

Meetings

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Volume 3, numéro 2-3, avril 1967

URI : https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/ageo03_2_3met01

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Éditeur(s)

Maritime Sediments Editorial Board

ISSN

0843-5561 (imprimé)

1718-7885 (numérique)

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Citer ce document

Pelletier, B. R. (1967). Meetings. *Atlantic Geology*, 3(2-3), 84–88.

MEETINGS

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Geological Society of America, New Orleans, Louisiana, U. S. A., Nov. 20-22, 1967.

This is the regular annual meeting, and of interest to workers on the east coast will be a symposium on the U. S. Continental Margin.

Geological Society of America, Northeast Section, Washington, D. C., U. S. A., Feb. 15-17, 1968.

American Association of Petroleum Geologists - Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Oklahoma City, U. S. A., April 22-25, 1968.

Hudson Bay Geological and Geophysical Symposium Ottawa, Canada, Feb. (tentative) 1968.

This will cover raised beaches, bottom physiography, sediments, bedrock, seismicity, gravity, magnetic studies (airborne and seaborne), paleontology and land geology. Address enquiries to:

Dr. Peter Hood,
Geological Survey of Canada,
Ottawa, Canada.

Symposium on the Quaternary of Quebec, Chicoutimi, Québec, Canada, Sept. 5-7, 1968.

Papers will cover six main areas: (1) Glacial Quaternary, (2) Marine and Lacustrine Quaternary, (3) Periglacial, (4) Paleontology and palynology, (5) Pedology - ecology - climatology, (6) Archaeology. Titles and abstracts must be sent to the Secretary before May 31, 1968. Send correspondence to:

J. C. Dionne,
C. P. 35, Sillery,
Québec, Canada.

REPORTS ON RECENT MEETINGS

Seventh International Congress, Reading and Edinburgh, U.K., Aug. 11-15, 1967.

The Seventh International Sedimentological Congress was held from Aug. 11 to Aug. 15 in Reading and Edinburgh, Great Britain. It was preceded and followed by a number of field trips covering the whole gamut of sediments from the Precambrian to the present day. About 450 sedimentologists attended the congress (from 41 countries) and all appeared to be enjoying themselves, both at the sessions and during the lavish receptions given each night. The format of the Congress was a little unusual, with two days of sessions in Reading and two in Edinburgh with a day in-between for travel; although this type of format is becoming more common.

The organization of the sessions was even more original. Each day was started with an eminent sedimentologist giving an invited lecture in his special field. This was followed by four simultaneous sessions called formal discussion groups on various aspects of sedimentology. A further invited lecture followed the sessions, with another four simultaneous sessions after that. After lunch, another invited lecture was presented followed by four more simultaneous sessions. A period at the end of each afternoon was kept for informal discussion groups arising out of the formal groups, although films were also shown at this time. The films were mainly on fluid dynamics and were extremely interesting and useful. A new teaching film received its premiere, Shoreline Sediments made by Dr. J. B. Wilson, Aberdeen University and Dr. E. K. Walton, Edinburgh University.

The formal discussion groups covered a very wide range of sedimentological topics from

the more conventional (turbidities, littoral marine sedimentation, etc.) to the frankly new or "way out" (sedimentary hydraulics, the use of computers in sedimentology and the use of operational research in sedimentology). The formal groups were mainly composed of prepared short contributions, with preprints sent out in advance, and they gave rise to a number of informal groups each day. The quality of the contributions varied widely, as might be expected, but many were longer than they should or could have been, particularly in view of the exhortations by Professor P. Allen to keep the talks short. The novel organization of the sessions was not an unqualified success but the idea is basically sound, because groups of short talks are broken up by the longer, more definitive invited lectures. This gives each day more variety than is usually found at such gatherings.

On the whole, then, the Seventh International Sedimentological Congress was a success partly because it put considerable emphasis on the use of new methods and techniques in sedimentology, thus bringing our science into the middle of the 20th century for the first time. However, a good deal of its success was because it brought together many researchers working on similar problems, thus providing a perhaps rare opportunity for personal talks. Finally, a tribute must be paid to all the people concerned with the organization of the congress, for without their hard work it would not have gone so smoothly and we all would not have enjoyed it so much.

R. M. McMULLEN

Gander Conference, Newfoundland, Canada, Aug. 24-30, 1967.

A conference on 'stratigraphy and structure bearing on Continental Drift' in the North Atlantic took place in Gander, Newfoundland from August 24-30. Field excursions were held in various parts of the province both before and after these dates. The conference was sponsored by Columbia University, supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation and organized by Professor Marshall Kay. About 120 people attended, almost all from Canada, U. S. A. and Britain and just over 50 papers were presented.

