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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

August 1, 1988

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
U.S. Minerals Management Service
1340 W. 6th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Harry:

Did I know that you're in L.A.? Interesting news. Hope all goes well, old friend.

Just read with profit your paper (with Yoram) in Geology re reworking vs. regression. An interesting example of the phenomenon is my work on Black Sea sediment (AAPG Mem. 20, p. 386), where the glacial regression is marked by increase of reworked.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

/jb

4 November, 1986

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
1951 Kidwell Dr., Suite 601
Vienna VA 22180

Dear Harry:

Bruce Cornet's address and phone # are:

14222 Kimberley Lane, #411
Houston, TX 77079
713-558-5701

Wasn't it poignant that Jim Doyle got Bruce's "angiospermid-pollen-in-Triassic" paper turned down by AASP, but referenced the unpublished paper positively in his lecture Friday evening at the meeting (see also abstract)?

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Cosminov

1985





United States Department of the Interior

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Atlantic OCS Region
1951 Kidwell Drive, Suite 601
Vienna, Virginia 22180

November 16, 1984

Professor Alfred Traverse
Department of Geosciences
Pennsylvania State University
433 Deike Bldg.
University Park, P.A. 16802

Dear Al:

Thanks for your positive response to the Israeli Triassic manuscript. It has been submitted to Micropaleontology, and is presently undergoing review.

The paragraph you refer to on page 26 is unclear, and will be rewritten in the final go-around before publication. What Yoram and I meant to express here was that conclusive dating of Late Triassic Newark Supergroup strata is made difficult by two factors:


- 1) Many of the species in ^{restricted} ~~the~~ upper range to the Carnian in European localities apparently range into Norian strata in North America.*
- 2) Assemblages from the North American localities are numerically dominated by disaccate pollen of little age significance, making it difficult to isolate and identify the few grains per slide that might have age indicative value.

I see no reason why you will not be able to quote from this paper, once it has been accepted for publication and is in print.

As for your footnote regarding the "best student award", your suggestions are being considered along with other changes in procedures and definitions to be used in the future AASP awards.

* See also discussion, bottom p. 28, top p. 29.

Sincerely,


Harold L. Cousminer

P.S. Your correction of the spelling of Corollina torosa has been noted and is gratefully acknowledged.

6 November, 1984

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
U.S. Dept. Interior
Minerals Management Service
1951 Kidwell Dr., Suite 601
Vienna, VA 22180

Dear Harry:

Just finished reading with great care and appreciation your fine report with Yoram on the Israel Perm-Trias. I really appreciate your letting me have this xerox copy!

I have a few questions, requests and comments. First: what is the status of the report? Is it in press as an IGS publication, or what? I would like to be able to quote it in my forthcoming little textbook. Along those lines, I'd like to use info from figs. 3, 7 and 10 for a distribution chart. I hope your report is in press, so that this can be done with appropriate permissions and credits!

It should be Corollinattorosa. Cornet and I blew this, and nobody noticed our correction later. (Gender-required alteration of spelling from Classopollis torosus.)

I am somewhat puzzled by discussion on p. 26. Exactly what the conflict is between Dunay & Fisher 1974 and Cornet 1977 (presumably also Cornet & Traverse 1975) is not clear to me. Perhaps you can clarify--is critical for us.

Thanks in advance. And thanks again for your letting me see this. All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

P.S. I'm still burned about the AASP award. "They" need to clarify what they really consider, and they need to sharpen up their concept of "student", "academic program", etc. In my mind the fact that the winner's abstract does not list a university should alone have disqualified him.



American
Museum of
Natural
History

Micropaleontology Press

6 December 1979

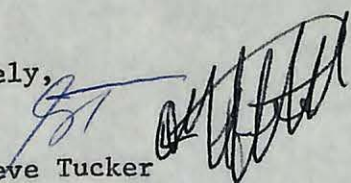
Professor Traverse
Pennsylvania State University
Palynological Lab
435 Deike Building
Univ. Park, Pa. 16802

Dear Professor Traverse:

I have forwarded your letter to Dr. Cousminer at his new address. Dr. Cousminer has made Aliyah, which, as you probably know, means to "step up to" or "ascend". His new address is:

Dr. Harold Cousminer
Geologic Survey of Israel
30 Malkhe Yisrael Street
Jerusalem 95501
ISRAEL

Sincerely,


Genevieve Tucker

XXXXX

3 December, 1979

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Dept. of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th St. & Central Park West
New York, NY 10024

Dear Harry:

As you probably know, I was chairman of the session at Dallas at which your paper was scheduled. I of course heard from your co-author that you have taken the plunge and emigrated to Israel. I think it was a good decision. Of course, we'll miss you here, but I expect you to "take a new lease on life" in the Promised Land, and I wish you all the best.

Perhaps we'll see you in Cambridge at 5-IPC?

Happy Holidays.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

PROPOSAL NO. EAR-7912664	INSTITUTION AMER MUSEUM OF NAT HIST	PLEASE RETURN BY
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR COUSMINER	HAROLD L	NSF PROGRAM GEOLOGY PROGRAM
TITLE PALYNOSTRATIGRAPHY OF EARLY MESOZOIC SEDIMENTS MARGINAL TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC AND GULF OF MEXICO BASINS		

COMMENTS (CONTINUE ON ADDITIONAL SHEET(S) AS NECESSARY)

Review of this proposal is a little difficult for me, as I am a (the?) principal ~~direct~~ competition for funds for ~~the~~ same work. This is also troublesome because my primary negative criticism is that although this sort of project should certainly be funded at the present time because of great importance of Triassic-Jurassic work, Penn State is a better place to locate the project than is AMNH.

The reasons for this evaluation, I hope, go beyond my personal desire for project funding:

1. It is not really practical for Harry Cousminer to have graduate students--indeed, now that he has no connection with Rutgers, it may be absolutely impossible. I note he does not contemplate having students.

2. The palynological work on which Cousminer (see pp.7-9) would base much of his research was all done at Penn State by Cornet, Dunay, other PSU students and me. Though we sent Cousminer much duplicate material, the collection is here. NSF has a funded interest in continuing the Triassic-Jurassic research at PSU where it has been done well in the past.

3. Cousminer's personal circumstances are too marginal for confidence that the project really will go forward as outlined. Last time I heard (telephone conversation) from Harry, herhaps 6 months ago, he was all set to emigrate to Israel. Whether he goes or not, his situation at AMNH is still marginal as of this writing.

Now for the proposal itself: This is a well written, succinct proposal--just the sort I like to review! Harry's proposed research plan is for the most part well laid out (although I am critical of some of the methods), and the work would make a nice contribution to an important field. There is no quarrel with the modest budget. Harry himself ia a pretty good, hard working scientist, especially during intervals when his personal problems are momentarily quiescent.

I do have some caveats with the proposal:

RATING: EXCELLENT VERY GOOD GOOD FAIR POOR

Verbatim but anonymous copies of reviews, ratings and associated correspondence will be sent only to the principal investigator/project director on request. Subject to this NSF policy and applicable laws, including the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC 552, reviewers' comments will be given maximum protection from disclosure.

REVIEWER'S SIGNATURE	REVIEWER'S NAME (TYPED)
OTHER SUGGESTED REVIEWERS (OPTIONAL)	

REVIEWER'S COPY

1. (p. 1 and elsewhere) The use of matrix from megafossils for palynology is a preliminary or desperate measure--the required lithological characteristics for palynomorphs are not the same as for megafossils. (A notorious paper based on just such samples widely advertized some years ago that palynomorphs are absent from Triassic rocks of North America, and stunted early growth in the field.)

2. (p. 4 and elsewhere) The poor palyno-stratigraphic control in the Jurassic alleged by Cousminer does not agree with my experience, though it is true that dinoflagellates, not just pollen and spores, must be used!

3. (p. 7) Cousminer's assumption that he will easily find good material in the Fundy Basin does not agree with my own and Cornet's extensive field work up there. Hafry seems unaware of the terrific problems in that basin!

4. (p. 8) Cousminer's proposed Texas work would be redundant of my student Dunay's Ph.D. thesis, which Cousminer does not reference, and of my student Tavera's research on Triassic cored material in northwest Texas. It is possible Harry doesn't know about this latter, as yet unpublished, research!

5. (p. 8-9) Cousminer banks heavily on duplicate slides and other materials sent him by Cornet when Cornet was my student here. Naturally, we have a better collection of these materials. It is really curious that Cousminer does not at this point reference Cornet's thesis at all, and doesn't even quote Cornet and Traverse's paper on the Hartford Basin at this point, where such references would be appropriate.

In summary, if NSF can fund both PSU and AMNH for this overlapping work, do so. If not, Traverse and PSU have a better claim to support.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20550

March 27, 1979

Dr. Alfred Traverse
Department of Geosciences
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802

EAR-7912664
HAROLD L. COUSMINER
REF: AMER MUSEUM OF NAT HIST

Dear Dr. ^{AL} Traverse:

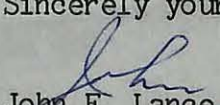
Enclosed is a research proposal that has been submitted to the Division of Earth Sciences of the National Science Foundation for possible support. As you know, the advice of the scientific community is paramount in helping us to determine which research requests should be supported. Accordingly, we ask your professional judgment in evaluating the enclosed proposal.

Your opinion of the scientific merit of the proposal is especially desired. However, we would be pleased to have you include any additional comments which you believe would contribute toward a proper evaluation of the proposal. The additional comments could include your opinion of the qualifications of the scientists involved, the adequacy of any laboratory facilities necessary to the project, and the appropriateness of the proposed budget.

I have also enclosed a statement of Foundation policy concerning confidentiality, release of verbatim peer reviews, and possible conflict of interest.

Thank you for your assistance in helping evaluate this research proposal for the Division of Earth Sciences.

Sincerely yours,


John F. Lance
Program Director
for Geology

ENCLOSURES

Harold L. Cousminer

Stratigraphic Palynologist

Curriculum vitae

Office address:

The American Museum of Natural History
Micropaleontology Press
79 Street and Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Telephone: (212) 873-1300 x 495

Private address:

110 Royal Drive
Apt 372
Piscataway, New Jersey
Telephone: (201) 968-0404

Messages may be left with Mrs. Landis
(212) 873-5056

Education

Born 1925, New York City. Educated in New York City public schools (graduate of High School of Music and Art). New York University. A.B. 1949; M.S. 1956; Ph.D. 1964.

Employment

- a. Gulf Oil Corporation; Paleontologist and Senior Research Paleontologist 1958-1966.
- b. The American Museum of Natural History; Research Associate and Research Fellow 1966-1969.
- c. Rutgers University (Newark), Assistant Professor of Geology and Adjunct Associate Professor of Geology 1969 to date.
- d. York College CUNY, Assistant Professor of Geology 1974-1976 (retrenched August 1976 because of N.Y.C. fiscal crisis).
- e. Queens College CUNY, Adjunct Associate Professor of Geology September 1976 to January 1978.
- f. The American Museum of Natural History; Research Associate September 1978 to date.

Experience (letters keyed to employment above)

- a.1 Devonian palynostratigraphy of Medial South America (Bolivia-Paraguay).
- a.2 Mesozoic-Cenozoic foraminiferal biostratigraphy of Central America and the Caribbean region.
- b.1 Founding member Paleontological Information Committee (1967).
- b.2 Co-investigator Liaison Information Project: The American Museum of Natural History and the American Geological Institute (1967-1969).
- b.3 Founder and co-editor of the Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology, produced jointly with American Geological Institutes GEO-REF system and published by Micropaleontology Press of the American Museum of Natural History (1972 to date).
- c.1 Late Mesozoic-Cenozoic palynostratigraphy of New Jersey Coastal Plain sediments.
- c.2 Palynostratigraphy of Georgia Kaolin deposits.
- c.3 Regularly conduct graduate courses in palynology in conjunction with Rutgers University (Newark) graduate program in Geology and currently supervising thesis research (four masters and one doctoral student).
- d.1 Member of the University of South Carolina's International Geological Study Team in Morocco, North Africa: Permo-Triassic palynostratigraphy of the High Atlas and the Moroccan Meseta.
- d.2 Summer 1975. Visiting scientist: Instituto Mexicano del Petroleo palynostratigraphy of diapiric salt deposits on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.
- d.3 Recipient: Faculty Research Award, 1976; Research Foundation of the City University of New York.

- e.1 Conducted graduate courses in stratigraphy and paleoecology.
- e.2 Conducted six week field mapping course.

