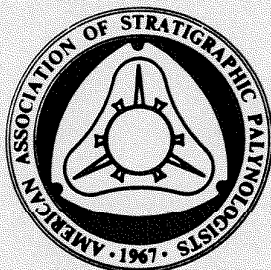


July, 1991
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AASP NEWSLETTER

DEPT. GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY
L.B. 8149
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
STATESBORO, GA. 30460
Attn: F. Rich





AASP NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Inc.

VOLUME 24:3 JULY, 1991
ISSN 0732-6041 F.J. RICH, EDITOR

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Election results for the 1991-1992 Board of Directors are announced as follows:

President-elect:	Robert L. Ravn
Treasurer:	Gordon D. Wood
Managing Editor:	David K. Goodman
Directors-at-large:	Sarah P. Damassa Arthur R. Sweet

The new Board will be installed during the annual Business Luncheon, which is scheduled on the final day of the 1991 annual meeting in San Diego (Wednesday, October 23).

John Wrenn will begin his term as President, Barbara Whitney will serve as Past-President (a one-year term), and Eileen Williams and Nairn Albert will continue their terms as Directors-at-Large (second year of a two-year term).

Judi Lentini (Past-President), Norrie Robbins and Len Eames (Directors-at-Large) will have completed their terms when the new Board members are installed. Many thanks to Judi, Norrie, and Len for their efforts on behalf of all of us!

Barbara Whitney, President

SEE YOU IN SAN DIEGO!

Preparations for the Annual Meeting are proceeding right on schedule. I wanted to pass along a few items for your information. This meeting will definitely be one you will not want to miss!

Symposia. This year we are planning two very timely symposia. The meeting will commence Monday morning with the symposium entitled *Palynology and Sequence Stratigraphy: A Reconstruction of Depositional Systems*. As a slight change to the program, we are fortunate to have Dr. Henry Posamentier (Arco) as our keynote speaker; he will present a paper coauthored with Dave Goodman. Five interesting talks addressing palynological applications in sequence stratigraphy will round out the session.

Tuesday morning will begin with our second symposium entitled *Global Climate Change: A Palynological Perspective*. The session will start off with a keynote address by climate-modeler Eric Barron (Penn State University), and be followed by seven presentations focusing on climatic change from the Late Tertiary to Recent as reflected in the palynological record.



Joint Session. A half-day joint session of talks with the Paleontological Society, presenting the theme *Devonian Nonmarine to Marine Correlation*, will be held at the GSA Annual Meeting (time still uncertain). The GSA is meeting in the Convention Center, an easy walk from our hotel.

Technical Sessions. We are now in the process of organizing the titles/abstracts we have received into Technical Sessions. The Poster Session will run for the entire meeting.

Icebreaker. Don't forget that this year we are holding the Icebreaker Sunday evening, before the meeting begins. You can register Sunday afternoon, and enjoy a fun-filled evening by the pool with drinks/hor d'oeuvres, and a mariachi band!

Car Rental. For those of you who need a car before, during, or after the meeting, Hertz has offered us some very good rates. Information will be included in your registration packet.

Getting to San Diego. Most airlines serve San Diego, so if you check around, book early, and, perhaps, stay a Saturday night before or after the meeting,

you can get reasonable fares. (We found no real advantage or savings in designating an official airline.) For reference, Los Angeles Int'l. Airport (LAX), the major air travel hub for the region, is 125 mi. north of San Diego. As an alternative, you can also travel to San Diego by train (Amtrak), which has a station very near the hotel.

Registration Packet. Your registration materials will be sent to you in August. The packet will include information on the GSA Annual Meeting pre-and post meeting field trips, short courses, and workshops. We have planned three interesting short trips/tours for spouses. Very important -- The enclosed Holiday Inn On-the-bay reservation card will need to be returned to the hotel as soon as possible to hold your room during this busy period.

New Fax number. The fax number for Roger Witmer has changed. The new number is: 714-577-1610.

