

I N T E R N A T I O N A L A S S O C I A T I O N O F S E D I M E N T O L O G I S T S

NEWSLETTER

N° 71 FEB. 1984

E D I T O R ' S R E P O R T

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The journal continues to flourish and is attracting many papers at a steady rate. This year (1983) we have broken the record and received more papers than in previous years. 115 were received in 1983, 100 in 1982 and 79 in 1981. It is generally taking around two months for the Editors to process a paper, but the length of time is determined by the efficiency of the referees rather than that of the Editors. Perhaps here it would be appropriate to extend our thanks to the many referees who have reviewed papers for us over the last year. We are grateful for a prompt return of a MS from a referee; it helps to keep things running smoothly and authors appreciate an early decision on their papers. I am glad to say we have had to write

very few reminder letters to dilatory referees!! At the moment, it seems as if we are rejecting around 35-40 % of papers coming in. Once accepted and sent to Blackwells, then it is now between 7 and 9 months before a paper is published.

Having one Editor in North America is not giving rise to any difficulties or delays in the editorial procedure. I receive all new manuscripts, but those on hydrodynamics and bedforms, fluvial and aeolian facies, are sent to my transatlantic co-Editor John Bridge in Binghamton. Paul Bridges at Derby gets fewer manuscripts since he looks after the proofs and book reviews.

With regards to the content of papers received in the last year, there does seem a resurgence of interest in deep marine clastics and aeolian sands. Fluvial facies and bedforms continue to be popular subjects for research but relatively few papers are submitted on carbonates and evaporites. People seem reluctant to discuss papers published; only four discussions have been sent in over the last 15 months.

All in all, things are running smoothly in the editorial office and we hope this continues. Keep those papers coming in.

M. Tucker
Jan. 1984

A S S O C I A T I O N N E W S
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CANADA
(from B. Bornhold)

The following items of sedimentological news from the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada, were passed along by Colin Dunn of Saskatchewan Energy and Mines.

Publications :

Saskatchewan Geological Society : Special Publication No. 6 - Fourth International Williston Basin Symposium - Proceedings of a symposium held in October, 1982 (Eds. J.E. Christopher, J. Kaldi), 326 pp. The first edition of 1000 copies was soon sold out, and the first reprint is now available for \$40 (soft cover) or \$50 (hardbound), from the Saskatchewan Geological Society, P.O. Box 234, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2Z6.

Report 150 (\$15.00) "Sedimentology, Palaeoecology and Economic Geology of Lower Colorado (Cretaceous) Strata of West-Central Saskatchewan", by Frank Simpson, 1982. 183 pp., 6 tables, 25 plates, 40 figures.

Report 181 (\$4.50) "Potash in Saskatchewan", by Anna Fuzesy, 1982. 44 pp., 4 tables, 20 figures. Keywords : Potash, Mines, Devonian, Economic Geology.

Report 194 (\$15.00) "Geology of the Middle Devonian Dawson Bay Formation in the Saskatoon Potash Mining District, Saskatchewan", by Colin E. Dunn, 1982. 117 pp., 21 plates, 5 tables, 17 figures (10 in pocket). Keywords : Central Saskatchewan, Middle Devonian, Givetian, Dawson Bay Formation, Prairie Evaporite, Potash, Carbonates, Stratigraphy, Sedimentology, Diagenesis, Depositional environment, Structure, Rock mechanics, Paleontology, Geochemistry, Formation waters.

These publications may be obtained from :

Saskatchewan Energy & Mines
Publications Department
1914 Hamilton Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
CANADA S4P 4V4

Theses :

University of Regina, Saskatchewan

- 1982 : Crabtree, H. : (M.Sc.) Geological Models of the Innis Oilfield.
- 1983 : Walters, K. : (M.Sc.) Microfacies Analysis of the Glen Ewen Field, Southeastern Saskatchewan.
- 1984 : Ackhurst, M. : (M.Sc.) A Pore Geometry Model of the Mississippian Carbonate Reservoir Rocks of the Innes Field, Southeastern Saskatchewan.