In progress:

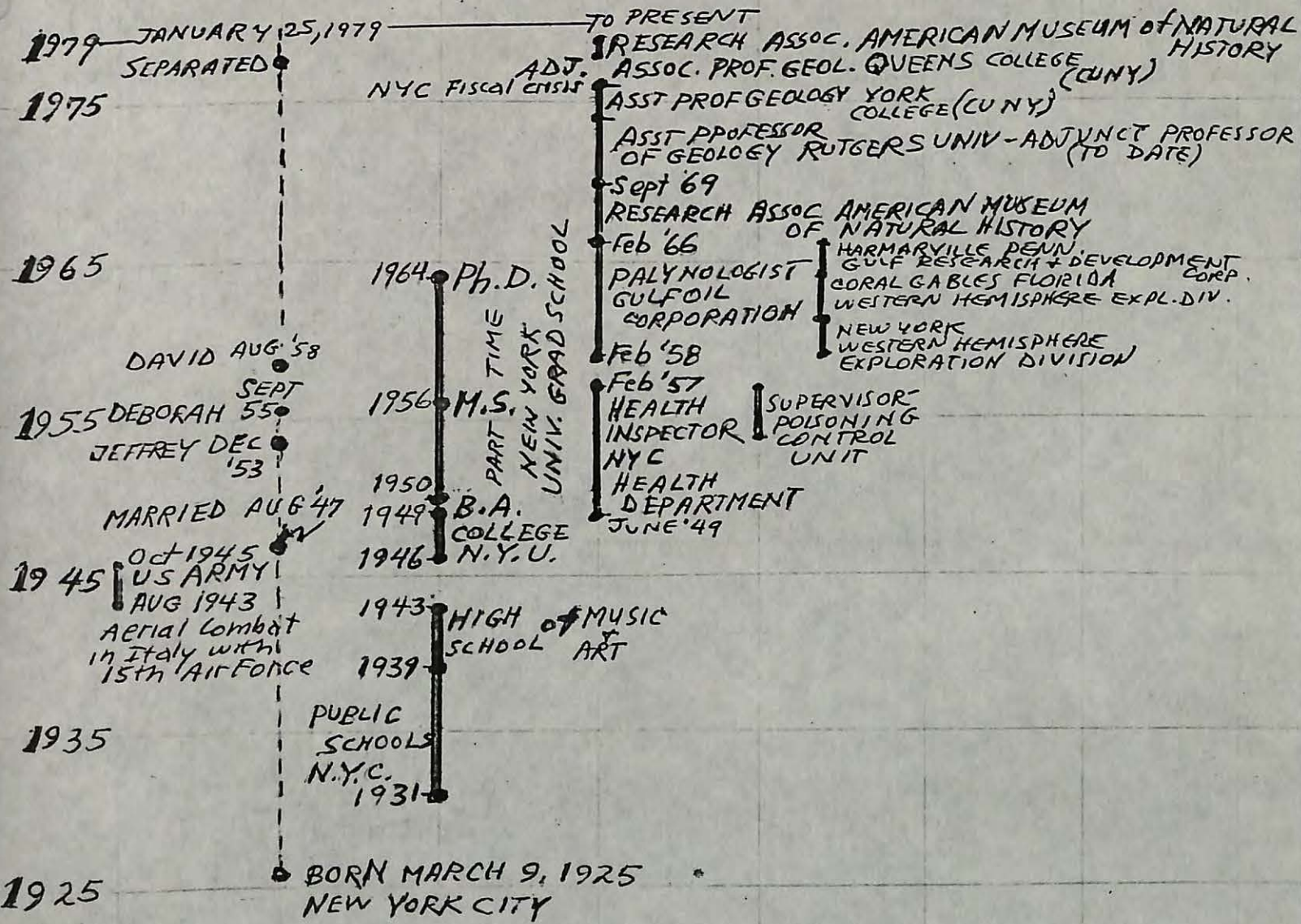
- f.1 Compiling a manual on Palynostratigraphy of the Atlantic Coastal Plain Sediments.
- f.2 With two students: Detailed palynostratigraphy of subsurface Cretaceous sediments of Staten Island.
- f.3 Investigating the significance of size frequency distributions of palynomorph assemblages.
- f.4 With one student: Devonian palynostratigraphy of Medial South America (Bolivia-Paraguay).
- f.5 With one student: Multiple component analyses of spore assemblages from Magothy and Englishtown formation outcrops in New Jersey.

MILITARY

PERSONALIA

EDUCATION

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE



Chrono-Vitae - Harold L. Cousminer Ph. D.

Scientific Papers of Harold L. Cousminer, M.S., Ph.D.

Theses

1956. Polymorphism in an Operculina population from the Paleocene of Saudi-Arabia. Master of Science thesis, submitted to New York University Graduate School.
- 1964 Devonian Chitinozoa and other palynomorphs of Medial South America and their biostratigraphic value. Doctoral dissertation, submitted to New York Univ. graduate school, 266 pages.

Reviews

- 1967 George F. Hart, The Systematics and distribution of Permian miospores. Micropaleontology v. 13 no. 1 p. 117.
- 1967 Maria Bianca Cita, Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Tertiary microfacies from the Southern Alps (Northern Italy). Micropaleontology vol. 13 no. 4. p. 514.
- 1969 Marjorie D. Muir and William A. S. Sarjeant, editors. vol 46, Palynology Part I Spores and Pollen; vol. 47, Palynology Part II, Dinoflagellates, Acritarchs and other Microfossils. Micropaleontology vol. 25 no. 1.

Pre-reviewed Publications

- 1961 Palynology, paleofloras and paleoenvironments. Micropaleontology vol. 7 no. 3 p 365-368.
- 1965 Permian spores from Apillapampa Bolivia. Journal Paleontology vol. 39 no. 6 pp. 1097-1111.
- 1969 A Micropaleontology Information System. Proceed. Geoscience Information Society, vol. 1 no. 2. p. 13-17.
- 1973 (with Julia Golden) A new product of GEO REF: the Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology. Proceed. Geoscience Information Society vol. 4 no. 1 pp 75-83.
- 1976 (with Warren Manspeizer) Triassic pollen date Moroccan High Atlas and the incipient rifting of Pangea as Middle Carnian: Science v. 191, pp. 943-945.
- 1977 (with Warren Manspeizer) Autunian and Carnian palynoflorules: Contribution to the Chronology and Tectonic history of the Moroccan pre-Atlantic borderland; in Swain, F.M. editor: Stratigraphic Paleontology of Atlantic Basins and Borderlands. pp. 185-204. Elsevier Press.
- 1978 (with Warren Manspeizer and John Puffer) Separation of Morocco and Eastern North America: A Triassic-Liassic stratigraphic record. Geological Society of America Bulletin v. 89, pp. 901-920.
- In Press: Palynology and Origin of Gulfian Salt: A Late Jurassic (Oxfordian) Desiccation Event. Geology.

Abstracts of papers presented at meetings

- 1959 (with John Lee) Polymorphism in littoral zone foraminifera from Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island. Journal of Protozoology, program abstracts of annual meeting.
- 1960 Palynology, paleofloras and paleoenvironments. annual meeting American Assoc. Advancement of Science, New York City, program abstracts.
- 1964 Biostratigraphic Value of Devonian Palynomorphs in Medial South America. Geological Society of America, Annual Meeting Miami Beach Florida, program abstracts p. 33-34.
- 1968 An Information system in micropaleontology, Annual G. S. A. meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, Spec. Paper 115, p.39.
- 1973 (with Fred Goldstein) Palynology of the Kirkwood Formation of New Jersey. Program Abstracts, 1973 Northeastern Section Annual G.S.A. meeting, p. 168.
- 1973 (with Barry Miller) Intraspecific size variation in some living and fossil foraminifers. Program Abstracts, New Jersey Academy of Science.
- 1973 Paleogene palynology of basal Coastal Plain sediments, Irwinton District Georgia. Program Abstracts, Annual G.S.A. meeting, Houston, Texas, pp. 584-585.
- 1974 (with Warren Manspeizer) Late Triassic palynoflorules from Morocco; Comparison with Eastern North America, 1974, Annual G.S.A. meeting, Miami Beach, Florida, p. 697.
- 1974 (with John Puffer) Titanium-iron oxide rich sands of the Kirkwood and Cohansey Formations, Central New Jersey. Ibid. pp. 917-918.
- 1976 (with Warren Manspeizer and John Puffer) Subduction, rifting and sea-floor spreading: A volcanic record in Morocco and eastern North America. Program Abstracts 1976 Northeastern Section Annual G.S.A. meeting, Arlington, Va. pp. 224-225.
- 1976 Palynoflorules of Jurassic Circum-Gulf salt: Age, environment, and source. Program Abstracts 1976 Annual meeting, The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Halifax, Canada, p. 5.
- 1976 (with Warren Manspeizer) An Autunian palynoflorule from Khenifra on the Moroccan Meseta, Ibid.
- 1976 (with Warren Manspeizer) Crustal thinning: A precursor to the breakup of Pangea and the opening of the Atlantic Ocean. Program Abstracts Annual G.S.A. meeting, Denver, Colorado, pp. 995-996.
- 1978 Variation in size frequency distribution of fossil palynoflorules, a sedimentological approach. Tenth International Congress on Sedimentology, Jerusalem July 9-14, 1978 Program Abstracts, Volume A-L, p. 154.
- 1979 (with Stephen Connors) The Staten Island (N.Y.) Cretaceous Coastal Plain: Palynostratigraphy and Sedimentology. G.S.A. annual meeting (N.E.section) Hershey, Penn., Program Abstracts.
- 1979 (with Stephen Grosso) The New Jersey Cretaceous Coastal Plain: Principal Coordinates analyses of spore assemblages. G.S.A. annual meeting (N.E.section) Hershey, Penn., Program Abstracts.

Founding editor of The Bibliography and Index of
Micropaleontology

History

In 1970-1971 Dr. Harold L. Cousminer, in cooperation with the American Geological Institute, planned and carried out the joint production of a new specialized bibliography, the Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology. This is a monthly publication of the American Museum of Natural History, Micropaleontology Press, produced from print-out of the American Geological Institutes GEO-REF file. Seven volumes have been published to date including 84 monthly issues (1972-1978). The publication is distributed to subscribers throughout the world. Edited by Dr. Cousminer with Julia Golden (1972-4), Judy Booth (1975) and Ruth Manoff (1975 to date), coordinated with Dr. Ghassan Rassam, Editor-in-Chief of GEO-REF.

1972 The Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology vol 1, no. 1-12.
212 pages of 3000 citations, 236 page subject index.

1973 The Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology vol 2 no. 1-12.
223 pages of 3122 citations, 356 page subject index.

1974 The Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology vol 3 no. 1-12.
222 pages of 3108 citations, 366 page subject index.

1975 The Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology vol 4 no. 1-12.
189 pages of 2646 citations, subject index in computer file.

1976 The Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology vol 5 no. 1-12.
122 pages of 2440 citations, subject index in computer file.

1977 The Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology vol 6 no. 1-12.
125 pages of 2500 citations, subject index in computer file.

1978 The Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology vol 7 no. 1-12.
130 pages of 2600 citations, subject index in computer file.

Unpublished reports of Harold L. Cousminer

1957- Private consulting:

- 1) Palynology of core samples from Dhofar and Bharein (Permian) for Cities Service Co.
- 2) Palynologic correlation of Kobnaswaso and Epunsa wells, Ghana, marine and continental Upper Cretaceous and Paleogene sections for Gulf Oil Corp.

1958- Employee of Gulf Oil Corp. Western Hemisphere Exploration Division.

60- 1) Devonian palynostratigraphy of Bolivia and Paraguay. Reports on: Wells

Mendoza-1, Paraguay; Cerro Boya-1, Bolivia; Mitaigua-1, Bolivia; El Cedro-1, Bolivia; Izozog Water Wells (21 wells).

Surface Samples

Several hundred surface samples from Pojo Mountain and the Pojo-Santa Cruz highway. This study was later expanded to a doctoral dissertation.

- 2) Palynology of the Wyoming Basin Cretaceous.
- ** 3) Palynology of core samples from Tina no.1 and 2 wells, Cuba. These date salt deposits and redbeds in the Punta Alegre Formation (see Meyerhoff and Hatten, 1968, p.327).
- 4) Orbitoidal and planktonic foraminiferal limestones studied in thin-sections and residues from Cay Sal well, Bahamas; and surface samples from Panama and Costa Rica.

1960-63- Employee of Gulf Oil Company, continued. Director of Paleontology laboratory at Coral Gables, Florida.

During this time completed about 20 internal reports based on studies of planktonic foraminiferal assemblages and larger forams (orbitoidal species) both in thin sections of limestones and in concentrated residues (both from subsurface and surface samples from Costa Rica and Panama)
The following palynologic reports were completed:

- 1) Surface samples from Apillapampa, Bolivia (Permian). This was later published in the Journal of Paleontology (1965).
- 2) Samples from the Moonie no.1 well, Western Australia. (Jurassic-Cretac.)
- 3) Well samples from Nigeria- (Upper Cretaceous - Paleogene).
- 4) Surface samples of Agua Fresca Shale, Chile. (Lower Tertiary)
- 5) Well samples from two wells in Surinam (Paleogene).

1964-66- Gulf Oil Co., continued: While a research paleontologist of Gulf Research and Development Co., Harmorville, Pa. Completed internal reports on the following:

- 1) Palynologic correlation of Miocene cores from two Gulf Coast wells (Louisiana).
- 2) Well samples and surface samples from the Orito Basin, Colombia-Ecuador-palynologic and foraminiferal study.
- 3) Palynology of Carboniferous samples from the North Sea.
- 4) Surface samples from the Paleocene of Turkey (planktonic foraminifers)

Unpublished reports of Harold L. Cousminer (Continued)

- 5) Initial results of palynological investigation of crude oils.

1966-69-While at the American Museum of Natural History I received a grant from the National Science Foundation (as Principal Investigator) to develop compatible formats for recording paleontological information from many institutions for a centralized machine storage and retrieval (computer-based) information system. Three reports were written and distributed to Paleontological Information Committee members during this period. As a result of this project:

- 1) Developed major field subdivision format and subject descriptors for a micropaleontology bibliography (citation listing conventions and subject index terms) to cover the worldwide literature in micropaleontology. These were adopted by the American Geological Institute for use in the Geological Society of America's GEO-REF computer file.
- 2) Designed the print-out format for the Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology, which is now used to cite all current literature in micropaleontology on a monthly basis. This covers all microfossil groups and subject fields.

