

The report includes recommendations for legislative action to assist the survey in its work.

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Release of Geological Funds Sought

Bannister Makes Recommendations for Operation of Department.

Recommendations that funds be made available to the state Geological Survey for the year ending June 30, 1933, are included in a new report submitted by George C. Bannister, state geologist, to the legislature.

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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 evening by a vote of 70 to 8, with 23 absentees. The resolution, as adopted, states that the members of the club believe that the state should continue to support the Geological Survey and that the Survey should be continued. The resolution is printed below.

PUBLICATION FROM THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The petroleum industry has been developed by the state, and the survey of the state's oil resources is a vital one. The state's oil production is expected to continue to increase in the future, and the survey will be a valuable asset to the industry.

PUBLIC PROFIT FROM THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The state's oil industry is expected to continue to grow in the future. The survey will be a valuable asset to the industry and will provide information that will be useful to the industry.

RELIEF MAPS OF STATE AVAILABLE.

The survey has been producing relief maps of the state. These maps are available for purchase at the office of the survey.

Space in Chicago Exposition Offered Geologists.

The Illinois Geologic Survey, which has been awarded a number of prizes in the International Exhibition, has received a number of applications for space at the Chicago Exposition. The survey has been awarded a number of prizes, including a gold medal, for its exhibit of geological material.
The Increased Demand for Workers Trained in Public Service

By GEORGE C. BRANNER

The New Deal has created a multitude of opportunities for people to acquire new skills. This increase in the demand for trained workers makes it vital that we train them. The situation is serious and must be handled with the utmost of care.

The Servants of the People

By THE GAZETTE STAFF

Smoke Has Cleared Away; Some Injuries Suffered; Man's Name Not Released.

When the smoke from the fire in a storage room on the fourth floor of the State Capitol cleared away on Friday, and a man was discovered who had turned on the alarm and started fighting the fire, he was found to have been the man who set it.

Always anxious to keep the state house safe, and to prevent the activities of their enemies, the state police have been working day and night to find the man who set the fire.

The last tangible evidence was found in the man's possession. He had good reason to be anxious about the power of the police and to keep them away.

Fires a Source of Income

For State General Fund

By GEORGE C. BRANNER

The state of California is a leading state in the use of fire. The state has been the leader in the fight against fire for many years. The state has a long history of using fire as a tool to control nature.

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Dr. Branner Will Attend Mining Congress in Chicago.

Dr. G. H. Branner, state geologist, will go to Chicago September 20 to attend the meeting of the Metal Mining Committee of the American Mining Congress. He is especially interested in the work of the committee on mineral conservation policies. He is also vice chairman of the Committee on Minerals of the Resources Board. Dr. Branner will cooperate with J. H. Rand of the Tennessee Geologic and Mineral Survey as special advisor of the government at the conference, in discussing the Alabama lead, zinc, similar and other minerals.

GEOLOGY IN WASHINGTON.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, will speak tomorrow at 8 p.m. at John 39's weekly dinner as a member of the Washington Geological Society.

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 the American Society of Civil Engineers he will address the Association on the State of the Geological Survey of the United States, and at the University of Pennsylvania he will deliver a lecture to the students on "The Geology of the American Geologic Survey." Dr. Branner will be re-elected president of the Association of American Geologists at the meeting next month.

Dr. Branner Again Named Geology Head.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, has been named professor of the government at the University of Pennsylvania, and he will also be re-elected president of the Association of American Geologists at its annual meeting this month.

Dr. Branner Named to Head Reserve Officers.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, has been named to head the Reserve Officers Association of the National Guard, and he will also be re-elected president of the Association of American Geologists at its annual meeting this month.

TO REPRESENT STATE.

Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, has been appointed by Governor Polk as a delegate to the National Rivers and Harbors Conference in Washington, and he will also be re-elected president of the Association of American Geologists at its annual meeting this month.

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Arkansas Geologists

Big Gain In October Revenues

11/1/1936

October revenues from 26 special tax sources totaled $1,668,007.10, compared with $1,677,957.79 in September, and $1,777,044.88 in October, 1935. In October, it was shown in the monthly statement of tax collections issued by state revenue commissioner Earl R. Wiman.

Gasoline tax collections for October fell about $1,250 short of the all-time high of $811,051.08 set in May last, but were more than $600 higher than in October last year.

Liquor tax revenue jumped from $888,479 in September to $1,323,560, a large part of which was said to be due to extra books being sold during the Christmas trade.

Sales tax collections increased from $281,624.65 in September to $378,621.11, but before receipts decreased almost $3,000 from September, but were more than $8,000 higher than in October last year.

Comparative Table

October receipts from all special sources, compared with receipts for the corresponding period last year, are shown in the following tabulation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>October 1936</th>
<th>October 1935</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Excise</td>
<td>$2,070.30</td>
<td>$2,049.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar Excise</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>380,500.00</td>
<td>369,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoes</td>
<td>1,422.50</td>
<td>1,410.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum</td>
<td>5,480.50</td>
<td>5,480.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gasoline tax</td>
<td>300,000.00</td>
<td>321,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax stamps</td>
<td>5,300.00</td>
<td>8,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public service</td>
<td>644.50</td>
<td>660.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel, lodging, etc.</td>
<td>4,780.00</td>
<td>4,780.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inland Revenue</td>
<td>3,350.00</td>
<td>3,350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County and school</td>
<td>3,350.00</td>
<td>3,350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>3,350.00</td>
<td>3,350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax stamps</td>
<td>5,300.00</td>
<td>8,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,777,044.88</td>
<td>$1,668,007.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEW VOLUME ON ELEVATIONS

The second volume of a six-volume report on grade elevations in Arkansas has been completed under a UPA project under supervision of George R. Rogers, it was announced yesterday by Dr. G. C. Brunner, state geologist and sponsor of the project.

The volume settles elevations at several hundred points in the state, the information will give the elevation of about 100 points in the state. The information is being compiled from unpublished state engineer surveys made several years ago.

Government Endorses Gas Sett 3-16-36

Mapping

Governor Bailey urged, in urging the acceptance of Mr. Irk's program, which provides for an annual appropriation of $3,000,000 for mapping work, called the president's attention to the fact that "at the present time it is estimated that approximately 30,000 square miles, or 63 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 in these delays is the constant need of mapped areas to maintain their population, and the practice of merely mapping is often a waste of public funds."

Arkansas Gazette, June 29, 1937

The Geological Survey has taken an interest in the development of Little Rock, which is being mapped by the Geological Survey. The survey, to be continued, was forced to secure funds outside the state.