

SEA FLOOR DEVELOPMENT: MOVING INTO DEEP WATER

A Discussion held on 1 and 2 June 1977

Organized by Sir Angus Paton, F.R.S., Sir Peter Kent, F.R.S.,
Sir George Deacon, F.R.S., Sir Kenneth Hutchison, F.R.S., and
M. B. F. Ranken in collaboration with the British National Committee on
Ocean Engineering of the Council of Engineering Institutions

All great engineering ventures need scientific data on which to base decisions. Too often such decisions have to be made in situations where the data are lacking or incomplete; this causes uncertainties and delays.

To assist those involved in sea floor development an important wide ranging and comprehensive meeting was held at the Royal Society in June 1977 dealing with the scientific and technological problems in the depth range of 300–2000 metres. The papers covered the morphology and currents of the continental margins, subsea engineering, hydrocarbon potential, the geochemistry of ferromanganese deposits, environmental aspects, as well as the up-to-date position on the law of the sea and the ownership of the ocean floor.

The subject being of such importance it has been decided that the papers and discussion should be published in book form.

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