

Book Reviews

GEOLOGY AND METALLOGENY OF COPPER DEPOSITS (1987). Special publication for *Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits*, no. 4, Springer-Verlag, pp. 1-592.

This includes a group of papers presented at a symposium on 'Copper Metallogeny' held at the 27th International Geological Congress, Moscow. The papers are grouped under four major heads: I. Deposits of Mafic and Ultramafic Complexes. II. Porphyry Deposits. III. Deposits of Volcanic-Hydrothermal Association, and IV. Sediment-Hosted Deposits.

The series of papers included in the I section on Deposits of Mafic and Ultramafic Complexes deal with Cu-Ni sulphide deposits in their physical and petrologic setting. Komatiite-associated nickel copper sulphide deposits have received particular attention. This section also includes a paper detailing the geologic setting of selected chromium and nickel deposits of China.

Guilbert has reviewed recent advances in porphyry base metal deposits. Metallogenic implications of the Central Andean Porphyry Copper Deposits are discussed by Sillitoe. There are several other papers, mostly by Russian authors on the geological setting of porphyry copper deposits of Europe.

The shortest section is the one dealing with deposits of volcanic-hydrothermal association. Base metal deposits of the Iberian pyrite belt, and deposits of the Caucasian region are described. Zoning in massive sulphide deposits is the subject matter of two other papers. One paper discusses barite, associated with volcanogenic massive sulphides from Japan.

Maximum attention is given to sediment hosted deposits. Role of diagenesis in sulphide mineralisation, geochemical aspects of stratiform, Red-bed copper deposits, major element geochemistry of the host rock in sediment-hosted copper deposits, environment of deposition of Zechstein copper-bearing shales from Poland, condition of formation of copper-bearing sandstone and shale, are some of the aspects which have received emphasis. Bogdanov has described major types of copper-bearing zones in the Soviet Union. Lambert *et al.* have described the diverse styles of sediment-hosted copper deposits in Australia. Results of recent exploration for copper-silver deposits in West Germany are detailed in another paper.

The publication of the Proceedings is an example of international cooperation. An acquaintance of different types of copper deposits is a prerequisite for search of new deposits and in this context the book is a valuable compendium of large volume of new information on the copper deposits of the world.

Our only regret is that the variety of base metal occurrence from the Indian shield does not figure in this compilation. Geologists from India should be enabled to take part in international conferences and present data relating to deposits from the Indian subcontinent which present certain unique features. A global coverage would make such compilations representative of the varying modes of occurrence and conditions of deposition of copper.

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