Roger J. Witmer, Chairman, Organizing Committee

CLASSIFICATION OF PALYNOLOGICAL ORGANIC MATTER

The Open Workshop of Organic Matter Classification (University of Amsterdam, 27-28 June 1991) was convened in order to develop a standardized system for describing and classifying organic matter observed in palynological preparations. Workshop participants resolved to publish a standard classification within three years. The publication will consist of a color photoatlas with text. Clear, practical definitions for all categories and terms will be used.

Although the Workshop was attended by only a small proportion of the palynological community (72 workers from 20 countries), a wide diversity of views was presented and discussed. A classification framework was established by voting on a variety of proposals from the floor. The collective view of the participants was that the creation of new jargon should be avoided, and that the classification should be hierarchical (i.e., include different levels of complexity suitable for different applications). The view was taken that the basic classification should be based upon transmitted white light, but should incorporate additional resolution for those with routine access to fluorescence and/or incident white light illumination.

A number of working groups were established in order to better define and understand not only the processes (e.g., preservation and thermal maturation) that directly affect the visual appearance of organic matter, but also to identify types of

organic matter that are difficult to work with (e.g., amorphous material) and areas of overlap with other disciplines (e.g., organic petrology and geochemistry). The preliminary names of the working groups and their convenors are listed below. A second Workshop has been proposed to be held in June 1992 in Bergen, Norway, to consider revision of the classification framework in light of the findings of the working groups. An international committee chaired by M. A. Lorente (Amsterdam) was set up to coordinate the project: D.J. Batten (Aberystwyth, Wales), J. F. Raynaud (SNEA, Pau, France), W. Riegel (Tottenham, Germany), R. V. Tyson (Newcastle Upon Tyne, England) and R.J. Witmer (Unocal, Brea, U.S.A.).

The framework proposed by the Workshop is not a final product, and the Committee does not wish to prejudice its chances by premature publication. All those who would like to see a copy of the provisional classification, or would like to become actively involved in any of the working groups, or who would be willing to submit photographic material for potential inclusion in the Atlas are urged to contact members of the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

R. V. Tyson

PROPOSED WORKING GROUPS

Environmental Relations of Organic Matter Types (taphonomy, biological affinity and modern sediments) Convenor: Bob Spicer

Standards in Preparation Methods (including sample processing) Convenor: H. Kerp

Definitions Convenor: R. V. Tyson

Degrees of Preservation Convenor: V. Eileen Williams

Organic Petrology Terminology Convenor: John Marshall

Geochemistry Convenor: P. van Bergen

Thermally Altered Materials Convenor: R. J. Witmer

Incident Light (Fluorescent and White Light) Level Convenor: M. E. Collinson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP IN TROPICAL PALEOECOLOGY is available in the Department of Geography, University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Project seeks to reconstruct the history of forest clearance, agriculture, fires, and other natural and cultural disturbances in Costa Rican rainforests based on the analysis of microfossils in sediment cores from lakes and swamps. Requirements: B.S./B.A. or M.S./M.A. in geography, ecology, biology, geology or related field, and admission to the graduate program in Geography. Relevant laboratory/field experience helpful but not required. Student will have the opportunity to write M.S. or Ph.D. thesis on some aspect of the research. This is a 2 year position with possibility of extension; starting date is January 1992. Interested applicants should immediately contact Dr. Sally Horn, Department of Geography and Graduate Program in Ecology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-1420. Phone: (615) 974-6025. E-mail: shorn@utkux1.utk.edu. UTK is an EO/AA Employer.

NEW VIDEO

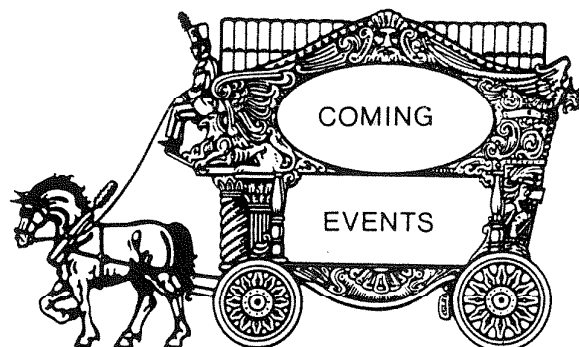
Scientists from the Geological Survey of Canada's Institute of Sedimentary and Petroleum Geology in Calgary, in cooperation with Rogers Cable Television in Calgary, have produced a video entitled "Life In the Balance: the Study of Extinction" (29 min.). The video highlights the research of two ISPG geologists concerned with mass extinctions and modern environmental crises.

