

OFFICE COPY

REPORT OF  
COMMITTEE ON MINERAL INDUSTRIES CENSUS  
NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL

MARCH 10, 1949

REPORT OF NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL'S  
MINERAL INDUSTRIES CENSUS COMMITTEE

The National Petroleum Council's Committee on Mineral Industries Census appointed by Mr. Walter Hallanan on January 6, 1949, has, pursuant to his request, made a study of the advisability and desirability of taking in 1950 a census of the petroleum industry to cover the year 1949. The Committee has observed and has considered the comments of Mr. Robert E. Friedman in his communication of December 7, 1948, directed to Mr. Hallanan, that a census of manufacturers, business, transportation and mineral industries was authorized by Congress to be taken every five years, commencing with the year 1949, but that funds were not appropriated for the census of transportation or for the census of mineral industries; and if a census is not taken for 1949 there will be a lapse of fourteen years in the basic statistics for the mineral industries, inasmuch as the last census was taken in 1939 and the next is scheduled to cover 1953. The 1939 mineral census volumes have been reviewed.

Your Committee is pleased to report that its members unanimously wish to recommend that this interim census for 1949 be taken with the following observations:

1. Valuable data, based upon complete coverage (rather than mere sampling), will be assembled and made available for important uses by the government and by others. These uses include:

- (a) The avoidance and refutation of misrepresentations concerning the industry predicated upon inaccurate or incomplete material.
- (b) Correlation of these data with like data on manufacturing and business generally.

- (c) Affording a basis for comparison of conditions existing within the industry from time to time and providing a bench mark from which to start in making estimates and appraisals. The existing gap in the statistics from 1939 to date is too long.
2. Certain improvements can possibly be made which, while minimizing the expense of compilation both to the government and to the industry, will at the same time render the census more valuable. Therefore, your Committee recommends that the industry be afforded the opportunity to collaborate with the Bureau of the Census through the appointment of a small committee of statistical experts from the industry to assist in drawing up the schedules on which the census will be taken.
3. Your Committee further recommends that the publication of the census be expedited so that it will become available as soon as possible after it is taken.

Respectfully submitted,

H. S. M. Burns  
Chairman  
Mineral Industries Census Committee

NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE ON MINERAL INDUSTRIES CENSUS

C H A I R M A N

H. S. M. Burns  
Shell Oil Company, Inc.

Hines H. Baker  
Humble Oil and Refining Company

Max W. Ball  
Oil and Gas Consultant

William R. Boyd, Jr.  
American Petroleum Institute

Bruce K. Brown  
Military Petroleum Advisory Board

Russell B. Brown  
Independent Petroleum Association  
of America

E. DeGolyer  
DeGolyer and MacNaughton

Fayette B. Dow  
National Petroleum Association

R. G. Follis  
Standard Oil Company of California

Jake L. Hamon  
Cox and Hamon

D. A. Hulcy  
Lone Star Gas Company

B. Brewster Jennings  
Socony-Vacuum Oil Company, Inc.

Frank H. Lerch, Jr.  
Consolidated Natural Gas Company

L. F. McCollum  
Continental Oil Company

J. S. Morris  
American Association of Oilwell  
Drilling Contractors

Joseph E. Pogue  
The Chase National Bank

Frank M. Porter  
Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Assoc.

Fred Sehmann  
National Stripper Well Association

C. R. Williams  
Natural Gasoline Association of  
America