

Hither and Yon

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In this number we were delighted to receive the following departmental news from Arthur King, Memorial University of Newfoundland. Dr. E.R.W. Neale, Head of M.U.N.'s Department of Geology, is preparing contributions for the 1972 G.A.C. Symposium on Tectonic Styles in Canada and guidebooks for the 1972 International Geological Congress. Dr. W.D. Brueckner, who in 1968 was chosen as Memorial University's first J.P. Howley Professor, will be spending the summer researching on sedimentological problems in the Schaechtal, Switzerland. Dr. Charles J. Hughes, returned on May 28 from a second visit to Morocco, where he participated in an international colloquium involving a two-week field excursion followed by a three-day conference on the Precambrian rocks of the Anti-Atlas and their correlation. A point of some interest in the proceedings was the considerable resemblance of volcanic and sedimentary rocks there to rocks of similar age occurring both in the Avalon Peninsula of Newfoundland and on the Great Bank of Newfoundland where they had been reconnoitered during expeditions by the late Hugh Lilly. These resemblances lead to the hypotheses that Avalon once lay in close proximity to Morocco before the old and new worlds were separated by "continental drift" and that Avalon together with the Great Bank once formed part of the mainland and continental margin of the former African continent. Several new faculty members are interested in fields related to ancient and modern sediments: L.E. Fahraeus from Lund, Sweden and recently a postdoctorate fellow with the University of Western Ontario, is a specialist in micropaleontology; Dr. J.S. Sutton from Trinity College, Dublin, is doing research in metamorphic petrology; Dr. D. Strong, a recent graduate of Edinburgh, is locum tenens for Dr. W.G. Smitheringale who is on sabbatical leave at the University of Colorado. Research grants at the disposal of Dr. Brueckner permit him to support two postdoctorate fellows: Dr. R.S.W. Neville, a graduate of the University of Sheffield, is interested in palynological problems in Newfoundland; R.M. Slatt has just completed his Ph.D. programme at the University of Alaska and intends to study sedimentological aspects of Pleistocene till deposits of Newfoundland. Dr. John Dewey of Cambridge will be a Commonwealth Fellow in the Department from July 1, 1970 through to January 30, 1971.

Memorial University's Geology Department was visited by a number of distinguished earth scientists during the past semester. Dr. E.R. Venour, an exploration geology specialist with Chevron Standard Limited of Edmonton, visited the Department in January and lectured on "The significance of geological work in the petroleum industry". His tour was sponsored by the Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists who nominated him 'Distinguished Guest Lecturer to Eastern Canada Universities'. Dr. C.C. Kilburn, Assistant Vice-President, Exploration and Development, Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited, paid us a two-day visit in February. His talk, "Origin and environment of nickel deposits in Canada", followed by a munificent supply of 'juvenile water' later in the evening, was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Dr. M.R. Gregory of Dalhousie University lectured on various topics in sedimentology during the period February 3-6. Of particular interest was his review of research on sediment distribution and environmental history of the Scotian Shelf and the Bay of Fundy. Later in the month, Prof. M.J. Keen, Head of the Geology Department of Dalhousie University, gave a series of talks on marine geophysics, plate tectonics and the continental margin of North America. The visits of Drs. Keen and Gregory were part of a MUN - Dalhousie exchange scheme, partly sponsored by APICS. Drs. H. Williams and M.J. Kennedy of Memorial spoke to Dalhousie geologists on major structures in Newfoundland, Appalachian tectonics and intercontinental correlations. Another visitor in February was Prof. F. Beales of the University of Toronto who spoke on "Environmental interpretation of limestones" and "The stratigraphic habitat of Mississippi Valley type ore deposits". Profs. Keen and Beales were guest speakers at the inaugural meeting of the Newfoundland Section of the Geological Association of Canada, held in the Department on February 19 and 20. Papers presented in the technical session dealt chiefly with mineral deposits, structure of the Atlantic Region and continental drift. In March and April, a number of lectures were given to undergraduate students by Dr. A. Oldershaw from the University of Toronto and Dr. M. Schaap from McMaster University. A lady geologist from the Saskatchewan Department of Mineral Resources, complete with a handbag full of rocks, endured the trip on the 'Newfie Expedo' to St. John's; Dr. Ester Jamieson provided a stimulating atmosphere with her "Simple ecological tool for interpreting carbonate rocks". R.K. Stevens, from Erindale, Toronto, took part in seminars on the klippen of west Newfoundland and plate tectonics. J.M. Shearer, from the Bedford Institute, Dartmouth, lectured on 'Recent Sediments in Port au Port Bay'. In May, Prof. Jacques Beland, Head of the Geology Department of the University of Montreal, who had previously spoken to us on stratigraphical and structural complexities in Gaspé, joined about 25 faculty members and graduate students for a trans-island field trip. Dr. W.T. Dean, formerly of the British Museum and now with the Geological Survey of Canada, spent several days in the Department in early June. He is working on Cambro-Ordovician stratigraphy of the Atlantic Provinces with particular reference to trilobites. While in St. John's, Dr. Dean is also investigating the alleged discovery by Bell Island Miners in the early 1900's of a twenty-five foot primitive vertebrate fossil. Dr. N. Haile, Head of the Department of Geology, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, stopped here on a round the world trip to examine Avalon geology.