The video project originated because of scientists' concerns about Global Change and the importance of bringing local scientific work to the public. It was completed over the course of 2 years with a budget of only \$1500. The partnership with Rogers reflects the mandate of community channels to provide local programming. Scientists across Canada are encouraged to approach their local Cable stations to inquire about producing shows on their own specialities on a low-budget basis.

The video is judged to be suitable for Junior High through undergraduate education levels. Rogers will provide a copy, at cost, for non-profit educational purposes to anyone interested. In particular, it is hoped that **The Study of Extinction** can be aired as a public service by Cable TV stations across Canada. You can help by approaching local Cable stations and requesting that they air your copy, or buy themselves a copy of the video. Earth scientists and all others concerned with the global environment are encouraged to consider this approach to furthering the message of environmental protection and promoting science to the public. Contact Rogers

Community 10 Cable TV, 3003 Macleod Trail SW, Calgary, Alberta T2G 2P8.

Editor's note: Judy Lentin provided the above information, as well as a copy of an article from a Calgary newspaper which describes the video. Rogers Communication 10 TV is to be commended for relying on some real pros when they put this video together. Art Sweet, whom many of you know, is featured in it as he discusses the fossilized plant pollen which he has studied. Art tells the viewers that he has discovered that many plant species that disappeared 65 million years ago died off gradually, not all at once. Sweet believes a prolonged greenhouse effect caused by natural buildup of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, rather than a giant asteroid, may be the culprit. Those of you who were fortunate enough to attend the 16th Annual Meeting of AASP in San Francisco (1983) may remember the "debate" between Dewey McClean and Frank Asaro which centered on this very topic. It is interesting to see that such debates are still topical and being put before the public eye!



CRETACEOUS TO RECENT PALYNOLOGY AND SCENIC LANDFORMS OF THE OTWAY REGION, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

This excursion will include visits to major palynological and paleobotanical sites, many of international significance (including Isabel Cookson's Tertiary localities), a wide range of landforms and a good selection of vegetation types characteristic of southeastern Australia.

Organizers: The Palynological and Palaeobotanical Association of Australasia

Dates: November 21-23, 1991

For information please contact: Dr. A.P. Kershaw, Centre for Palynology and Palaeoecology, Department of Geography and Environmental Science, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, Australia 3168

August 24-25: Canadian Palaeontology and Biostratigraphy Seminar and Pander Society Joint Meeting. Vancouver, B.C. Details: M.J. Orchard, Geological Survey of Canada, 100 west Pender St., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 1R8. Tel: (604) 666-0409.

September 22-27: Carboniferous-Permian Stratigraphy and Geology (12th International Congress). Buenos Aires, Argentina. Language: English. Dr. S. Archangelsky, Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Av. A. Gallardo 470, Buenos Aires 1405, Argentina.

October 21-23: 24th Annual AASP Meeting. San Diego, California. Held in conjunction with GSA Meeting. Details: Roger Whitmer, UNOCAL Research Centre, P.O. Box 76, Brea, California 92621, U.S.A. Tel: (714) 528-7201.

October 21-24: Geological Society of America Annual Meeting. San Diego, California. Details: GSA HQ, Box 9140, 3300 Penrose Place, Boulder, Colorado 80301, U.S.A. Tel: (303) 447-2020.

Book Reviews

Methods in Quaternary Ecology, 1990, Edited by B.G. Warner. Geoscience Canada Reprint Series 5; Geological Association of Canada ISBN 0-919216-4442-0 (available from the Geological Association of Canada, Publications, Department of Earth Sciences, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland A1B 3x5, Canada. CAN \$20 plus \$3.50 p&p per book in Canada, \$5.00 p&p per book outside Canada.