The following palynologic reports were also completed by me as a consultant:

- * 1966-1) Dating of salt cores from Tehuantepec, Mexico for Atwater and Cowan Associates (see summary published by Contreras and Castillon, 1968)

1969 to

- date-2) Tertiary of Colombia-for Louis Weeks Associates
 3) Abu Dhabi well study-Permo-Triassic for Mobil Oil Company.
 4) Palynostratigraphy of Cretaceous and Tertiary of the Atlantic Coastal Plain-in connection with Nuclear plant foundation studies for Dames and Moore and Burns and Roe engineering consultants (The results of ten projects were reported in various memoranda).

- * Cousminer, H.L. 1968; In Contreras, H. and Castillon, M.; Morphology and Origin of Salt Domes of Isthmus of Tehuantepec, In Braunstein, J. and O'Brien, G. eds.; Diapirism and Diapirs: Amer. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Memoir 8:244-260.

- ** Cousminer, H.L., 1968; In Meyerhoff, A.A. and Hatten, C.W., Diapiric structures of Central Cuba, In Braunstein, J. and O'Brien, G. eds.; Diapirism and Diapirs: Amer. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Memoir 8:327.



American
Museum of
Natural
History

January 30, 1979

Micropaleontology Press

Dear Al

Thanks for the telephone visit. It helps. Hope to see you at Hershey in March. In case someone wants to know what I've been up to, I am enclosing up-to-date vitae.

I am in the throes of revising an NSF proposal that must be in by Friday. Hope that all goes well with you and Betty, etc.

Sincerely and with
fond regards -

Harry Cousminer

24 March, 1978

Dr. Harold Cousminer
Amer. Museum of Natural History
Dept. of Micropaleontology
Central Park West at 79th St.
New York, NY 10024

Dear Harry:

Betty and I were excited by your postcard from Jerusalem. That would be interesting indeed to have you over there. I might even visit you one of these years. Have you thought of contacting Bob Dunay for an opinion? He considered seriously taking such a job himself a while back. Then of course there is Gil Brenner, who worked there for a year and might have some reactions of interest.

I certainly wish you all the best and hope that your plans work out. Keep me posted.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

30 January, 1978

Dr. John Van Couvering
Micropaleontology Press
The American Museum of Natural History
79th St. and Central Park West
New York, NY 10024

Dear Dr. Van Couvering:

I have heard that Dr. Harold L. Cousminer has applied to you for appointment as Research Associate at AMNH. This was a little startling to me, as I thought Dr. Cousminer has had such a position for years in the Dept. of Micropaleontology. Perhaps "re-appointment" is the correct language?

In any event, "Harry" is a very talented palynologist who, despite various domestic handicaps, has been quite productive in two areas with which I also have contact-- palynological information storage and retrieval, and Triassic-Jurassic palyno-stratigraphy. He has made valuable contributions in both areas.

It would be tragic if Harry did not have some base for palynological operations--and AMNH should certainly have a paleopalynologist around. Sounds like a good match of needs to me. I very much respect and like Harry and his work as paleopalynologist, and hope you will be able to continue his long-standing relationship with the American Museum. It would be a loss to science if this were not possible.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

The American Museum of Natural History

Central Park West at 79th Street New York, New York 10024 (212) 873-1300



MICROPALEONTOLOGY PRESS

January 16, 1978

Dear Al

I am applying for the position of Research Associate at the American Museum of Natural History in order to continue my research activities here as a staff member, and utilize the museum as an institutional base. I would be very grateful to you for a supporting letter commenting on my research and teaching capabilities. Please address the letter to:

Dr. John VanCouvering
Micropaleontology Press
The American Museum of Natural History
79 Street and Central Park West
New York, New York 10024.

Thank you very much, and best regards.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Cousminer
Harold L. Cousminer

Dear Al: Van Couvering is now taking Saito's place. I consequently have to rejustify my position here at the Museum. A note from you on my research activities & potential would be most helpful. I hope all is well with you and yours. Best regards
Harry Cousminer

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEIKE BUILDING
UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

College of Earth and Mineral Sciences
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratories

Area Code 814
865-6543
865-2342

15 September, 1976

J. H. L. Cousminer
American Museum of Natural History
Micropaleontology Department
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Thanks for yours of 1 September. What a shock! Unfortunately, I'm not much help, I fear, though I'll keep you in mind!

Bruce is nearly done, but frustratingly easily diverted -- and no job in sight.

Wild idea -- how about an overseas job with one of our government's teaching boondoggles?

Regards and assurances of my profound concern (and understanding of how completely useless that is.)

Yours very truly,

AT

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/mjt

The American Museum of Natural History

Central Park West at 79th Street New York, New York 10024 (212) 873-1300



MICROPALAEONTOLOGY PRESS

September 1, 1976

Dear Al:

The boom was lowered and 1100 city university people have been "retrenched" including yours truly. Somewhat late in the year to be looking for a fall teaching job, wouldn't you say? I know that the market is not the best, whether industrial or academic, and you owe your students first licks, but perhaps you have some leads? How is Bruce progressing? He should be close to completion? If you know of any possibilities, however slight, please let me know. I am ready to travel anywhere, if need be, and will not be choosy about oil company work, although I prefer to teach. Best regards to the family - hope they are all well!

As ever!
Harry Cousminer

P.S. Will see you in Halifax

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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"
= "Cons. letter"
per slides from Bruce.

20 April 1976

Dr. Harold Cousminer
American Museum of Natural History
Department of Micropaleontology
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, N.Y. 10024

Dear Dr. Cousminer,

Enclosed in this package you will find sixteen microscope slides, three of which represent localities from the Lunzer Schichten of Austria (collected by Robert Dunay, 1970), one of which is from the Tecovas Fm., Dockum Group (Dunay thesis material), and twelve from the Newark Supergroup. Please consider the material from the Newark Supergroup as privileged information at least until I complete my thesis. Should you wish to use any of the Newark material before then, contact me and we can probably work out an agreement. I intend to publish on most or all of my Newark palynoflorules, but the job will be a big one, and I might welcome any help. Since you have taken a professional interest in the Triassic, we might want to publish together on a few palynofloras, etc. in the future.

List of slides enclosed:

Lunzer Schichten, shale above main coal, sample 12A, Schrambach Coal Mine, Austria, sample contained abundant megafossil plants.

Lunzer Schichten, coal RD-3, Sois b, Kirchberg/Pielach, Austria.

Lunzer Schichten, LU-3, lower Austria, lower Carnian.

Tecovas Fm., sample 3A-7, Masten Ranch, near base of formation, Dockum Group, northwest Texas.

#4 Clover Hill Mine dumps, Winterpock, Va., sample loc. 11, Macrotaeniopteris coal, presumably from upper part of coal sequence in thin coal layers interbedded with shale; Equisetites shale presumably above coal layer; Macrotaeniopteris shale interbedded within thin coal layers: all three slides presumably from upper part of coal sequence excavated from mine shafts in order to reach thick productive coal seams below. Richmond Basin.

#1 Basal Poorhouse Fm. from black clayey siltstone with plant fragments, occurring as local lenses in a brown arkosic sandstone. Taylorsville Basin.

#3 Doswell Sewer Site Locality (now covered) in upper Falling Creek Fm., collected by Robert Weems. Taylorsville Basin, Falling Creek Fm. above Poorhouse Fm.

= Bob Weems locality

Locality M'b in uppermost Falling Creek Fm. or possibly in lowest Cherrydale Fm. which overlies Falling Creek Fm., collected by Robert Weems and myself. Taylorsville Basin.

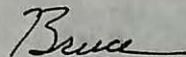
Stop-2a along the Pennsylvania Turnpike, gray member B of McLaughlin or top of Lockatong Fm., not shown on most geologic maps as outcropping along area of highway. Newark Basin. Two slides of same gray zone with plant fragments.

#2 JB2, JB3, and JB6a from sequence of red beds with interbedded lacustrine units (palyniferous zones) about 60 ft. below the Jacksonwald basalt in the Jacksonwald syncline. This sequence contains the palynologically defined Triassic/Jurassic boundary (falls between samples JB3 and JB6a). Newark Basin.

JGC is float dug up for a walking bridge in the golf course within the syncline delimited by the outcrop ridge of Jacksonwald basalt; if the float is from in situ outcrop, the sample comes from just above the Jacksonwald basalt. Newark Basin.

I hope you enjoy studying these slides. The locality data is incomplete, but is sufficient to place you in the immediate vicinity of most of my localities, at least for those localities that will be part of my thesis.

Sincerely yours,



Bruce Cornet

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

Department of Geosciences

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865-2342

April 7, 1976

Dr. Harold Cousminer
American Museum of Natural History
Department of Micropaleontology
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Dr. Cousminer,

Thank you very much for the palyniferous samples of Moroccan siltstone. I have only recently had enough time to process one jar now that I am desperately trying to write and complete my thesis by August. Your processing technique must be as good or better than mine for you to be able to amass a count of 355 grains, because the ratio of organic debris to palynomorphs is high, and any treatment to reduce the amount of organic debris damaged some or all of the test grains. Nevertheless, I have examined enough specimens to appreciate the general make-up of the palynoflorule.

One interesting difference between your histogram in Science and my preparation is the scarcity of Triadispora and the predominance of Alisporites cf. parvus. Perhaps other pieces of M5 possess more Triadispora. In my sample locality Stop-2a from the top of the Lockatong Formation, one preparation may be overwhelmed by Triadispora, while another piece of rock will produce an assemblage poor in Triadispora.

Two types of spore that I have seen in M5 closely resemble Foveolatitriletes potonie Mädlar 1964 and Triletes klausii Sharad-waj and Singh 1963 (which should be transferred to Convolutispora). The latter species is frequently present in Newark strata that I have dated as middle Carnian.

I have been very skeptical of attempts to restrict certain species or genera of spores or pollen to the Carnian after getting word from Bob Dunay that Patinasporites densus should have its upper limit at the Carnian-Norian boundary. There appears to be some mystique about that boundary in Europe that suggests to some palynologists a major period of extinction, ie. turnover according to M. Fisher. However, Klaus (1960) reports Patinasporites iustus (= P. densus) from the Rhaetian, and P. densus in the Newark extends all the way up to the Triassic/Jurassic boundary.

Why am I telling you this? There are two generic reasons, because after looking carefully at your figure 2 in Science I

realized that you had placed the "tops" for Aratrisporites and Triadispora at the Carnian-Norian boundary. I want to kindly present evidence that these two genera indeed extend all the way to the top of the Triassic, and Aratrisporites even gets into the Liassic. Check Schulz (1967), who has found three species of Aratrisporites (A. palettae, A. crassitectatus, and A. minimus) either in the Norian, Rhaetian, or Hettangian. Mädlar (1964) shows Aratrisporites major extending from the lower Keuper into the Hettangian. Morbey (1975) shows Aratrisporites fimbriatus (= A. palettae) extending from the middle Rhaetian well into the Hettangian (thus extending its range from the Carnian). Finally, Playford and Dettmann (1965) show three species of Aratrisporites (A. corylise-minis, A. flexibilis, and A. paenulatus) in the Rhaetian of Australia.

Although Aratrisporites is much more common in the Ladinian and Carnian than in younger strata, we cannot use the genus alone nor some of its species (ie. A. fimbriatus and A. major) to support a Carnian age. I will admit that the probability of finding Aratrisporites in the Carnian is much greater than in the Rhaetian, as is indicated by its presence in the Coal Measures of the Richmond Basin and in the Shinarump Member of the Chinle Fm. (but absence in younger strata).

Triadispora is another sticky problem, because this genus tends to demonstrate a reciprocal relationship with Ovalipollis in palynoflorules of Carnian age in Europe, ie. when Triadispora is abundant, Ovalipollis is scarce, and visa versa (Fisher, pers. comm.). Ovalipollis is a relatively strong component of Norian and particularly Rhaetian palynofloras in Europe, while Triadispora is presumably absent.* Were I to use Triadispora in the Newark to indicate a Carnian age, there would be no Norian or Rhaetian here, and Corollina torosus, Granuloperculatipollis rudis, and other Rhaetian indicators would have an extremely precocious first appearance. Triadispora spp. (including T. obscura, T. stabilis, and T. modesta) do not drop off in abundance in the Norian of New Jersey (my sample M-4), but occur together with Camosporites verrucosus, which is more common in the Norian of Europe (Mädlar, 1964). Also, Triadispora diversifies in the Newark with several new species appearing in the Rhaetian. Interestingly, the Y mark in at least one species disappears and is replaced by a tenuitas in the Rhaetian, much as in Corollina toward the end of its long evolutionary history. Ovalipollis spp. is absent from the Newark in the Norian and most of the Rhaetian, appearing again at the very top of the Rhaetian in the Newark Basin (which might be expected, since Ovalipollis generally becomes more abundant in the Rhaetian; Pocock and Jansonius, 1968). Perhaps the Ovalipollis-producer is more of a coastal plant, while the Triadispora-producer is an inland or upland plant?

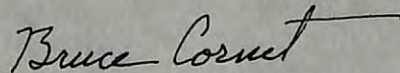
I hope you can use this information. I will be sending you more slides of Newark palynoflorules, particularly of Carnian age so that you might be better able to match the Moroccan and Newark material. I will also include photocopies of locality data in my thesis, which will permit you to visit my collecting sites.

* except T. verrucata according to Fisher (pers. comm.).