Only a few dealt specifically with continental drift. For example, W. B. Harland gave a stirring account of the tectonic evolution of the North Atlantic and H. P. Woodward delighted the conference with some precarious speculations on the Gulf of Mexico and the Bermuda rise. But the main aim of the conference was to assess the present state of knowledge of stratigraphy and structure on both sides of the North Atlantic and most contributors concerned themselves exclusively with regional stratigraphy and structure. The success of the conference lay in the fact that most participants came away with a more enlightened view of both sides of the Atlantic rather than the smaller, more parochial attitude which many had before they came. The remark was heard that very little of the proceedings had to do directly with Continental drift. This is true but Marshall Kay correctly realised that the first necessity was a considerable amount of groundwork. The conference covered this and Professor Kay's reward lies in another remark heard after the closing session. 'Now it would be really worthwhile to have a conference on continental drift'.

The proceedings will be published in a special issue of the Bull. Am. Assoc. Petrol. Geologists.

E. K. WALTON

International Meeting of the Geological Association of Canada and Mineralogical Association of Canada, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, Aug. 31 - Sept. 2, 1967.

This meeting was held jointly with the Mineralogical Society of America and Association pour L'Étude Géologique des Zones Profondes de L'Écorce Terrestre. In spite of the keen competition from Expo'67 and the flanking Gander Conference in late August and the Devonian Symposium in early September, this meeting was well attended and was highlighted by several excellent symposia. The new halls at Queen's University overlooking Lake Ontario provided a beautiful setting as well as fine accommodation for the meeting. Of interest to eastern workers were the following titles:

W. B. Skidmore: Early Palaeozoic unconformities in Gaspé Peninsula, Quebec.

- W. A. Roliff: Oil and gas exploration - Anticosti Island, Quebec.
- K. K. Mukherji and C. G. Winder: Regional petrology of Black River limestones in the Ordovician of southwestern Ontario, Canada.
- J. T. Sanford, R. R. Mosher and J. E. Friend: Introduction to a quantitative study of Silurian rocks from the Michigan Basin.
- B. A. Liberty: Ordovician stratigraphy of southern Ontario: the Ottawa Valley problem.
- R. G. Moore and M. H. Waring: Partial revision of the Mississippian Windsor Group type section.
- R. L. Brown, H. Helmstaedt and D. Lee: The tectonic significance of new structural analyses in southern New Brunswick.
- R. H. MacNeill: Variation and similarity of tills in northern Nova Scotia and their relation to bed-rock.
- C. G. Winder: Stratigraphic variability of Middle Ordovician conodonts at Lakefield, Ontario.
- G. J. Dickie and G. D. Williams: Recent beach sediments from the Pacific coast of southeastern Queensland, Australia.
- G. Müller: Recent sediments in the western Indian Ocean.
- D. J. Stanley: Geometry and sedimentary properties of The Gully submarine canyon off Nova Scotia: stratigraphic applications.
- V. Ramesam: Time series analysis as a test of theories of cyclic sedimentation.
- W. M. Tovell and C. F. M. Lewis: Topography and bottom deposits between Tobermory and Fitzwilliam Island, Georgian Bay, Ontario.
- R. V. Cooper, G. N. Ewing and B. D. Loncarevic: Shipborne gravimeter and magnetometer measurements on the tail of the Great Bank of Newfoundland.
- B. R. Pelletier: An exponential law of prograding sediments operating through geologic time.
- A. K. Lyall and R. A. Gees: Sediment movement studies around Cape Sable Island, Nova Scotia.
- G. V. Middleton: Albite of secondary origin, after perthite, in sandstones of the Charny Formation, Quebec.
- J. F. Kick: An analysis of the bottom sediments of Lake Erie.
- R. L. Christie: Glacial-geological reconnaissance, southeastern Ellesmere Island, Canadian Arctic Islands.
- O. H. Løken: The form of the Barnes ice cap, Baffin Island, Northwest Territories.
- J. T. Andrews: Rebound process and strandline deformation with particular reference to the Piling-Flint Lake area, west Baffin Island, Northwest Territories.

B. R. PELLETIER

Devonian Symposium, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Sept. 6-8, 1967.

The International Symposium on the Devonian System held in Calgary from September 6th to 8th was organized by the Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists, and they are to be congratulated on the results.

With more than a thousand geologists in attendance, the hire of the magnificent Jubilee Auditorium appeared to be justified. Although most of those attending the Symposium were Canadian, the papers presented were truly international. All aspects of Devonian rocks from all over the world appear to have been touched on in the course of the Symposium. A list of papers relevant to the area normally served by MARITIME SEDIMENTS is given below.

The field excursions ranged from short trips to the Banff area and short familiarization flights over the nearby Rockies to much more extensive trips reaching as far north as Inuvik in the North West Territories and as far east as Winnipeg.

The "Proceedings" of the Symposium are being published in two volumes. Volume I contains 60 selected regional papers covering the major Devonian areas of the world. Volume 2 contains 130 papers on topical subjects such as biostratigraphy, paleontology, reefs and carbonates, boundaries and correlations, clastics, evaporites, tectonic and igneous activity and Devonian paleogeography and paleoclimatology. Both volumes have over 1,000 pages.