This very useful soft-bound compilation might be more accurately entitled "Methods in Quaternary Non-Marine Ecology" because of its negligible treatment of marine environments. The book is otherwise reasonably balanced and provides up-to-date reviews (from *Geoscience Canada*, 1987-90) of freshwater algae (J.P. Smol), fungi (K.A. Pirozynski), bryophytes (J.A. Janssens), palynology (G.M. MacDonald), plant macrofossils (B.G. Warner), testate amoebae (B.G. Warner), freshwater sponges (F.W. Harrison), cladocerans (B.J. Hann), freshwater ostracodes (L.D. Delromé), non-marine mollusks (B.B. Miller and A.F. Bajc), beetles (A.V. Morgan and A. Morgan), vertebrates (C.S. Churcher and M.C. Wilson), and other fossils (B.G. Warner). The volume is well produced, illustrated (nice photomicrographs), and has a short but useful index (alas, with few

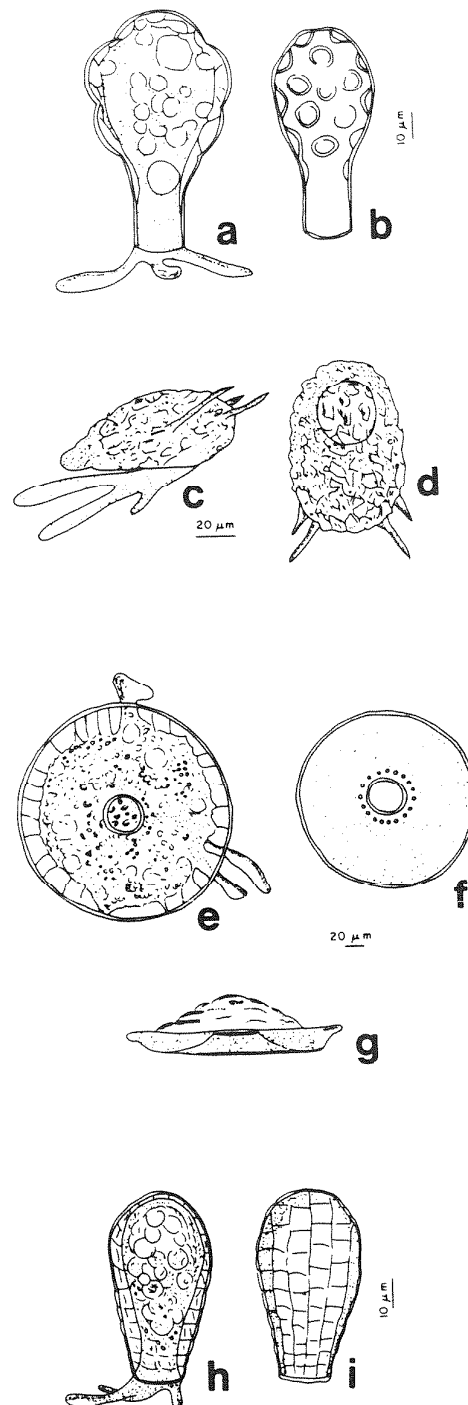


Figure 1 Locomotive and empty tests of representative testate amoebae found in peatlands showing features of the shell and pseudopodia. *Hyalosphenia elegans*, side view of (a) locomotive test and (b) empty test; *Centropixia aculeata*, (c) side view of locomotive test, and (d) oral view of empty test; *Arcella artocrea*, (e) oral view of locomotive and (f) empty test, (g) side view of empty test; *Quadrulella symmetrica*, side view of (h) locomotive test and (i) empty test.

taxonomic entries). I was particularly interested in the papers on freshwater algae (brief discussion of freshwater algal palynomorphs), palynology (mainly spores and pollen), fungi, and testate amoebae ('common microbes of soil and *Sphagnum* peatlands). The shells of some testate amoebae (also called thecamoebians) have organic (tectinous) walls and probably survive acid digestion. Warners paper shows some interesting morphotypes that could be worth looking out for in palynological preparations. Methods in Quaternary Ecology is a handy reference and a real steal at CAN \$20.