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

- 1983 : Fay, I.G. : (Ph.D.) Paleoecology of Lower Silurian Bioherms, Manitoulin Island, Ontario.
- 1983 : Fensome, R.A. : (Ph.D.) Miospores from the Jurassic-Cretaceous Boundary Beds, Aklavik Range, Northwest Territories.

- 1983 : Halabura, S.P. : (M.Sc.) Depositional Environments of the Upper Devonian Birdbear Formation, Saskatchewan.
- 1984 : Wing, S.J.C. : (M.Sc.) Diagenesis in the Upper Cretaceous Frenchman Formation, Frenchman River Valley, Saskatchewan.

UNITED KINGDOM
(From P. Allen)

The British Sedimentological Research Group (BSRG) held its 22nd annual meeting on 21-23 December 1983 at Birmingham University. The meeting was convened by Dr. Ian Fairchild and attracted a record number of 375 registrants of whom nearly 80 came from industry. Over 100 geologists gave 10-minutes talks. As always, the meeting was lively and convivial with a pleasing amount of discussion.

BSRG has a policy of accepting all requests to give talks, so that young researchers have the opportunity to disseminate their ideas and gain experience in presenting their findings. As a result, to condense 103 talks into 2 days the convenor was forced to arrange parallel sessions of lectures. This tended to reinforce the unfortunate split of sedimentologists into two schools : a large group interested in clastics and tectonics, and a smaller group seduced by carbonates and evaporites. In view of the growth of sedimentology in Britain in recent years there appears to be little hope of breaking down this barrier within the science. The I.A.S. European meetings are important items on the calendar in this respect.

The growth of interest in the often complex links between sedimentation patterns and their tectonic controls was very evident at BSRG. Other particularly stimulating sessions were held on fluviodeltaic deposits, turbidites and storm deposits.

In order to more effectively promote BSRG field meetings, workshops or more formal meetings during the year, it was decided to form a small committee. Those interested in the 1984 programme should contact one of the BSRG committee, David MacDonald (BP, London), Mike Leeder (Leeds University), Trevor Elliott (Liverpool University) or Jim Marshall (Liverpool University). The annual meeting in 1984 will be convened by Ken Walton at St. Andrews University, Scotland. Future annual meetings have been arranged for Cardiff University in 1985 and Plymouth Polytechnic in 1986.

Some of the BSRG-sponsored events planned for 1984 are :

- 1) Storm sedimentation, 5-7 May 1984 : Discussion Meeting, arranged by Philip Allen and Chris Pound at the Department of Geology, University College Cardiff. The conference day (Saturday 5th May) will be followed by a field trip to excellent examples of hummocky bedding in the Devonian and Carboniferous of S.W. England on Sunday 6th May and Monday 7th May.
- 2) Late August-early September 1984 : Orcadian Basin workshop at the University of Cambridge, organized by Tim Astin.
- 3) 19-21 October 1984 : Volcaniclastic sediments workshop organized by Roger Suthren (Oxford Polytechnic). This 2-day meeting will be held in the Lake District, Cumbria.
- 4) Easter 1985 : 4th Cathodoluminescence workshop at the University of Edinburgh arranged by Dr. John Miller. This will be a 3-day event; the first day will be for training for new research workers.

For further information contact one of the BSRG Committee members.

FUTURE MEETINGS

April 11th-13th, 1984

U.K. (Manchester)

EUROPEAN DINANTIAN ENVIRONMENTS

Ashburne Hall, Manchester

We are pleased to enclose further details and booking forms for EDE'84. A final circular will be sent out a few weeks before the meeting. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact one of the organizers.

The conference fee of £5 covers the expenses of circulation and a contribution to the Abstracts volume. Richard Vaughan is acting as conference Treasurer. Please make all cheques payable to R.D. Vaughan, Conference account.

Symposium Volume. As outlined in the second circular, we have had to be very selective about the papers to include in the symposium volume. Invitations to contribute have now been sent out and we hope the resulting volume will be a balance between the general and particular in Dinantian research and will cover a range of geographical and subject areas. The volume will appear as soon after the conference as possible and is to be published by Shiva Publishing of Nantwich, Cheshire. If you have not been invited to contribute to the Symposium Volume, please do not feel offended. Remember there are up to 3 pages for you in the Abstract Volume and we are hoping to encourage publication of 'thematic issues' of other journals where relevant e.g. Geological journal, Scottish Journal of Geology. In addition, the Symposium Volume will contain a list of the contents of the Abstracts volume and details of how copies may be obtained.