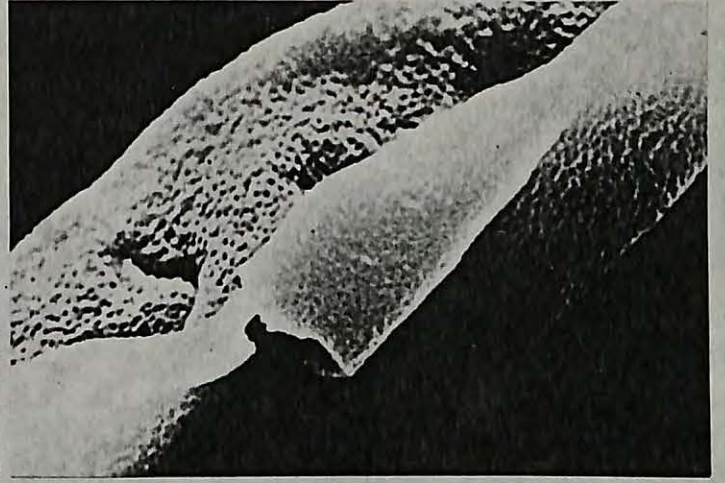
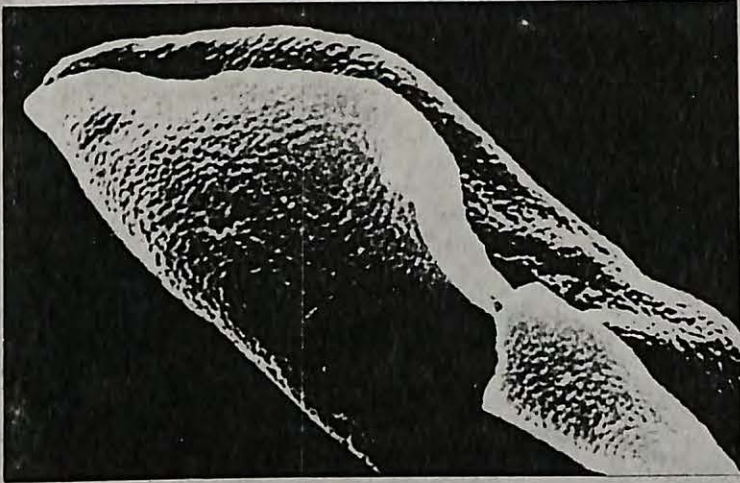
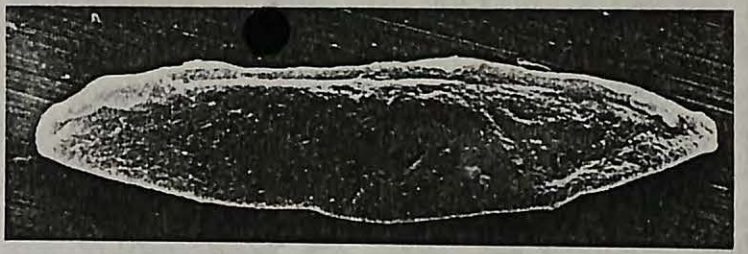
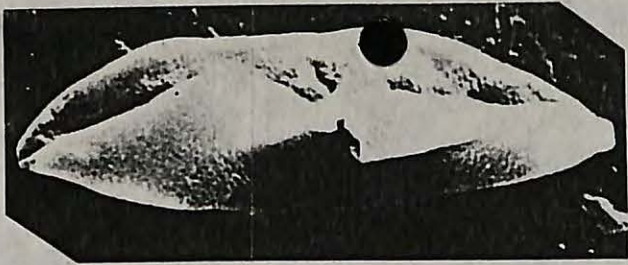
One set of slides will transgress the Triassic/Jurassic boundary near Jacksonwald, Pa. Within a stratigraphic interval of about 65 feet the palynoflora changes dramatically from an assemblage of about 80 species, including Patinasporites densus, Corollina torosus, Tsugaepollenites pseudomassulae, Chasmatosporites spp., Ovalipollis ovalis, O. grebeae, Convolutispora microfoveolata, numerous species of bisaccate, and diversified monosulcates, to an assemblage almost totally dominated by Corollina meyeriana that lacks any species restricted to the Triassic. The interval of the palynostratigraphic boundary occurs about 60 feet below the Jacksonwald basalt. The Rhaetian section within the Jacksonwald syncline is about 4,000 stratigraphic feet thick (based on the ranges of Corollina torosus and Granuloperculatipollis rudis).

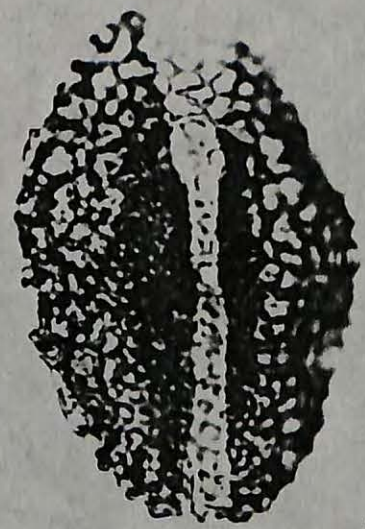
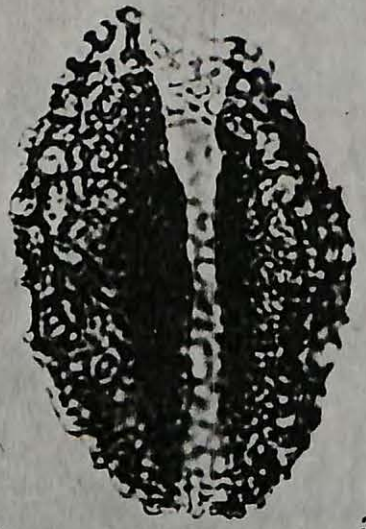
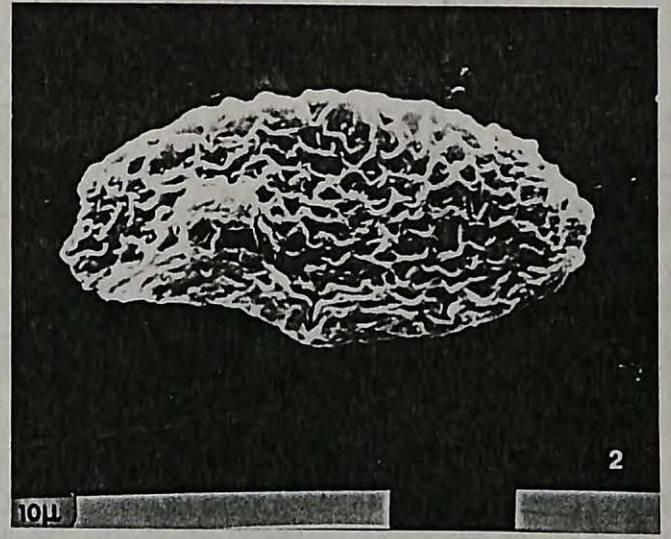
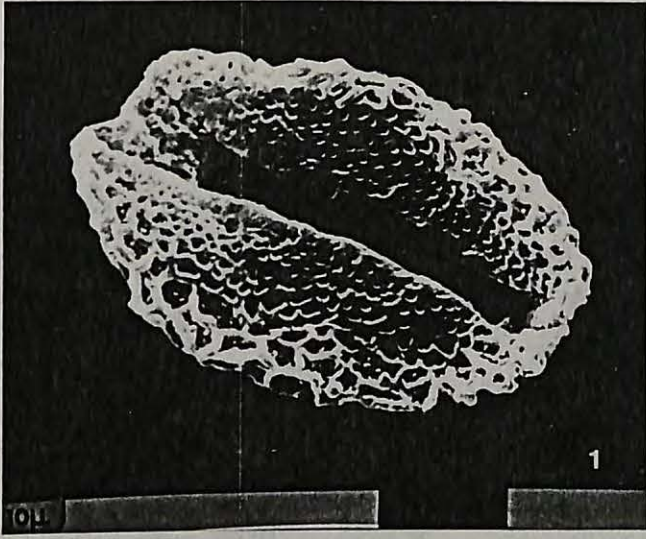
Because the latest Rhaetian palynoflorules (JB2 and JB3) are so well preserved and relatively uncompressed, I have been able to study the assemblages in great detail. What I discovered may very well make paleobotanical history. Although James Walker (U. of Mass.) and I have not yet completed our study, all evidence (including SEM) so far points to the existence of a relatively large complex of nine angiospermoid monosulcates and zonosulcates! That is, these species all appear to be tectate-columellate (perforate to reticulate) with short irregular columellae. What is shocking is that Chasmatosporites in Europe appears to be only $\frac{1}{2}$ of a complete zonosulcate, which breaks apart at the zonosulcus. Nilsson (1958) fortunately illustrated one grain in the process of breaking apart. There is a circular distal "pore" on both the boat-shaped and circular species, which are still largely unbroken in my samples. The SEMs of Chasmatosporites are spectacular, and demonstrate scattered tectal perforations and columellae in one area of broken wall. I thought you might like to share with me the news of my potential angiospermoid pollen.

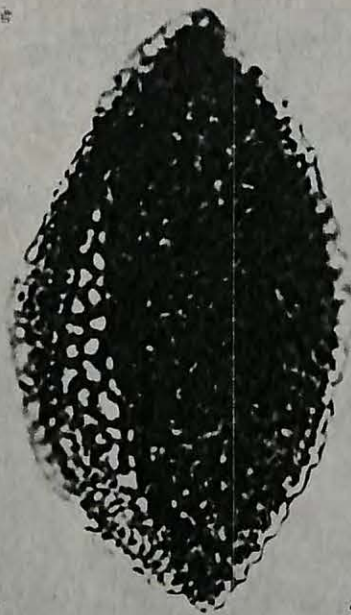
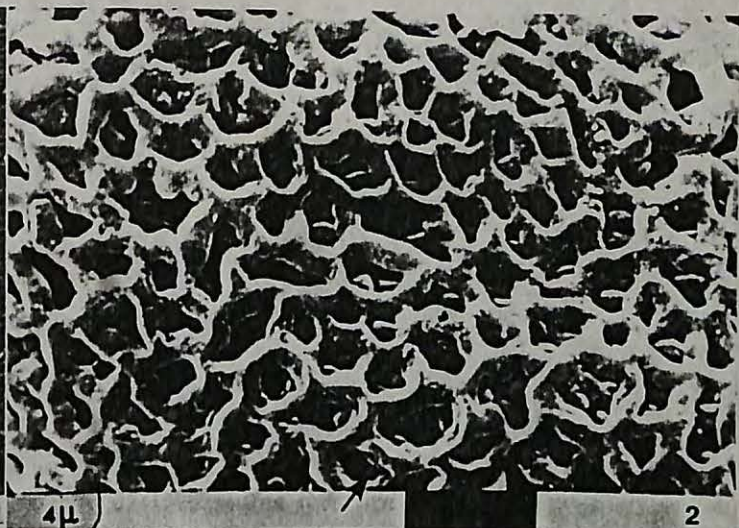
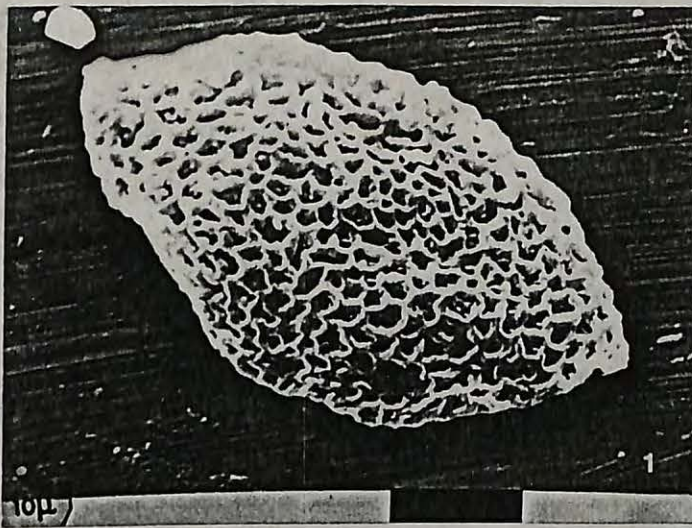
Sincerely yours,