Martin J. Head
University of Toronto
Earth Sciences Center
Toronto, CANADA

The Extractive Metallurgy of Gold, 1991, J.C. Yannopoulos, Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, 281 pages. \$47.95

The Extractive Metallurgy of Gold is a 12 chapter book on gold ores, gold's physical and chemical properties, treatment of placer deposits and refractory ores, milling of ores, leaching of low-grade ores, recovery of secondary gold in solutions, cyanidation and alternative leaching reagents, melting and refining, and problems associated with tailings. Details of extraction are provided from many of the major gold processing companies in the United States, Australia, and South Africa. The book is intended as a reference for mine operators and prospectors, and as a textbook for metallurgy students.

There is also some useful information for palynologists, primarily because a group of gold deposits is associated with carbonaceous materials. Although it is well known that gold is solubilized by nitric + hydrochloric acids (aqua regia), it also forms complexes with other halide ions. This means that palynological preparation utilizing hydrofluoric acid will dissolve away some of the gold. Because Hg and As are often associated with gold-bearing carbonaceous rocks, acid treatment releases those elements as toxic gases--another good reason for working in a fume hood.

The sections that most interested me were on microbial processing of ore and disposal of cyanide after its use in solubilizing gold from low-grade carbonaceous ore. Environmentally-minded individuals and land-use planners can read how most of the cyanide is recycled and how the rest is eliminated by volatilization, photodecomposition, biological decomposition, or natural conversion to less toxic substances. The book is filled with similar

interesting information, and answers many of the questions you ask when you wonder about gold.

Eleanor I. Robbins
U.S.G.S.
956 National Center
Reston, Virginia 22092

Paleoecology: Concepts and Applications, 1990, J. Robert Dodd and Robert J. Stanton, Jr., John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, New York, 502 pages. \$74.95

This is a good book. I have always held the opinion that paleoecology as a scientific discipline consisted merely of the application of ecology to fossils. What follows is that descriptive ecology becomes a useful model for the description of habitats and evolutionary ecology becomes an arm-waving fairyland for adaptationist scenarios involving "strategy", "fitness" or some other anthropogenic character as applied to the fossil record. Paleoecology: Concepts and Applications is not like this at all. The text cuts through most of the marginal fluff associated with many textbooks and discusses topics based directly on the primary literature.

The bulk of the text is concerned with paleoecology of marine shelly invertebrates. To this extent the book is specialized and limited, particularly for the palynologist who might be interested in the paleoecology of phytoplankton or seed plants. The contents begin with a discussion of "taxonomic uniformitarianism" as it applies to descriptors of the marine habitat and proceeds through chapters focusing on geochemical aspects of habitats and organisms. The discussion of geochemistry of the physical environment is excellent. A chapter on adaptive functional morphology is then followed by ichnology and taphonomy. The final four chapters discuss supraorganismal level paleoecology, beginning with populations and finishing with biogeography and a chapter on temporal patterns.

So what can reading this book do for you and what will it not do? It will bring you up to date as of about 1980 with respect to ecological theory and particularly with respect to specific examples of the application of theory to a wide variety of paleontological examples. It will give you an immediate window directly into the primary literature on much theoretical and classical ecology in addition to paleoecological applications. Reading the text carefully will introduce you to those areas where there is debate about theory. You will be

warned about "... the relative importance of biological parameters such as competition versus the physical environment in determining community composition and structure" (p. 324). Being aware of such debate is extremely important in the interpretation of wholesale application of ecological theory to paleontological examples. The book will not treat you to the most recent developments in applied mathematics which have been used for paleoecological modeling (re: the work of Kitchell). It does not discuss non-equilibrium dynamics and chaos theory which are currently being applied to ecology, especially with respect to the biology of populations. These are not criticisms, however, since the thoroughness of the text does give the reader a solid and realistic foundation from which to proceed into more theoretical space.

