

ALBERT W. BALLY — Biographical Review



Albert W. Bally was born in April 1925 in The Hague, The Netherlands, and spent his early years in Indonesia, Italy, and Switzerland. He received the Ph.D. degree in geology from the University of Zurich in 1953 and did post-doctoral work at Columbia University in 1953-54.

Dr. Bally was employed by Shell Canada in 1954 and was named their Chief Geologist in 1962. In 1966 he was transferred to Houston as the Manager of Geological Research at Shell Development Company. He was appointed Chief Geologist U.S.A. for Shell Oil in 1968, and became Consulting Geologist for Shell Oil in January 1975.

(3) Episutural basins located and contained with C-megasuture.

The proposed classification allows an overview leading to asking focussed questions when confronted with a relatively unexplored basin. It does not, however, allow its use for potential reserve forecasts leaning on analog experience or any other of the currently used methods for estimating potential reserves of large regions.

GEODYNAMICS AND HYDROCARBONS

(Abstract)

by: A. W. Bally

Using plate tectonics as a working hypothesis the surface of the earth can be usefully subdivided as follows:

(1) The Cenozoic-Mesozoic extensional scar of the oceans;

(2) The compressional equivalent: the Cenozoic-Mesozoic compressional C-megasutures of the world, which are mainly limited by A-subduction zones which dispose of continental (sialic) lithosphere and B-subduction zones which dispose of oceanic (simatic) lithosphere;

(3) The combined Paleozoic foldbelts represent the Paleozoic C-megasuture;

(4) The Precambrian foldbelts of the world represent Precambrian C-megasutures.

This tectonic framework allows consistent basin classification with 12 main types belonging to three families:

(1) Basins located within rigid lithosphere;

(2) Perisutural basins on rigid lithosphere associated with formation of adjacent C-megasuture;