From George deVries Klein formerly of the geology department at the University of Pennsylvania, the following account has been sent to us. Two of his former colleagues, Arthur

Boucot and J.G. Johnson have joined the geology faculty at Oregon State University and another, Patrick Butler Jr. has joined the Manned Spacecraft Center of NASA in Houston, Texas. Reginald Shagam, also a former colleague, has joined the geology department at the University of the Negev in Beersheba, Israel. Klein, an associate professor of geology at the University of Illinois, has received a grant from the National Science Foundation to undertake a study by means of time-lapse photography of the migration of dunes and sand waves on intertidal sand bars in the Minas Basin at Five Islands and Economy Point. He will be working in Nova Scotia during the summer of 1970 assisted by Rodney Balazs, a graduate student, and two undergraduates, John Hendricks and Bill Skibbe. Daniel J. Stanley has joined, on a 20 percent-time basis, the Geology Department at the University of Illinois (Urbana), while maintaining his permanent connection at the Smithsonian Institution. Stanley's duties require him to be on campus at Urbana for four to six weeks per academic year to give lectures on marine geology. Students at Illinois are eligible to join Stanley on his research cruises. In addition, Ph.D. candidates in Marine Geology at Illinois can work with Stanley at the Smithsonian, and obtain their degrees through the University of Illinois.

In the Halifax-Dartmouth area a variety of geological subjects were presented by speakers from many organizations. At Dalhousie University Dr. H. Loubat from Lake Head University spoke on "The Ophiolitic Association: Some ideas on their modes of emplacement and metamorphism"; Dr. J. Beland from University of Montreal discussed "Tectonic evolution of Gaspé Peninsula, Quebec"; Dr. T.N. Irvine, Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa spoke on "Recent research in layered intrusions"; Dr. J.W. Morgan of the University of Kentucky gave a special seminar on "Uranium and thorium in eclogites and granulites"; and Dr. S.E. Haggerty of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D.C., presented a study on "The magnetic and opaque mineralogy of lunar, continental and oceanic basalts. At the Bedford Institute, Dr. A.S. Laughton of the National Institute of Oceanography, England, gave a seminar on the geophysical studies at N.I.O. and the recent survey of King's Trough area of the North Atlantic.

The Society of the Sigma XI announced through the Chairman of its Grants-In-Aid of Research Committee, Dr. Harold G. Cassidy, an award to Mr. Irwin D. Novak of Cornell University. This award has been made to Mr. Novak to assist him in his study of "Sedimentary environment and energy budget of a cobble-gravel beach". Dr. Cassidy, in making this announcement, stated "Sigma XI each year makes a number of grants to promising scientists at critical points in their research careers. We recognize that many needs are relatively too small for the large foundations to consider, yet to the scientist himself the need may be critical. It is to meet these needs that our research fund is maintained".



C.S.S. Hudson of the Atlantic Oceanographic Laboratory, Bedford Institute, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia is presently in Victoria where she is outfitting for her cruise to the Arctic. The program mainly involves geological sampling, underway gravity magnetic and seismics, biology and oceanography and will be completed October 15 when the ship is returned to Halifax.