If you want to grasp the essentials of ecology as a paleontologist and you have time for one book, read Dodd and Stanton. If you want a grasp of ecology for the purposes of understanding phytoplankton as a paleopalynologist, read Graham P. Harris (1886) *Phytoplankton Ecology* (Chapman & Hall, London). For a single shot understanding of the paleoecology of fossil terrestrial spores and pollen through the eyes of modern ecological theory... there is none. As the old song goes, "if you want any more, you can sing it yourself."

Paul K. Strother
Department of Geology
Boston University
725 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215

Quaternary Geology of Canada and Greenland. Nat Rutter and Mel Reasoner,
Department of Geology, University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2E3

The Quaternary Geology of Canada and Greenland is Volume K-1 of the Geological Society of America's Geology of North America series. In conjunction with other volumes of the DNAG (Decade of North American Geology) series, they provide a synthesis of knowledge of North American geology and geophysics in the 1980's. The Quaternary Volume is also one of the nine that comprise the latest *Geology of Canada* series published by the Geological Survey of Canada. The Quaternary Geology of North America and Greenland is a very well illustrated 845 page book that also includes a separate folio of 5 small scale maps of Canada that highlight details of late Quaternary ice extent and the status of Quaternary geological mapping. The Volume is a comprehensive, multi-authored review that provides an ideal, up to date, reference source for students and instructors

working with virtually any aspect of Quaternary studies.

Following a Foreword which outlines the development of Quaternary sciences and major areas of Quaternary studies in Canada, the book is organized into three main sections: Part 1, Regional Quaternary Geology of Canada, Part 2, Applied Quaternary Geology of Greenland, and Part 3, as described below.

Part 1 is presented in 6 chapters which cover Quaternary studies of the broad natural regions of Canada: 1) the Canadian Cordillera, 2) the Interior Plains, 3) the Canadian Shield, 4) the St. Lawrence Lowlands, 5) the Atlantic Appalachian region, and 6) the Queen Elizabeth Islands. Each of the chapters provides detailed summaries of topics which include bedrock geology, general physiography, vegetation and climate, style and timing of glaciation, nature of Quaternary deposits, Quaternary stratigraphy and history, palaeoenvironmental studies, and economic considerations. The first chapter covering the Quaternary geology of the Canadian cordillera for example, is presented in 18 major sections compiled by 7 authors resulting in a thorough and broadly based consideration of the region. Subsequent chapters in Part 1 are presented in comparable detail although they are organized slightly differently and generally fewer authors were involved.

For the first time, a volume of this nature has gone beyond the traditional bounds of geologic description and interpretation by providing a substantial portion specifically to the significance of Quaternary processes. The point is made in the Foreword of the Volume that "the Quaternary is the time period in which we live" and during which our environment developed, and consequently, a sound understanding of the Quaternary processes that have led to the modern geosphere and biosphere is prerequisite for rationally accessing the future impact of the activities of Mankind. In keeping with this theme, Part 2 includes six topical examples of applied Quaternary Geology in Canada: 7) Quaternary environments as documented by palaeobotanical case histories, 8) Quaternary geodynamics, 9) a survey of geomorphic processes, 10) terrain geochemistry, 11) Quaternary resources and, 12) influence of Quaternary on man's environment. These chapters provide interesting and informative overviews with an emphasis on the significance of Man's interaction with the environment.

Part 3 is divided into two chapters that present the Quaternary of ice-free land and adjacent coastal areas and investigations concerning the Greenland Ice Sheet. Chapter 13 contains sections concerning regional Quaternary geology, data from the Greenland continental shelves, sea level history, Quaternary marine and terrestrial ecosystems, and a summary

of the development of climate, glaciation, and oceanographic circulation. Chapter 14 focuses on the history of the Greenland ice sheet, a summary of data recovered from ice core and borehole analyses, and recent developments in dynamic modeling of the ice sheet.

