

3. Sconey Mobil No. 1 Moore well, in the extreme western edge of Pecos Co., Texas--This well penetrates approximately 1400 feet of the Castile banded anhydrite of the Delaware Basin, with the following overlying it:

2400 ft. (Salado) anhydrite, with thick beds of *salt*
(NaCl) intercalated between
350 ft. (Rustler) anhydritic dolomite
125 ft. (Rustler) anhydrite
550 ft. red sandstone
125 ft. red shale
75 ft. conglomeratic sandstone (the final, surface layer)

It will be noted from the above listing of layers, and from examining the map, that there is a great deal of uniformity of most of these layers which overlie the Basin and reef, when the thickness of a particular layer is compared over a wide area. (The distance from the Richardson-Eass #1 well to the Phillips #1 well is approximately 135 miles.) It is possible that some of the sandstone and shale could have been deposited by the Biblical Flood, since they are not composed of soluble substances. However, in the case of shale, rather long settling periods are required, since the (clay) particles of which it is composed are very small, and settle slowly.

To conclude this brief survey of the evaporites which are associated with, and cover the Capitan reef, we must say that, since the length of time required for laying down such a series of highly soluble compounds is entirely too great to be included in the history of man on the earth, we must reject the view of Nevins that the Capitan reef was formed either during or after the Biblical Flood. Any acceptance of such a great antiquity of man as Nevins' view requires, is not in keeping with either the Bible or with the chronology of archaeology. (Since Nevins is apparently not aware of the significance or extent of the evaporite coverings, it is probable that he is not intentionally implying a great antiquity for man. Nevertheless, this does not lessen the misleading effect it can have on serious-minded students.) Thus Nevins' article is one of many available examples of the trap which well meaning people have fallen into, when they have studied only one small segment of the strata of the earth, without considering the other parts which are related to it.