Bruce Cornet







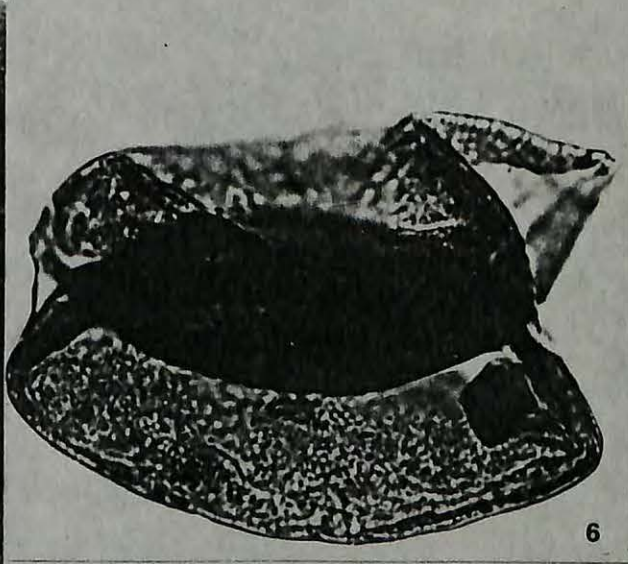
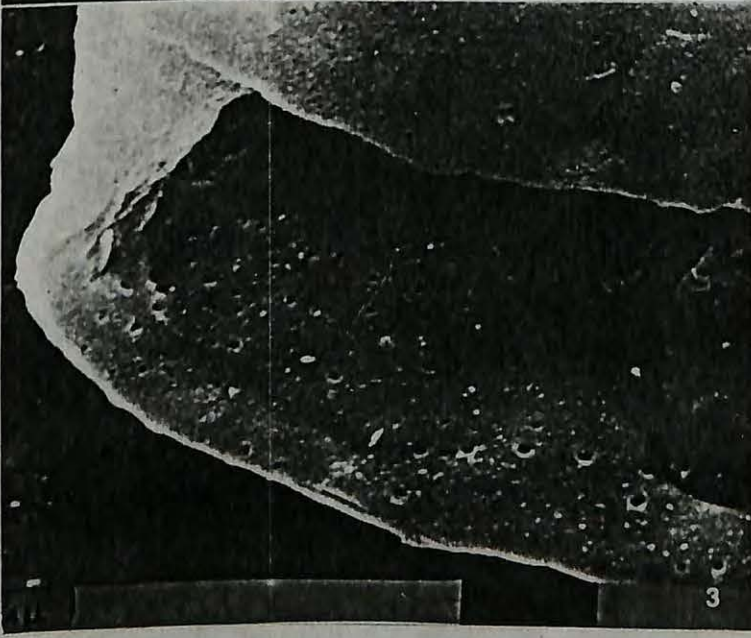
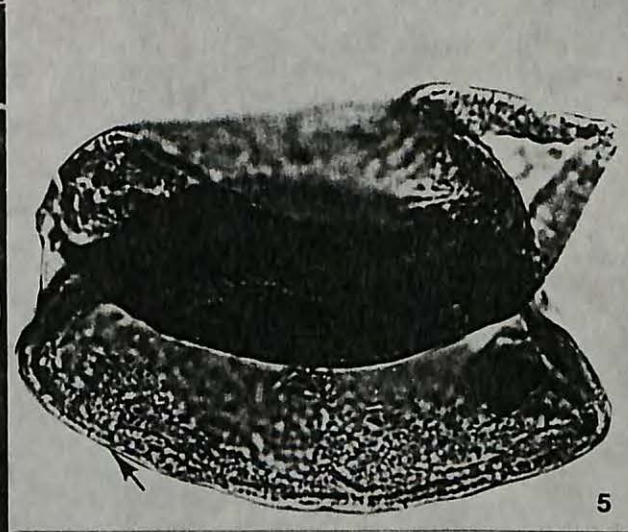
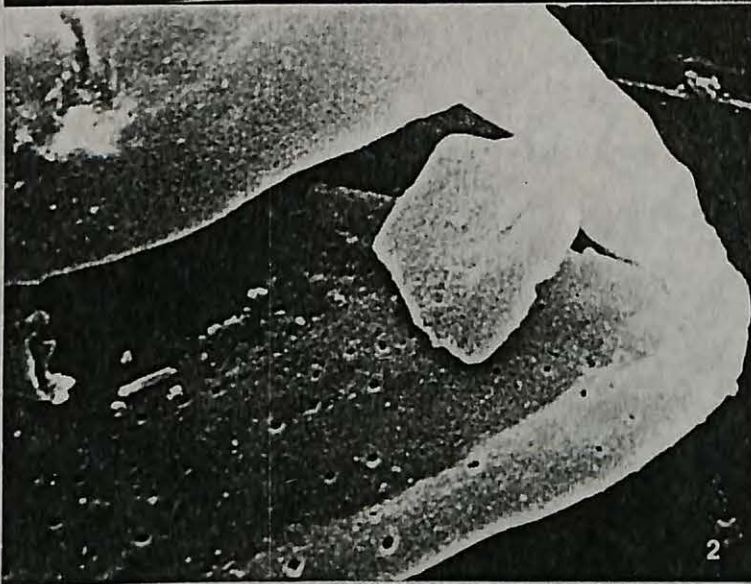
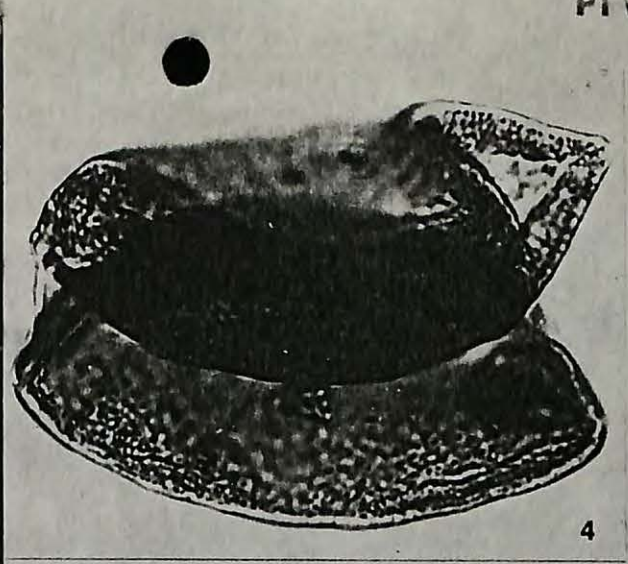
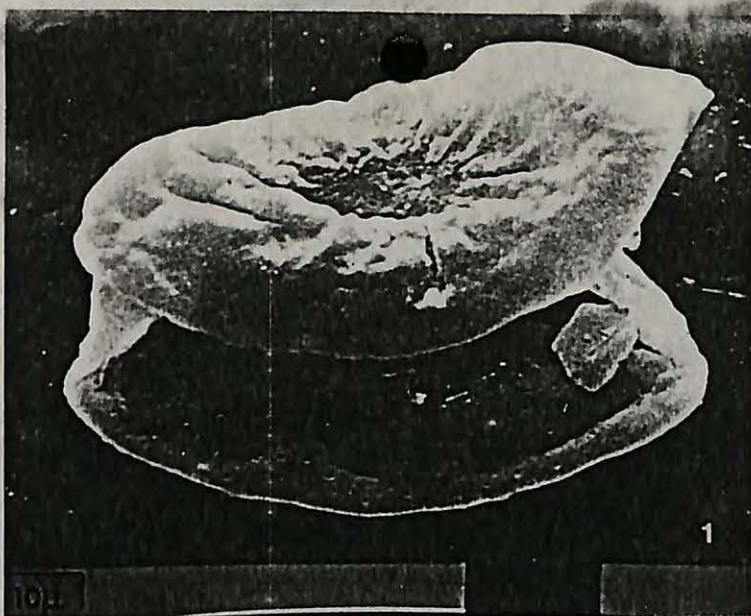
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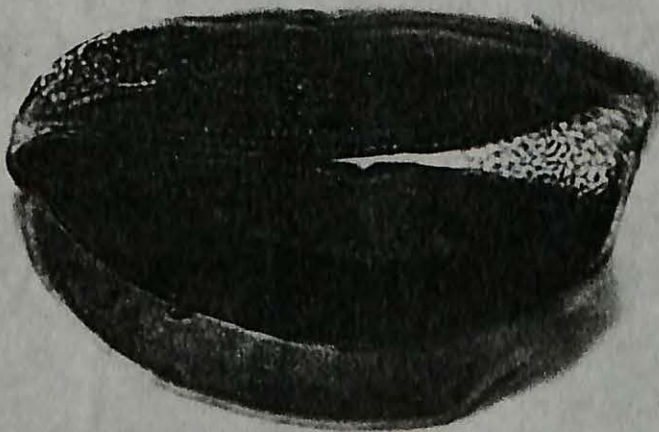
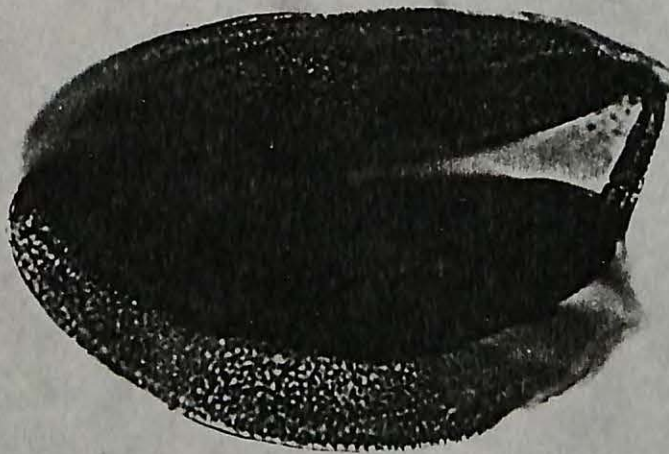
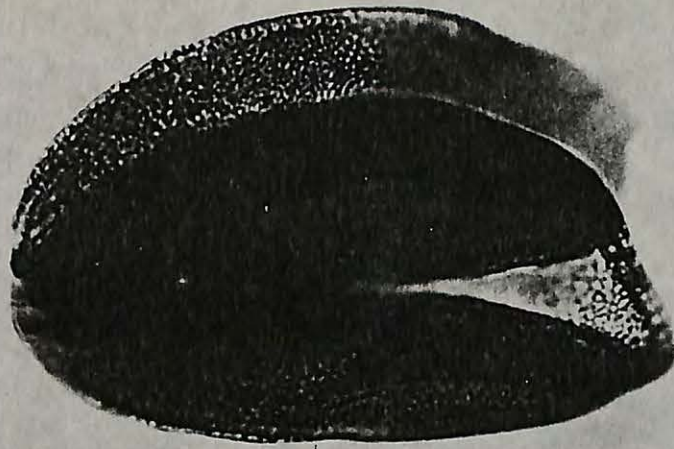


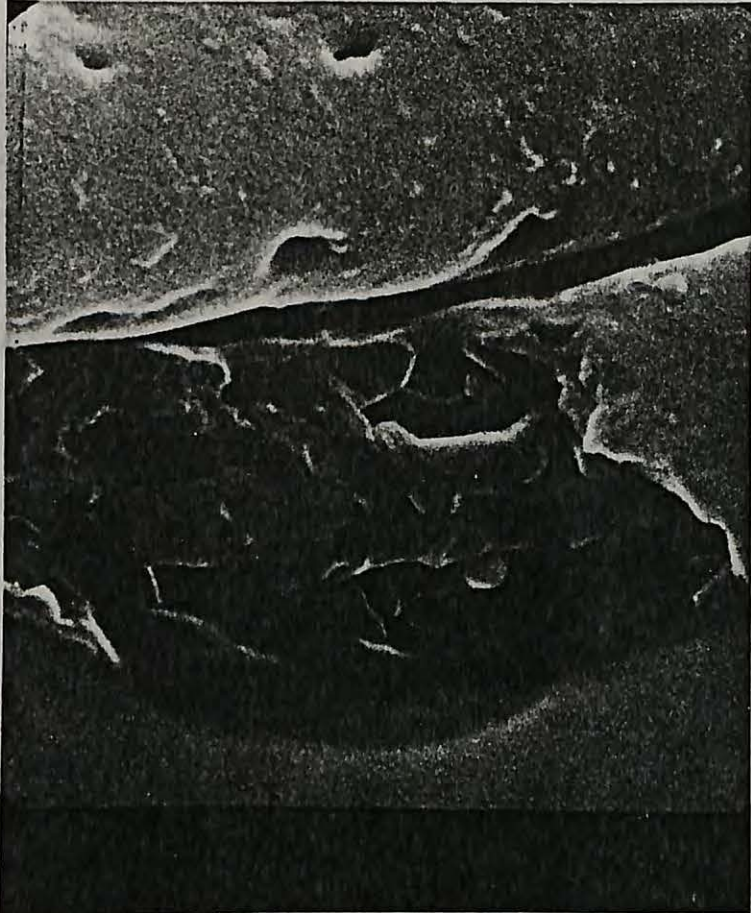
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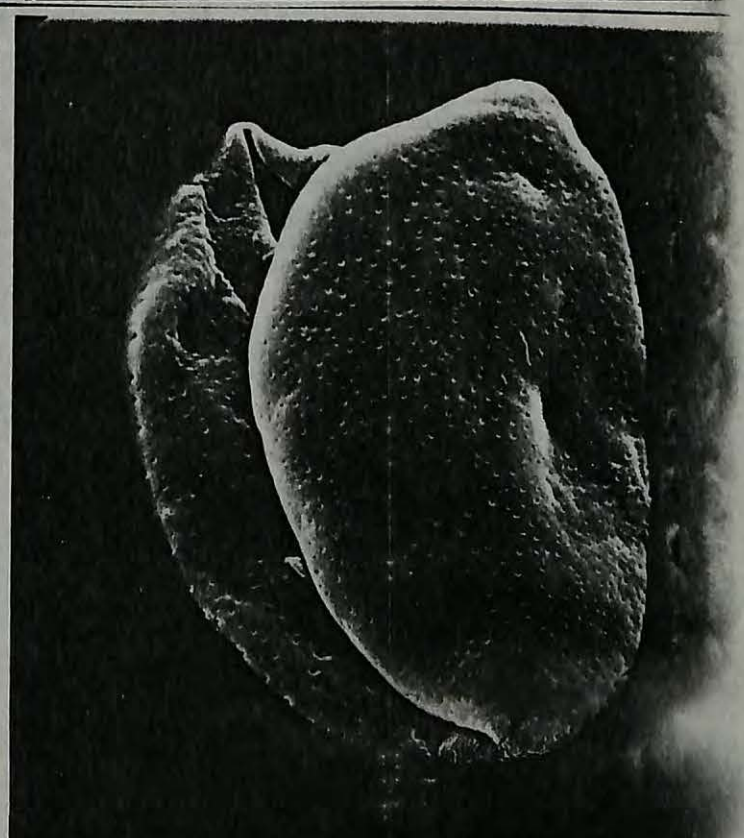
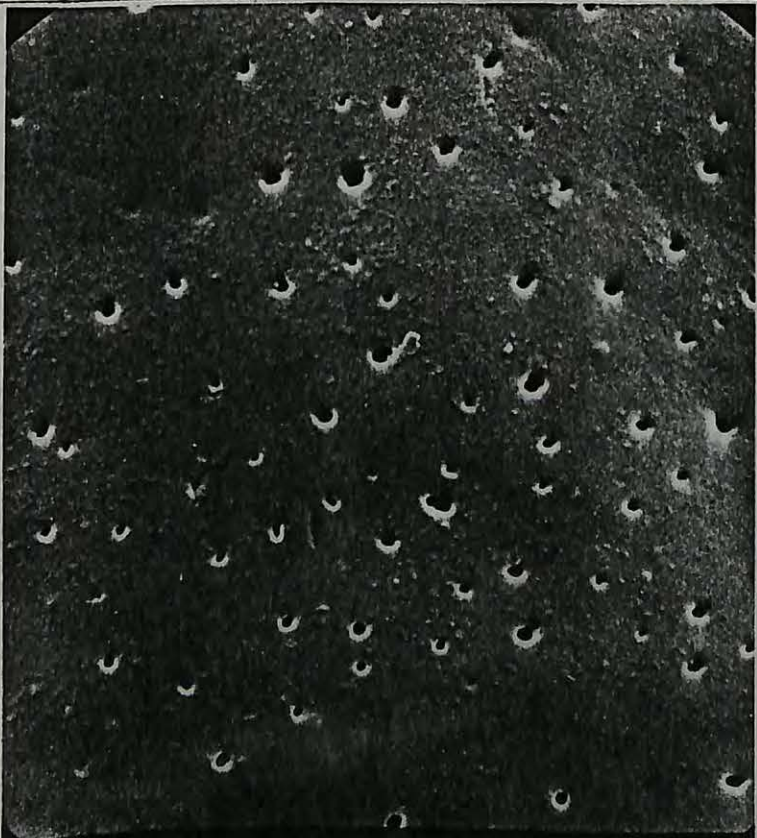
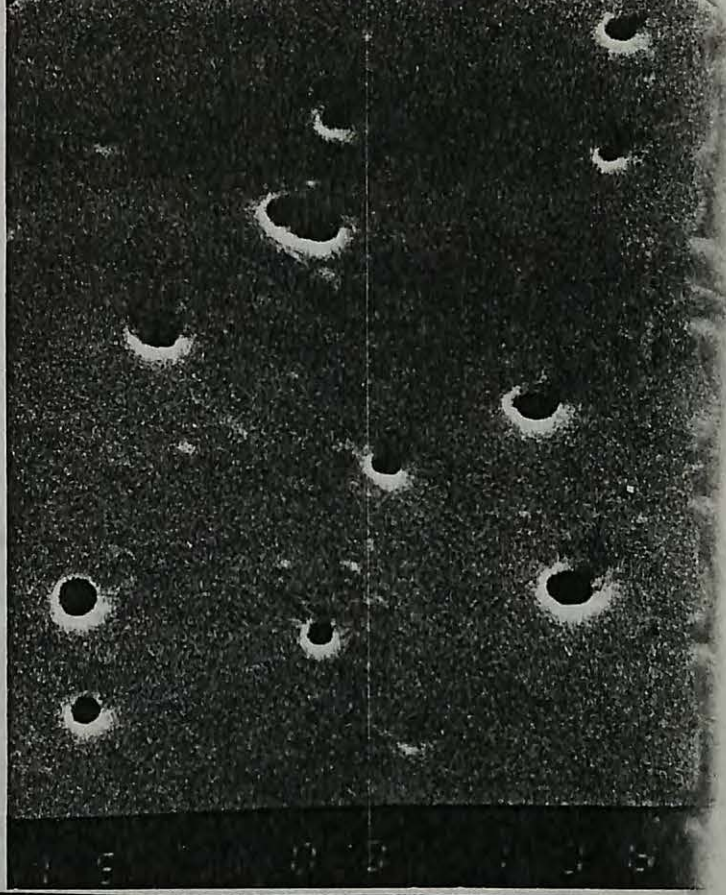