Volume 1 will be available by the time this note appears in print. Volume 2 will be available at the end of 1967. Both volumes must be ordered as a unit and the total cost is \$40.00. The Proceedings can be ordered from:

International Devonian Symposium,
 Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists,
 P. O. Box 53,
 Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

List of Relevant Papers:

1. A. J. Boucot and J. Johnson: Appalachian Province Early Devonian Palaeogeography and Brachiopod Zonation.
2. A. J. Boucot, J. Johnson and J. Talent: Lower and Middle Devonian Faunal Provinces Based on Brachiopoda.
3. L. M. Cumming: Devonian of Canadian Appalachians and New England States.
4. Hugh Greiner: Silurian-Devonian Relationships, Charlo map-area, New Brunswick, Canada.
5. J. D. Grierson and E. M. Hueber: Devonian Lycopods from Northern New Brunswick.
6. William A. Oliver Jr: Succession of Rugose Coral Faunas in the Lower and Middle Devonian of Eastern North America.
7. William A. Oliver Jr., Wallace deWitt Jr., John M. Dennison, D. M. Hoskins, John W. Huddle: Devonian of the Appalachian Basin.
8. D. L. Woodrow and F. W. Fletcher: Late Devonian Paleogeography in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

L. FERGUSON

FIELD TRIPS

Minas Basin Field Trip on North Shore Intertidal Zone Sediments, Eastern Section, SEPM, June 26-30, 1967.

G. deVries Klein of the University of Pennsylvania led this, the first formal field trip of the Eastern Section. Geologists participating included C. J. Galvin, Jr. (Coastal Engineering Research Center, U. S. Corps of Engineers, Washington), P. E. Schenk (Dalhousie University), S. Harrison and T. Tourek (The Johns Hopkins University), and E. Luttrell (Princeton University). The purpose of the trip was to familiarize us with the intertidal-zone sediments of the Minas Basin. Three areas were surveyed in some detail--Parrsboro Harbour approaches, Five Islands, and Economy Point. The region is ideal for the study of primary sedimentary structures because movements of the water mass may be monitored when the tide is in, and regimes of bedforms may be mapped and sampled when the tide is out. The magnificent scenery, perfect weather, and very interesting sedimentary and textures all resulted in near-exhaustion of the area's film supply. Klein illustrated very clearly the relationship between the variety, orientation, and scale of bedforms, the texture of the sediment, and the required hydrodynamics of the water mass. He is to be congratulated for a smoothly run and stimulating excursion. His research has been financed by grants from the Office of Naval Research made to the Hudson Laboratories of Columbia University, and the National Science Foundation.

P. E. SCHENK

Hudson Valley Field Trip on the Cambro-Ordovician Sedimentation of the Hudson Valley, Eastern Section, SEPM, October 6-7, 1967.

J. M. Bird (S. U. N. Y., Albany) and G. V. Middleton (McMaster University, Hamilton) led this very interesting trip into the wilds of eastern New York. The purpose of the trip was to illustrate sedimentation phenomena characteristic of turbidites and other rocks typical of flysch basins. Outcrop localities visited by the party are in the Hudson Valley south and southeast of Albany, and within Troy, New York. These are in front of, underneath, and within the various Taconic klippen. Most of the localities are described in the 1963 G. S. A. Guidebook for Field Trip Three "Stratigraphy, Structure, Sedimentation, and Paleontology of the Southern Taconic Region, Eastern New York", edited by J. M. Bird. Dr. Bird also prepared brief descriptions of the individual outcrops visited, based on research before and since 1963. Units examined and argued over were the Rensselaer Greywacke (?) and the Mettawee Slate of the Nassau Formation (Cambrian?), the undifferentiated West Castleton--Hatch Hill Formations (Cambrian), the Austin Glen Greywacke and St. Merino Chert of the Normanskill Shale (Middle Ordovician), and associated wildflysch conglomerates of several ages.

All of us on the trip were very impressed by the work that has been done recently in the area. We are certainly looking forward to Bird and Rasett's publication on the region.

List of participants:

Jack Bird, S. U. N. Y., Albany; Gerry Middleton, McMaster U., Hamilton, Ontario; Roger Walker, McMaster U., Hamilton, Ontario; Murray Felsher, Syracuse U.; Doug Glasser, Pennsylvania Geol. Survey; Miles Hayes and James Wessal, U. of Massachusetts, Amherst; Eric Mountjoy and Ric Young, McGill U., Montreal, P. Q.; Ely Mencher and Marc Edwards, City College, N. Y.; Jean Lajoie and Claude Hubert, U. of Montreal, P. Q.; Fred Wolff, Hofstra U., Hempstead, N. Y.; R. W. Yole and David Masan, Carleton U., Ottawa, Ontario; John Henderson, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Maryland; Dan Stanley and Gilbert Kelling, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Milton Howe, Princeton U., Princeton, N. J.; Brewster Baldwin, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt.; Pierre St-Julien, Dept. Natural Resources, Quebec; Frank Beales, U. of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario; E. Sarpel, Sinclair Oil and Gas, Tulsa, Oklahoma; George deVries Klein, U. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Eric Luttrell, Princeton U., Princeton, N. J.; Paul Schenk, Dalhousie U., Halifax, N. S.; R. A. Park, Gerry Friedman, Peter Buttner, J. Way and J. Kramer, Rensselaer Polytechnic, Troy, N. Y.