The Volume is supplemented with 4 maps that focus on the status of Quaternary palaeogeography and one that highlights the status of Quaternary geologic mapping in Canada. Map 1702A entitled "Late Wisconsinan and Holocene Retreat of the Laurentide Ice Sheet" is a 1: 5,000,000 scale summary of the positions of Laurentide ice at various times during the last 18,000 years. Also shown on this map are major moraine systems and nunataks as well as named ice marginal deposits. Map 1703A is entitled "Paleogeography of North America". This is actually a series of 1:12,500,000 scale maps presented on three separate sheets that show "snapshots" of Cordilleran and Laurentide ice at 11 discrete times between 18 ka and 5 ka years before present. These maps also present the extent of lakes and seaways, past sea level elevations, ice domes and saddles, ice flow directions, regional ice divides and selected radiocarbon dates. Although details of the maps will need revision as research continues and data become available, they present an excellent regional overview of the major sequence of deglaciation events of the last 18,000 years. The spatial and temporal perspective provided by these maps is truly their best quality and cannot be realized by even the most descriptive text. Finally, Map 1704A entitled "Status of Quaternary Geology Mapping in Canada with Bibliography" presents the extent of detailed, inventory, and reconnaissance maps and the decade during which the mapping was done. Also included are locations of these, internal reports, and maps in preparation.

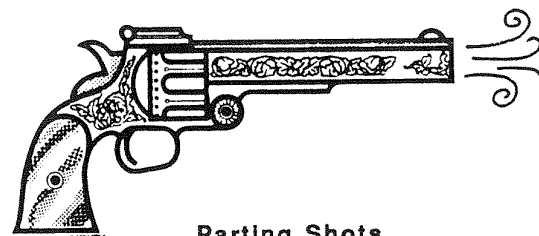
With such a large and detailed body of knowledge presented, the Volume is not an easy book to read in its entirety. For example, detailed descriptions of stratigraphy from areas that the reader is not intimately familiar with may be somewhat tedious to digest. Each of the 14 chapters of the book, however, begins with a summary of the material presented which enables the reader to preview the important points in a chapter. Another difficulty of an undertaking of this scope is that, due to the nature of scientific endeavors, there are bound to be differences of opinion concerning a number of lines of research, particularly those that are ongoing. In general, an attempt is made to present contentious issues as objectively as possible. For example, the chapter covering the Canadian Cordillera contains separate discussions concerning aspects of chronology and correlation for each of the three major regions of the cordillera; British Columbia, the

Yukon, and the glaciated fringe. Another common difficulty with complications of this scale is the inability to present a completely up to date assessment of the material at the time of publication. This Volume appears to be current to approximately 1987-1989 depending on the area of study.

A striking feature of the discussions of Quaternary chronologies in the first 6 chapters is the uncertainty concerning the sequence of events that occurred prior to the range of radiocarbon dating. These chapters also reflect the growing data base demonstrating that the Quaternary history of Canada and Greenland is much more complex than was originally presumed. This leads to the final point, that after considering this almost overwhelming pool of information, the reader is not left with a strong sense of the direction in which research is proceeding, or should proceed, in order to elucidate problem areas like the one mentioned above. A short summary section considering this would have been useful.

This Volume provides a complete and current review of Quaternary sciences in Canada and Greenland. The criticisms are relatively insignificant when considering the value of the book which will be of considerable benefit to those working in Quaternary studies who require comprehensive background information in specific areas or a general summary of the state of the science in Canada and Greenland. Further, the book is innovative in that it relates a number of lines of Quaternary study to issues and problems that face Canadians on a day to day basis. Unfortunately, at a cost of \$100.00, the book will likely be beyond the means of most students.

