

Editor's Page

In our final number of the present volume we are presenting a roundup of geological interpretations based on the ecology of certain micro-organisms. These authors, together with those who have contributed in previous numbers of MARITIME SEDIMENTS, are collectively amassing a wealth of important information on the utilization of modern studies to the interpretation of past events in the earth's history. From the time plane of the present ecological framework, the events are being interpreted for the past million years. A proper time scale on zoning and evolutionary change is being assessed so that a reasonable chronological outline can be conducted for the ancient stratified rocks of marine origin. But the study must properly begin in the modern ocean, and in the lagoons, inlets, bays and estuaries of the present coastlines of the world. The studies must have both spatial and temporal control in order to assign a reasonable degree of reliability to the results. From here it is an easy matter to visualize the conditions of sedimentation in the vast basins of the past, and to unravel the record of geological events that form this interesting segment of world history. This is what the present program of these micro-paleontologists is about, and we are indeed pleased to make possible their presentation to you.

Some of our articles have been written by students under the supervision of their professors. Interestingly enough, many of these students are now professionally engaged in geological research and survey, and the preparation of their research for professional consumption has been of proven value. Our colleague George de Vries Klein has suggested that university staff encourage their students to submit resumes of their research studies for publication. This magazine would be most anxious to handle this interesting and valuable material. Some universities have submitted the work in a single package, and others as it appears. We shall accept the work on either basis; also we would like to see some more contributions from the staff researchers.

A number of workshops have arisen in the past few months and this may increase in magnitude as more disciplines strive to reach the basic researcher or worker in the given field. Conventions are becoming inordinately large and, although they have the advantage of presenting the greatest amount of information in a relatively short period of time, they do lack the facility for making easy personal exchanges feasible. The Hudson Bay Symposium, held last year in Ottawa, the numerous field meetings such as the Gander Conference in Newfoundland, Symposium on Recent Crustal Movements held in Ottawa and the Offshore Information Seminar presented at the Bedford Institute, Dartmouth, to the oil industry in connection with offshore exploration are fine examples of participants, who are directly involved in the area or discipline, assembling for the purpose of personal exchange, and contributing and gaining information. Workshops can be organized quickly and are fairly mobile. In fact the trend is to move them around the country to various centres engaged in the given activity.

As we go to press with the final number of volume 4 of MARITIME SEDIMENTS we received several manuscripts that could not be included in this issue. Therefore we are preparing for the first number of the new volume, several papers that will occupy most of the magazine and for this reason, certain standard sections may not be included. This number should be available shortly after the present volume is distributed, and we are most encouraged to see an immediate backlog of reports. It is fitting to report at this time the financial help received from nearly 400 supporters and a major publication grant by the National Research Council of Canada. Our readership continues to grow and the submission of professional and newsworthy items has increased, so that copy is reaching our offices at a better rate. This certainly increases the pleasure of assembling and distributing the journal. We look forward to keeping you posted on activities of professional concern along the Atlantic and Appalachian trends.

B. R. PELLETIER, Editor.