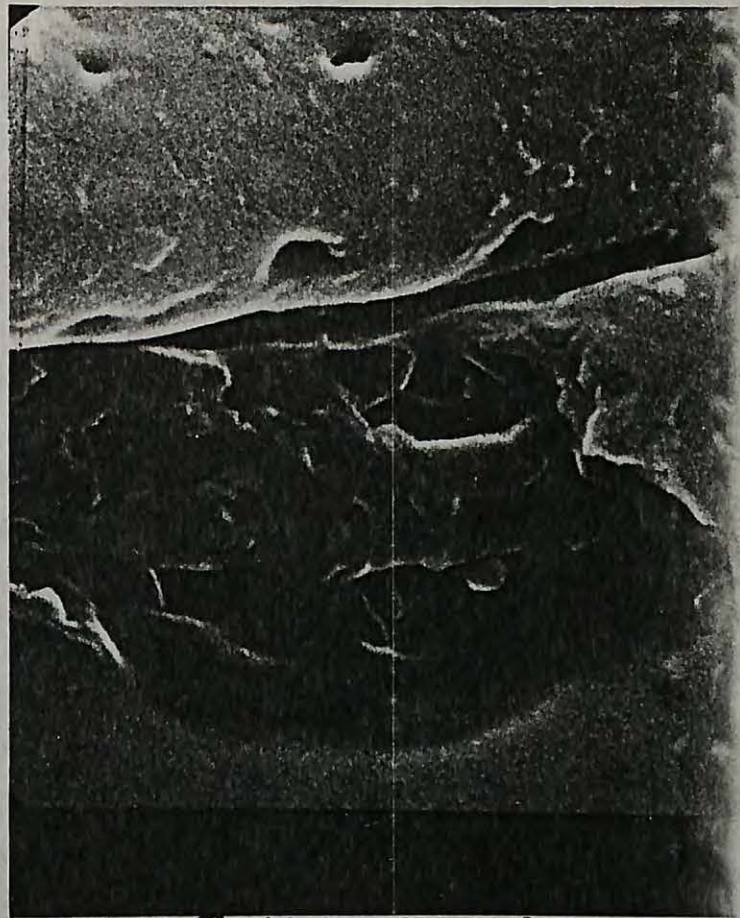
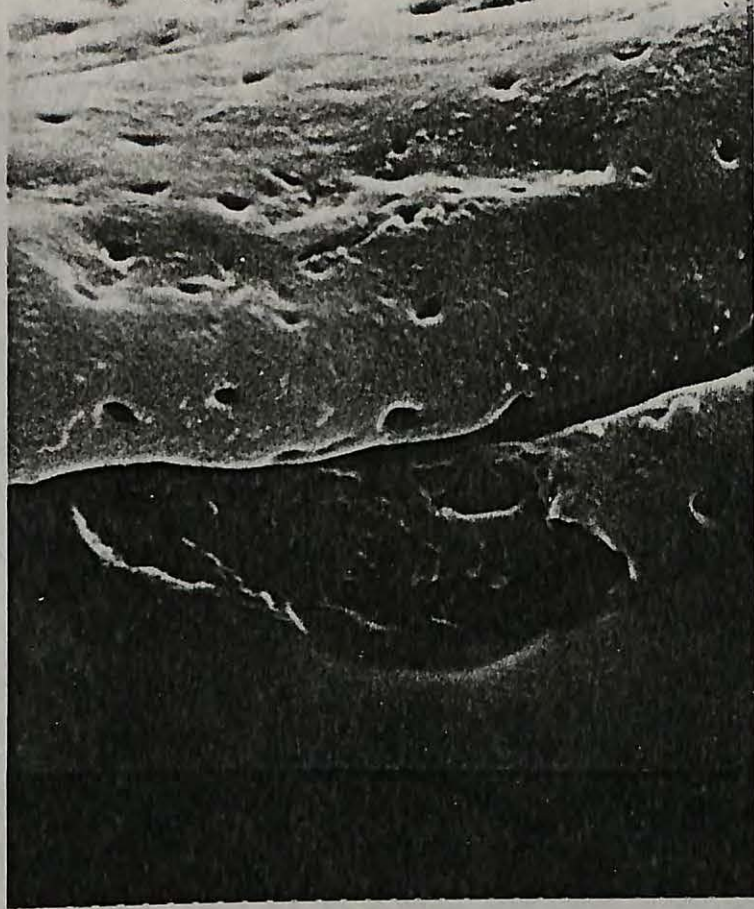


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F-2 Type N 106 30,000 x

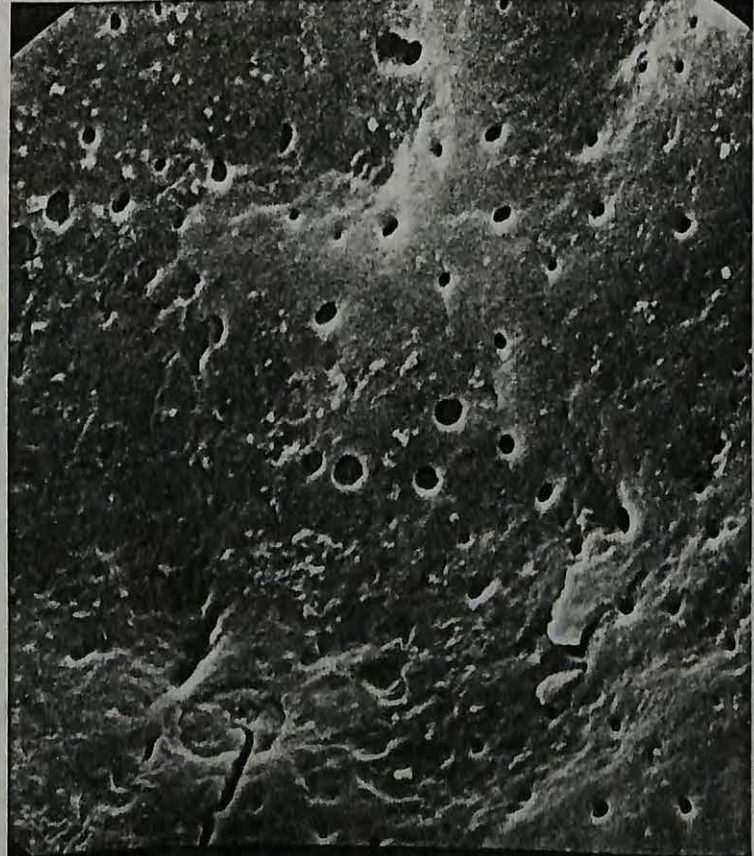


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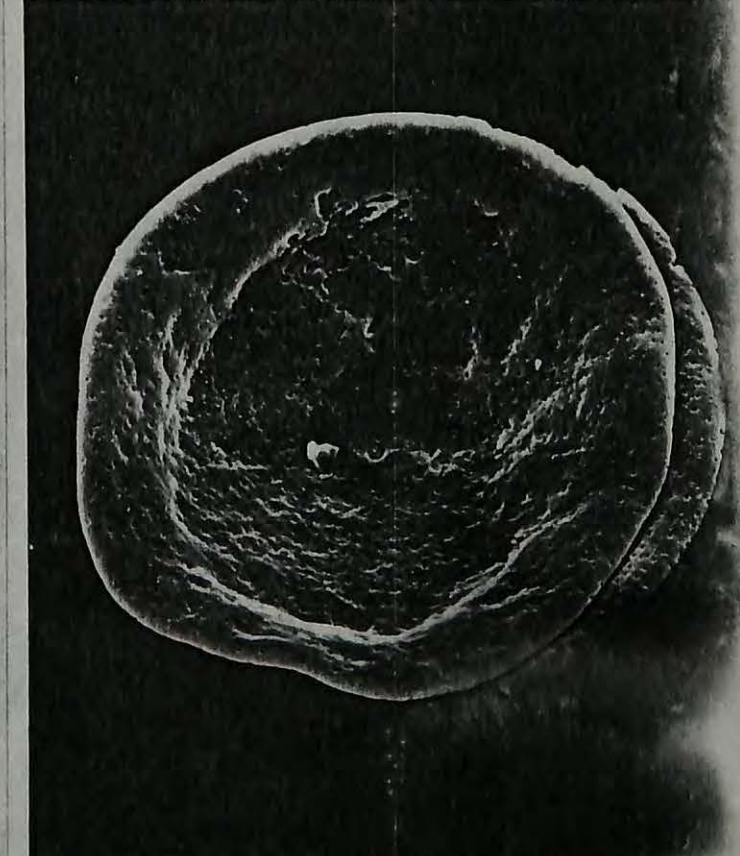


