

faced in basaltic formations at p. 248, a note on inter-trappean and red bole bed and on problems encountered in developing wells in basaltic formation should be given.

A note on revitalisation of dug-wells, extension drilling methods to augment water supply in wells will add to the usefulness of the book. Most of the discussion on development relates to unconsolidated formation and there is very little discussion on the problems and difficulties encountered in hard rock formations. This is a deficiency which has to be made good if the book is intended to cover all aspects of water well drilling.

The book is a welcome contribution and is sure to benefit all those engaged in drilling for water.

Groundwater Survey
Dept. of Mines and Geology
Bangalore-1

S. JITHENDRA KUMAR

BASEMENT CORRELATION ACROSS THE NORTH ATLANTIC. J.-P. Lefort,
Springer-Verlag. 1989, 148.p., 77 figs. Price : DM88.

The geology of concealed continental basement in passive margins like the Atlantic has so far received little specific attention. With the advent of plate tectonics and offshore oil exploration, the Atlantic ocean margin has become the new focus of integrated geoscientific studies. The main thrust of these efforts is to reconstruct the pre-drift configuration of Pangaea. The main data sources are drill samples and dredge hauls which, through classical studies like petrology, geochemistry, stratigraphy and palaeontology along with geophysical data, throw light on the nature of concealed basement. The reconstruction of links between drifted continents has been made using palaeomagnetic criteria, bathymetric data, magnetic anomalies and geometry of transform fault zones. A synthesis of such data has resulted in the recognition of Grenvillean, Caledonian-Appalachian, Ligerian-Acadian and Hercynian-Alleghanian fold belts as well as identification of ancient plate sutures.

The book is divided into eight chapters each well-illustrated with large single-fold maps. The first chapter deals with study methodology and the next six chapters with individual fold belts. The last chapter discusses the tectonic mechanisms with emphasis on the type of sutures, subduction and obduction features, transcurrent shearing, transform faults as well as buckling, rotation and impingement of plates.

The author has painstakingly assembled a vast mass of information from multilingual sources and interpreted it cogently. The felicitous rendering of the text into English by M. S. N. Carpenter makes the book highly readable. The studies summarised in this volume have great relevance to the reconstruction of Gondwanaland through unmasking of concealed geology of the margins of its constituent continents. As a starter, the agencies concerned should synthesize the data on the continental margins of India.

Geological Survey of India,
A.M.S.E. Wing, Bangalore

M. RAMAKRISHNAN