

INTRODUCTION

This is the first occasion on which a full transcript of the proceedings of an ASF Conference has been published. Unfortunately, in the past, much of the valuable and interesting material presented at the Conferences has been lost to posterity and therefore the efforts involved in its preparation were largely in vain. Some of the more scientific papers have been or will be published in appropriate journals and magazines but many were never published.

Perceiving the need for a full transcription, Margot and Peter Matthews took upon themselves the very considerable task of preparing a permanent record of the Seventh Biennial Conference. Following, as it does, so closely upon the production of the ASF Handbook, this is an example of energy and drive which we might all envy. The Cave Exploration Group (S.A.) then volunteered their assistance and have provided the plates, cover and duplicating and binding facilities.

It is proposed that in future the host Society appoint a secretary to produce the transcript, hire a professional if necessary, and charge the fees to the Conference. This should ensure that we will not be so dependent upon the goodwill of the energetic few. On behalf of ASF I should like to record sincere appreciation of a job well done.

R.P. WEBB
PRESIDENT