the sediments during the Pertnjara orogeny in Devonian time.

The marine sequence consists of clastics, carbonates, and evaporites. They were deposited in shallow water, shelf environments as is shown by algal growths, biohermal and biostromal carbonates, abundant ripple marks and abundant cross laminations in sandstones, and by widespread coquinoid facies in Ordovician shales. Silled or barred basins with restricted circulation of marine waters existed from time to time during the marine cycle as is shown by salt deposits in the upper Proterozoic and Cambrian sections and by thick accumulations of dark shales with abundant pyrite in late Proterozoic and Ordovician sediments.

The marine cycle of deposition was terminated by the Pertnjara orogeny. This orogenic episode created a welt north of the Amadeus basin and a bordering foredeep whose depoaxis follows the present northern margin of the basin. Marine sediments were stripped from the rising welt, transported southward, and dumped into the subsiding foredeep where they now form a thick apron of poorly sorted, coarse clastic deposits.

Salt tectonics has played an important role in the growth of structures in the northern Amadeus basin. Thick salt deposits in the Bitter Springs formation of late Proterozoic age constituted a semi-plastic layer near the base of the Proterozoic sequence. Sedimentary loading on this layer produced flowage and initiated salt anticlines and salt domes. These structures grew during late Proterozoic and early Paleozoic deposition as is shown by crestal stratigraphic convergence and local unconformities confined to one structure. The evaporite layer also provided a "lubricated zone" along which slippage was localized during the Pertnjara orogeny, and it may be responsible in part for the large nappes and overthrusts along the northern margin of the basin.

The anticlines and salt domes initiated by salt flowage were formed early in the history of deposition and thus constituted potential traps for hydrocarbons long before the Pertnjara orogeny. However, folding during the Pertnjara orogeny greatly increased structural relief on the anticlines and thereby created traps having large volumetric capacities.

Two of these large structures have been tested with encouraging results. The Exoil-Magellan-United Canso groups have discovered a large wet-gas accumulation, possibly with an appreciable oil leg, in Ordovician reservoirs on the Mereenie anticline in the western part of the Amadeus basin. They also discovered a non-commercial gas accumulation in Proterozoic sediments on the Ooraminna anticline in the eastern part of the Amadeus basin. A third test of a small structure near the Ooraminna anticline encountered non-commercial oil shows in Cambrian sediments. In addition, the Australian Bureau of Mineral Resources discovered oil-saturated sands in Ordovician sediments penetrated by a well being drilled as a test for phosphates. With the exception of shallow water bores, no other wells have been drilled to date in this basin.

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GROSS SEDIMENTARY FACIES IN UPPERMOST CRETACEOUS AND LOWER TERTIARY SEDIMENTS, WEST-CENTRAL ALBERTA

Uppermost Cretaceous and lower Tertiary rocks in central Alberta include a sequence of largely non-marine sediments which crop out between the eastern provincial boundary and the Foothills belt. On the basis of subtle to obvious differences in lithology, stratigraphic relations, inferred environments of origin, economically important mineral deposits, and the order in which areas were mapped, the rocks were long ago subdivided into several formations, but relationships among units and between areas never were determined satisfactorily. Problems associated with the sequence are of stratigraphic, historical, structural, tectonic, and economic importance.

The marine Bearpaw Formation separates the Belly River Formation (below) from the Edmonton Formation (above) along and east of the Red Deer River and on the North Saskatchewan River. Westward, the Bearpaw thins, tonguing out in the subsurface a short distance west of Red Deer and Leduc. Where the Bearpaw is absent, the Edmonton lies directly upon the Belly River; the entire section, Belly River, Edmonton, and Paskapoo, is non-marine.

Following the lead of Ower (1958) and Elliott (1958), the authors have attempted to trace the Belly River-Edmonton and Edmonton-Paskapoo contacts into the subsurface by means of electric and sample logs. No usefully persistent stratigraphic units that might mark the contacts have been identified. Gross electrical characteristics that have been used for this purpose are not atisfactory.

Portions of the sequence (Brazeau and Paskapoo) that crop out in the Foothills belt include much more sandstone than units that crop out along and east of the Red Deer River. The sandier character of the western sequence is also evident in well logs. The change from more sandy in the west to less so in the east occurs through reduction in number of sandstone bodies, reduction in thickness of sandstone units, and reduction in sandiness of the total section. However, in the eastern part of the subsurface section, distinctly more sandy intervals alternate with distinctly more shaly intervals; the change in character of the sequence is not uniform throughout.

At this stage, it is not possible to establish satisfactory criteria which would enable precise correlation of the subsurface units with the eastern outcrop belt; but it is probable that sandier units crop out and shalier units occupy covered intervals along major river systems.

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CUBAN EVAPORITE DIAPIRS[1]

At least five rock sequences occur in central Cuba: (1) an igneous-metamorphic basement of unknown age; (2) a Jurassic evaporite-redbed sequence; (3) a Portlandian-Turonian orthogeosynclinal suite; (4) a Turonian-Eocene series; and (5) a post-orogenic Eocene-Recent sedimentary cover.

The Portlandian-Turonian orthogeosynclinal suite includes, from south to north, four facies belts: a eugeosynclinal suite, a transitional suite associated with the median welt, miogeosynclinal carbonates, and platform carbonates. During mid-Cretaceous and Eocene orogenies, the eugeosyncline was thrust northward, overriding the median welt and, locally, the miogeosyncline. The latter is deformed much more severely than the other belts.

Only four evaporite diapirs are known in north Cuba. These lie north of the median welt in Matanzas and Camagüey Provinces, and are localized by deep faults. Two diapirs penetrate the eugeosynclinal rocks at or close to the surface. Exotic blocks in these two diapirs include fragments of eugeosynclinal, median welt, and miogeosynclinal facies.

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