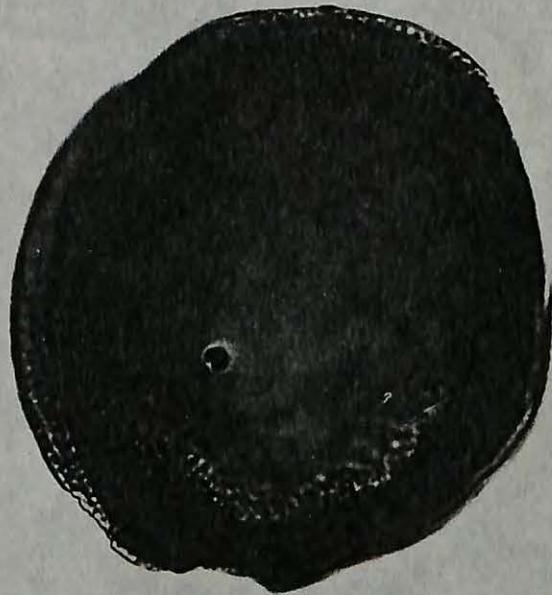
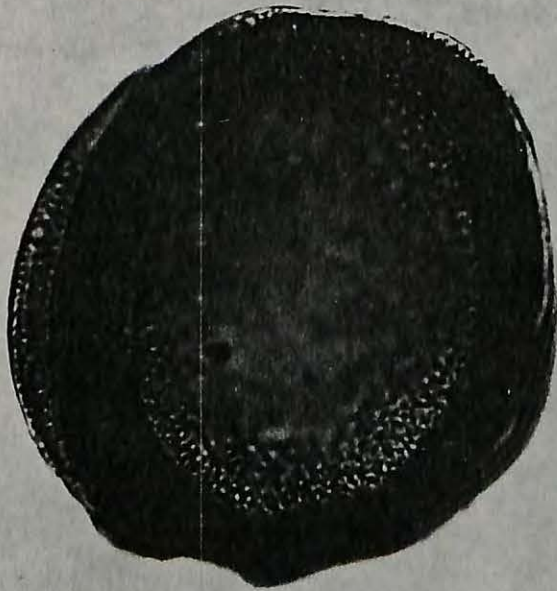
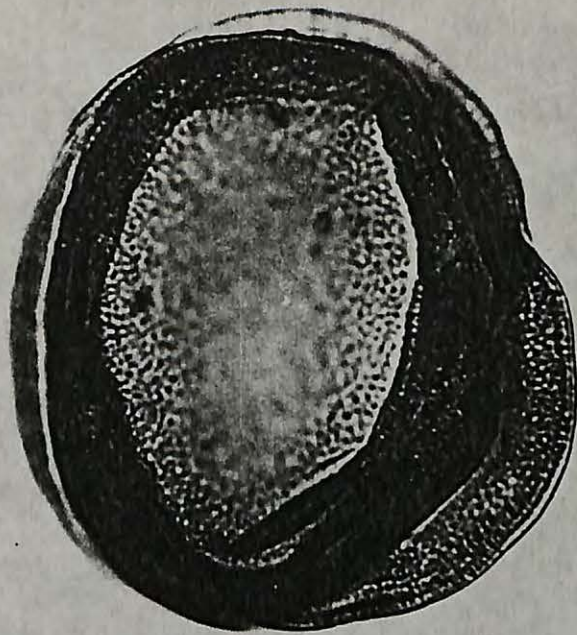
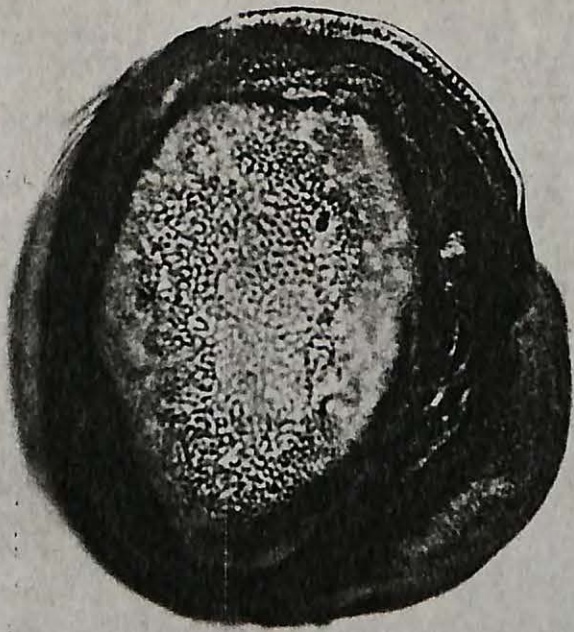
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F-1 Type R 105 10,000x

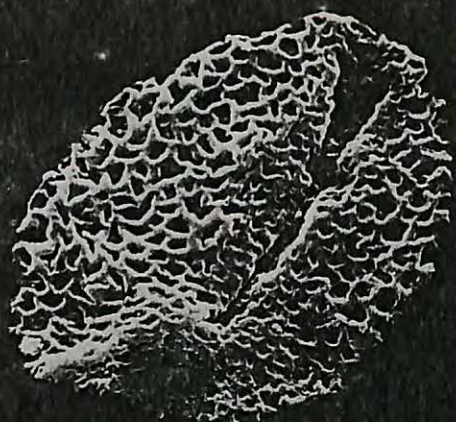


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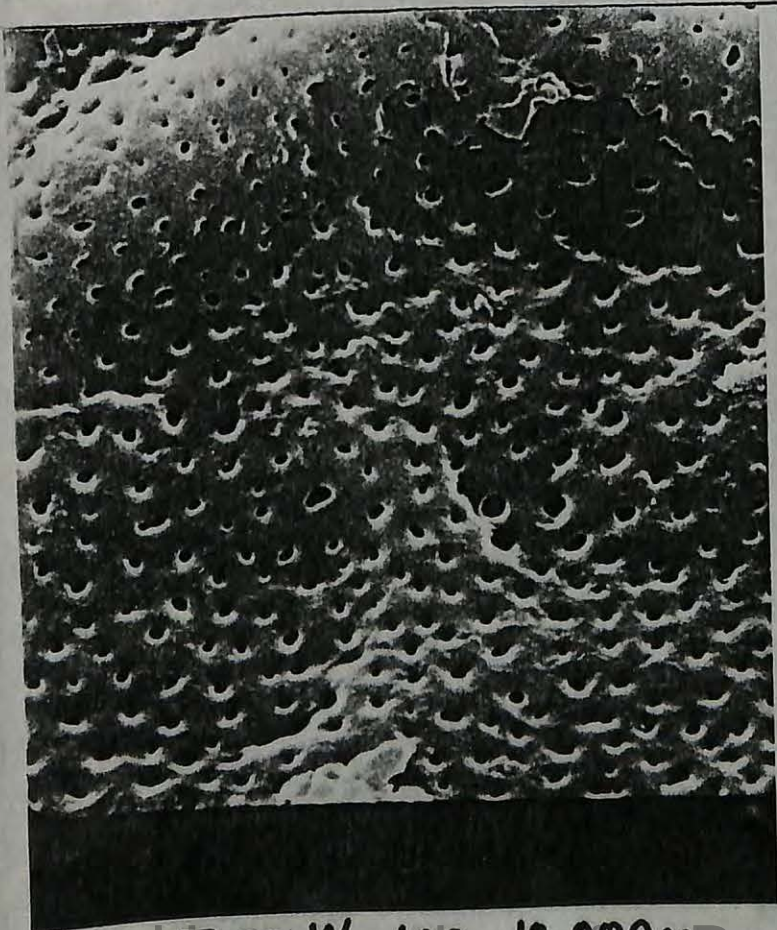
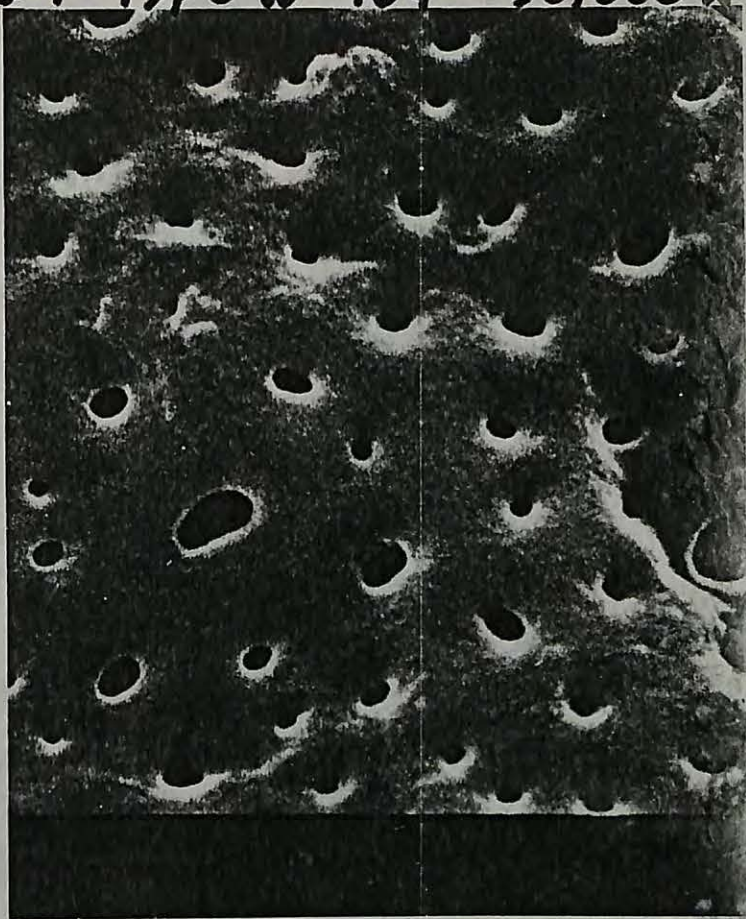




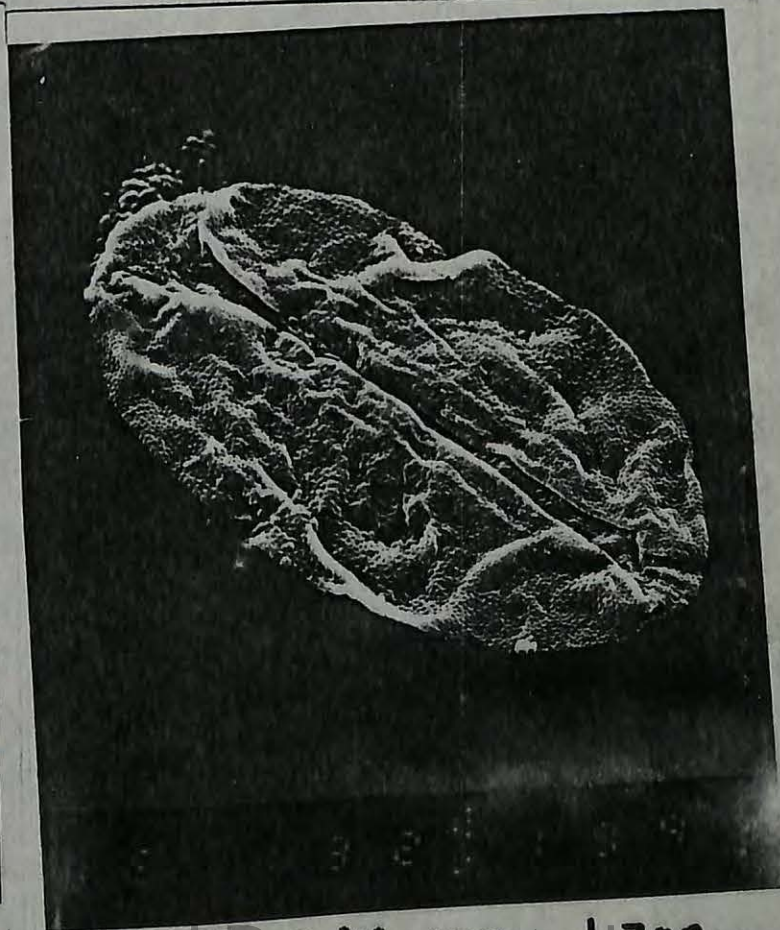
H-3 Retimonocolpites¹¹⁵ sp. B 1,800x



G-1 Type W 109 30,000x



G-1 Type W 109 10,000x



G-1 Type W 109 1,300x



The American Museum of Natural History

Central Park West at 79th Street New York, New York 10024 (212) 873-1300



MICROPALEONTOLOGY PRESS

January 30, 1976

Mr. Bruce Cornet
The Pennsylvania State University
Palynological Laboratories
517 Deike Building
University Park, PA. 16802

Dear Bruce:

I want to acknowledge the receipt of your collection of slides from the Trias-Lias Newark basin sediments. It was very nice of you to prepare these and make them available to me. I really am amazed at the quality of some of these palynoflorules. You know that I have processed dozens of samples of "Newark basin" sediments, with very meagre results to date. Part of your success must be due to the large numbers of samples that you process. What are the particulars of your sample lithologies and processing techniques that are responsible for your success? Are there any closely guarded secrets, or is this success primarily the result of perseverance?

Don't be disappointed at the lack of discussion of your paper at the Wesleyan meeting, simply because no one who was there was sufficiently competent to evaluate the palynological data you presented. Before a significant dialogue can be generated several specialists must have a detailed first-hand knowledge of these data, I was the only other palynologist at the meeting and I certainly don't have the information you have on the distribution of Trias-Lias palynoflorules in eastern North America. Having studied this slide collection I will be in a better position to evaluate your results and perhaps give you some constructive criticism. Of course I realize this process works both ways, so I am sending you some of the productive sample material from the High Atlas of Morocco that I believe is of mid-Carnian age. Its a good idea that you process this material, using your own techniques, as an independent check on my methods. Perhaps you can obtain more data from this sample than I have. I am currently processing samples of fossil fish matrix material, and other samples of my own from surface outcrops of Newark Group sediments, so far with very poor results.

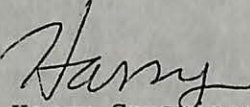
We are currently working on a paper synthesizing the results of our litho-stratigraphic, paleontologic, geochemical and radiometric study of Moroccan Triassic-Liassic stratigraphy, and feel confident that we can match this sequence in the basalts

Mr. Bruce Cornet
January 30, 1976

page 2

and sediments of northeastern North America. In general these results support your geologic age datings based on palynostratigraphy.

Keep up the good work and let me know how you are progressing. Thanks again!


Harry Cousminer

HC/sb

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

DEIKE BUILDING

UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

Department of Geosciences

Palynological Laboratories

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865-2342

January 14, 1976

Dr. Harold Cousminer
American Museum of Natural History
Department of Micropaleontology
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Dr. Cousminer,

At Wesleyan University during the "Triassic" Conference you expressed a desire to have representative slides of Newark palynofloras for your collection. Enclosed you will find ten slides ranging in age from Carnian to Liassic. They represent some of the better preserved palynoflorules in my collection, and should be of aid in studying your Moroccan material.

