attributed to the granitic intrusion. It is also possible that the granite is older, and that the isotopic age determinations date a thermal event. Biotite is easily recrystallized, and both the K-Ar and Rb-Sr systems could have been reset at approximately 190 million years ago. The Rb-Sr age on the feldspar is analytically less reliable than the biotite age because only two per cent of the Sr$^{+6}$ can be considered radiogenic. The feldspar age, however, places an upper limit of less than 300 million years for either time of emplacement or for a thermal event of marked severity, such as metamorphism at depth in the amphibolite facies. Such information as is available from wells in Mississippi do not support a period of regional metamorphism 190 million years ago; hence we favor, for the present, the interpretation of a granitic intrusion at approximately 190 million years ago.

The nearest known well that reaches granite is The California Company's Beeler No. 1 in Giles County, Tennessee, sec. 4, T. 15 S., R. 29 E. The feldspar from this granite has been determined to be 1,120 ± 30 m.y. (Wasserburg and others, 1962, p. 4032) and thus is unrelated to the Mississippi well.

The present cooperative project is a continuation of the A.A.P.G. Basement Rock Committee studies. Cores are being studied petrographically and are being dated by isotopic techniques. We would be grateful for, or information on, available basement cores.

REFERENCES CITED


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For about two decades there has been much speculation and increasing investigation of past climatic changes and their relation to paleomagnetism, possible polar wandering and continental drift. This is a vast subject and few agreements have been reached. The NATO Advanced Study Institute Palaeoclimates Conference, which was held in January, 1963, in Newcastle, England, did not decrease disagreement, but it did contribute to better understanding of divergent viewpoints.

The conference was organized jointly by the Departments of Physics and Geology of King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. This joint attack upon the issues had the great merit of bringing geologists together with physicists who have long been interested in paleomagnetic problems. S. K. Runcorn, a pioneer in paleomagnetic studies deserves credit for organizing the conference. His associates, A. E. M. Nairn and L. Ashley, also from the Department of Physics, were equally responsible for its success. The conference proceeded efficiently and smoothly. About two hundred scientists were present, including students, and a genuine international character was manifested by representatives from South America (Brazil, Australia, Asia (Japan and Korea), Africa (Southern Rhodesia) and of course Europe and North America. Although there were no East European scientists, Soviet paleomagnetic studies were summarized. The hospitality of Newcastle will remain long in the memories of the participants.

The significant accomplishment of the meeting lay in bringing together a great diversity of participating specialists, who presented a great

1 Manuscript received, February 7, 1963.
2 Walker Museum, University of Chicago.

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