Field trips. A reminder that there are three pre-conference field trips - see second circular. The deadline for bookings for the Derbyshire and North Wales trips has been extended to February 24th. To help us co-ordinate information, please indicate on the booking forms if you intend to participate in a field trip. The Palaeontological Association (Carb. Group) field meeting to the Midland Valley of Scotland takes place between 13 - 16 April. For details, contact A.R. MacGregor, Department of Geology, University of St. Andrews, Scotland, KY16 9ST.

A.E. Adams J. Miller
T.P. Burchette V.P. Wright

R.D. Vaughan

September 26-28, 1984

ENGLAND (London)

SEDIMENTATION IN THE AFRICAN RIFT SYSTEM

The African Rift Valley has become an increasingly important focus of sedimentological research during the past ten years. Much of the interest stems from a need to understand the context of major hominid and archaeological discoveries. Recognition of the significance of rift systems in global tectonic settings and in petroleum geology, has also stimulated considerable research.

Studies have been conducted for example, on such topics as : tectonic and volcanic controls of sedimentation; the sedimentology, mineralogy and chemistry of saline, alkaline lakes; fan-delta sedimentation; Cenozoic palaeolimnology; and palaeoclimatic reconstructions based on isotope geochemistry and palynology.

It is appropriate at this time to bring together those working in the Rift to discuss and summarize the current status of our understanding of rift sedimentation, and to present their results to a general audience.

A 3-day conference, SEDIMENTATION IN THE AFRICAN RIFT SYSTEM, is being planned, at which invited speakers from Europe, North America and Africa will present accounts of major research projects recently completed and in progress. The meeting will be broad in scope and structured to interest specialist and non-specialist alike.

Dates : September 26-28, 1984.

Place : Geological Society of London, Piccadilly, London.

Sponsor : Geological Society of London.

For further information, please contact :

Dr. Robin W. Renaut
Dept. of Geological Sciences
University of Saskatchewan
Saskatoon
Saskatchewan S7N 0W0
CANADA

Dr. Lynne E. Frostick
Dept. of Geology
Birkbeck College
University of London
7/15 Gresse Street
London W1P 1PA
ENGLAND

October, 1984

CANADA (Saskatchewan)

OIL AND GAS IN SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan Geological Society, Regina, Saskatchewan.

A proceedings volume will be published.
For more information, contact :

Dr. C. Dunn
Saskatchewan Energy and Mines
Subsurface Geological Laboratory
201 Dewdney Avenue East
Regina, Saskatchewan
CANADA S4N 4G3

September 2-7, 1985

SWITZERLAND (Fribourg)

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM ON FORELAND BASINS

A 3-day conference will be held on September 2-4th, 1985 at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. Its aims will be to highlight the crustal controls, tectonic and sedimentary evolution and economic importance of foreland basins. Post-conference field trips will visit Alpine foreland basins in Switzerland, France and Spain.

Papers are invited for the conference. Proceedings are intended to be published as a Special Publication of I.A.S. Further details will be circulated shortly.

Contact : Dr. Peter Homewood
Institut de Géologie
Université de Fribourg
Pérolles
CH-1700 Fribourg
SWITZERLAND

E R R A T U M

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I received the following erratum from the organizers of the Symposium publicized in the Newsletter n° 68 (June 1983), p. 10 under the Title : "Sedimentology of nearshore and shelf sands and sandstones".

"...We have found that inclusion of the word 'nearshore' has caused some degree of confusion for those who are responding to notices and the first circular. Because the symposium will be devoted entirely to shelf sediments and processes, and excludes the shore-nearshore

zone, we feel it would be more informative to exclude 'nearshore' from the title. In the second circular we are therefore referring to the symposium as the "Sedimentology of Shelf Sands and Sandstones"..."

M. Lerand

Editor

Cl. MONTY,
General Secretary