Nat Rutter
Mel Reasoner
Edmonton, Canada



Parting Shots

This is indeed my parting shot as I complete my term as Editor of the Newsletter. After two and a half years as Editor we (Dave Goodman and I) agreed that my tour of duty is over. I took this position from John Wrenn, who is to become President of the organization, and I must thank John again for all the help he gave me when I started this job. My sentiments, upon leaving the post, are much the same

as his were. This is a demanding job, even though it really only requires a great deal of effort four times a year. The demands exist, happily, because we are a dynamic community of professionals and something is always going on. If there were no activity there would be no news. And if there were no news, there would be no need for the Newsletter or the organization which it serves. If you look back over past issues of this Newsletter you'll see that it has changed appearances over the years, and each Editor has left his mark. We once carried a cartoon, and there have been periodic attempts to introduce technical papers into this publication. A few things have remained constant, though. The book reviews are still among the best and most informative you will read, and the Presidents make an earnest effort to provide us all with up-to-date news on current events and initiatives. The letters to the Editor have also always been a good source of information from those of you who are members.

The new Editor is Judith Lentin, and she will now have her chance to leave an impression on the Newsletter's colorful history. Please extend her the patience, help, and consideration you have given to me, and I am sure that she will find the job of Editor to be as challenging, enjoyable, and informative as I have. Her address is as follows:

Judith Lentin
Suite 700
665 Eighth Street, S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2P 3K7
Tel. (403) 264-0173
FAX (403) 262-1629

Fredrick J. Rich, Editor

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BALLOT FOR VOTING ON PROPOSED CHANGES IN BYLAWS

The ballot is the follow-up to proposed changes in bylaws discussed in the last issue of the AASP Newsletter (Vol. 24:2, April, 1991).

The first proposed change grew out of the Board's consensus that students should be assessed dues at a reduced rate, now that individual dues are \$30. There was no provision in the bylaws, however, to accommodate this category of membership. You are now provided the opportunity to vote on whether or not to establish the category of 'Student Member'; if the proposed change is approved by the Membership, the Student Member category will become effective in January, 1992.

- I. To amend the Bylaws by adding the category of 'Student Members', ☐ YES
which would be inserted as Art. 2.01 (b) (see below) ☐ NO

("Student members shall have scientific and technical interests similar to those of individual members; however, student members are persons who are in-resident undergraduate or graduate students at a degree-granting institution. Student status, as here defined, must be certified once a year by the student's faculty advisor or department chair. Student members will enjoy all the privileges of active membership.")

- II. To amend the Bylaws by adding an "s" to "Institutional Member," to read as follows:
"Institutional Members - Institutional members shall be those..."

☐ YES
☐ NO

- III. To amend Art. 2.02 as follows (new text underlined):

Election of Members

Persons, firms, institutions or organizations desiring membership shall submit their application, accompanied by their first year's annual dues (In U. S. dollars), to the Secretary-Treasurer. The Board of Directors shall have ultimate authority to determine applicant qualifications and classifications.

☐ YES
☐ NO

In compliance with the current bylaws, the proposed bylaws changes have been presented to the membership with six months provided for consideration and discussion. In accord with this schedule, the ballots must be returned by November 20, 1991 to the Chairman of the Ballot Committee:

Leonard E. Eames
Amoco Production Company
P.O. Box 3092
Houston, TX 77253 USA

UPDATE OF REVIEWERS FOR PALYNOLOGY

AASP's Editorial Staff maintains a file of members who have volunteered to provide technical reviews of manuscripts for **Palynology**. Periodically, we solicit additions and updates by way of a return-form such as the one that appears below. Members may assume that because they filled in and sent such a form once, they need not do it again. But a member's interests and research specialties can change over time. Our files now date back at least five years, and we must rely on more recently submitted forms to be sure that potential reviewers are still willing to provide the essential service of manuscript review.

Once again, we request that AASP members who are willing to review manuscripts send in a form specifying their areas of research competence. Please return the form if you wish to act as a reviewer, even if you have previously returned a form in the recent past. I am putting together an entirely new list of reviewers for my immediate use and I need this information from all members as quickly as possible. I want to have a list that spans the entire spectrum of palynological research, so please send in a form no matter how esoteric or generic your palynological interests might be. I appreciate your help.

David K. Goodman
Managing Editor
Arco Oil and Gas Company
2300 West Plano Parkway
Plano, TX 75075

REQUEST FOR REVIEWERS (August 1991)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Microfossil group(s): _____

Geologic Age(s): _____