It is unfortunate that we did not have more time to talk at the conference, because each of us could have benefitted from in-depth discussion. I left the conference with a sense of frustration, particularly since much of what I presented during my talk was new and controversial...very few people even questioned my work or evidence, which is somewhat surprising. But then the conference was over too soon. My talk was very superficial, and my handout very incomplete. I have tentatively recognized over 260 species of spores and pollen in the Newark Super-group, and we only had a chance to talk about a few of them.

The palynoflorules enclosed are listed below in approximate descending stratigraphic order:

1. C5, Chicopee Falls, middle Portland Fm., Hartford Basin, Chicopee, Mass.
2. Loc. 11, zone 1, middle Portland Fm., Hartford Basin, Agawam, Mass.
3. Loc. 7, Rt. 15, lower Portland Fm., Hartford Basin, Holyoke, Mass.
4. Loc. 6, Licking Run, above lowest(?) basalt flow, Culpeper Basin, Midland, Va.
5. Loc. 1, LT zone, Shuttle Meadow Fm., Hartford Basin, North Guilford, Conn.
6. Section 3, zone B of P. Olsen, Feltsville Fm., Newark Basin, Watchung, N.J.
7. Loc. SPP-2, near Easton Ave. and Rt. 280, upper Passaic Fm., Newark Basin, Newark, N.J. = Second Precinct Police Station Loc.
8. Loc. 23A, Second Precinct Police Station, Rt. 280, Newark Basin, Newark, N.J.
9. Loc. M-4-101, above Perkaskie Mbr., Passaic Fm., Newark Basin, Milford, N.J.
10. Zone V1, upper Vinita beds, Richmond Basin, James River, Tuckahoe, Va.

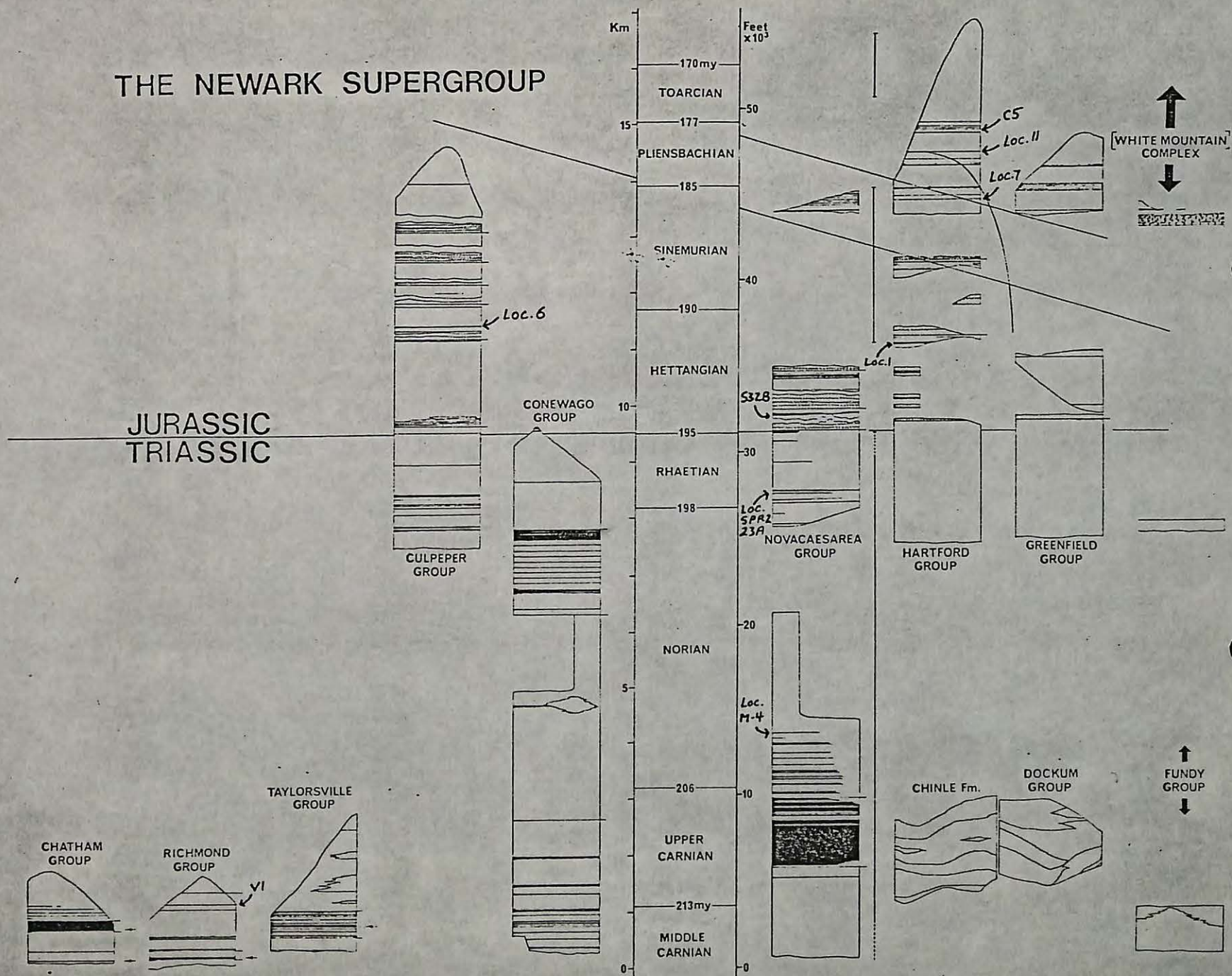
On the enclosed correlation chart the localities have been indicated in their respective rock groups. Hope you enjoy studying them. My thesis work is nearing the point of writing. I hope to be nearly complete by August of this year.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce

Bruce Cornet

THE NEWARK SUPERGROUP



The American Museum of Natural History

file: Cornet



Central Park West at 79th Street New York, New York 10024 (212) 873-1300

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY PRESS

January 30, 1976

Mr. Bruce Cornet
The Pennsylvania State University
Palynological Laboratories
517 Deike Building
University Park, PA. 16802

Dear Bruce:

I want to acknowledge the receipt of your collection of slides from the Trias-Lias Newark basin sediments. It was very nice of you to prepare these and make them available to me. I really am amazed at the quality of some of these palynoflorules. You know that I have processed dozens of samples of "Newark basin" sediments, with very meagre results to date. Part of your success must be due to the large numbers of samples that you process. What are the particulars of your sample lithologies and processing techniques that are responsible for your success? Are there any closely guarded secrets, or is this success primarily the result of perseverance?

Don't be disappointed at the lack of discussion of your paper at the Wesleyan meeting, simply because no one who was there was sufficiently competent to evaluate the palynological data you presented. Before a significant dialogue can be generated several specialists must have a detailed first-hand knowledge of these data, I was the only other palynologist at the meeting and I certainly don't have the information you have on the distribution of Trias-Lias palynoflorules in eastern North America. Having studied this slide collection I will be in a better position to evaluate your results and perhaps give you some constructive criticism. Of course I realize this process works both ways, so I am sending you some of the productive sample material from the High Atlas of Morocco that I believe is of mid-Carnian age. Its a good idea that you process this material, using your own techniques, as an independent check on my methods. Perhaps you can obtain more data from this sample than I have. I am currently processing samples of fossil fish matrix material, and other samples of my own from surface outcrops of Newark Group sediments, so far with very poor results.

We are currently working on a paper synthesizing the results of our litho-stratigraphic, paleontologic, geochemical and radiometric study of Moroccan Triassic-Liassic stratigraphy, and feel confident that we can match this sequence in the basalts

Mr. Bruce Cornet
January 30, 1976

page 2

and sediments of northeastern North America. In general these results support your geologic age datings based on palynostratigraphy.

Keep up the good work and let me know how you are progressing. Thanks again!

Harry
Harry Cousminer

HC/sb

file as Cousminer

Review of Cousminer & Manspeizer Paper

This paper is an important contribution to the fast-expanding field of Triassic-Jurassic paleopalynology, a field that is helping greatly with modeling of mid-Mesozoic earth history. A student of mine who works with me on Triassic-Jurassic palynology has collaborated with me in the review of the paper. We are agreed it should be published and that Science is a natural place. The dating of the sample (s?) by paleopalynology is acceptable to us. However, there are a number of problems with the paper that we feel need attention before it can be published. These problems are as follows:

Abstract and elsewhere, especially p. 7: Dr. Cousminer speaks of the Africa-North America "rifting" as if it occurred all at once. It is probable, however, that basins such as the "Newark Basins" formed during phases of crustal stress that long preceded the actual rifting--indeed the actual formation of oceanic crust may not have occurred at all until Liassic Time. Dr. Cousminer should speak of "phenomena associated with and leading to rifting" rather than rifting. (See Dallmeyer, R.D., 1975, Geology 3:no. 5)

p. 4, para. 2, l. 6

It says at this point that "samples" were involved, but Note 17 says it was only a single sample. I believe that Dr. Cousminer needs to provide a couple of sentences more regarding "materials and methods," despite Science's stringent space restrictions!

It is not clear how much field work was done, by whom it was done, nor how many samples are involved, nor how many of those were productive, nor what the productive sample was like litholog-

ically. I would guess that only a single productive sample was made available to Dr. Cousminer by Mattis, but this is not clear. Also, the statement on p. 4, para. 3, that 355 palynomorphs were "identified" apparently means a count of 355 was made (on one slide?)-- a more definitive statement needs to be made on this as part of materials and methods.

p. 6, para. 2, l. 11

The authors do not make it clear from whom the "preliminary data" on the New Oxford formation come. We presume it is from us, and suggest that an additional "15" is probably required after the words "Preliminary data...." to make this clear.

p. 7, l. 2

The palynological dating of Nova Scotian material did not appear in our paper ("15"). We did quote evidence from others on the North Mountain Basalt that made Rhaeto-Liassic age seem possible. However, the small scraps of palynological information we have now do not seem to agree, and it would be best to omit Nova Scotia from this sentence!

p. 7. para. 2

As noted earlier we feel that to say that the beds were "laid down" in zones of active rifting "suggests more than the authors should-- we think zones of incipient rift formation" or some such tone-down would be better. Also, we feel that the authors' evidence for such incipient rift formation is for middle Carnian, not early

Carnian. They could cite opinion from other papers for early Carnian. In any case, there is much evidence that the formation of actual oceanic crust was a somewhat later phenomenon.

Relatively minor corrections and suggestions

p. 3, l. 6: data exist (not exists)

p. 3, l. 7: , and consequently....

p. 4, para 2: "recent advances" refers to some advances that really are recent (14, 15, 16) and others (9, 11, 12) that are quite old-- 9, for example is a pioneer paper from two decades ago! This bit needs rewriting.

p. 5, l. 2: Authors say "21 palynomorph species identified"--however, 23 species are mentioned in the text. Only 21 are shown on Fig. 1, but for some reason, *Alisporities minutosaccus* and *Protodiploxypinus gracilis* are omitted--why? They are among the handful of species emphasized heavily on p. 5! If none were encountered in the count, that should be mentioned.

p. 5, and elsewhere. *Protodiploxypinus* is the correct spelling.

p. 5, and elsewhere. "Late" should not be capitalized when used with Carnian.

Figure 1.

1. Use of all-capitals causes problems with de Jersey's name. His name is not Dejersey, as it would appear to be here.
2. Some authors' names are in parentheses, some not. Except in cases of a new combination, where a second name would appear, botanical convention is not to use parentheses, and they should be removed.

3. Why is it *Alisporites* aff. *parvus* but *Aratrisporites* cf. *granulatus* and *Chordasporites* cf. *singulichorda*?
"Aff." and "cf." mean essentially the same thing, and I would suggest "cf." for all.
4. As mentioned earlier, should *Alisporites minutosaccus* and *Protodiploxypinus gracilis* be added? Is the reason they aren't included that very few specimens (how many?) were found?--not encountered in a count of 385? If so, what about emphasizing them heavily on p. 5?

Figure 2.

1. Suggest *Alisporites* cf. *parvus*, as mentioned above.
2. Why isn't paper #15 quoted on Fig 2? Actually, a more complete version of #15 is now available (Cornet and Traverse, 1975--Geoscience & Man 11:1-33), and Cousminer and Manspeizer may wish to make reference to it on Figure 2 in his revision--it does seem odd for the New England material to be omitted altogether on the chart.

Erbeck

Fidelity Onion Skin

June 25, 1975

Dr. Harold Cousminer
American Museum of Natural History
Department of Micropaleontology
Central Park West at 29th Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Thanks for yours, undated, which came during my recent trip on the Black Sea as on-board palynologist on the Glomar Challenger (I got some very exciting results!). It was good to have news of your family and especially to hear about Debbie's progress. She's great! Will take you up on the paper-plate supper one of these days!

The proposal that you bring to take up Arthur Dusenbury's subscription to the CFSP is somewhat unusual--as far as I know we've never had such a request. On reflection I can see nothing wrong with it (we are not any more accepting new personal subscriptions because they lose money for us). So, I am instructing the person who takes care of these matters (Sue Winter) to simply transfer Dusenbury's subscription to your name. You should have received Volumes 38 and 39 and been invoiced for them also by now. Volume 40 is in press.

I am getting ready to leave for the International Botanical Congress in Leningrad now, so best wishes until we meet again.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT:kc

cc: Sue Winter

File
Estee

Fidelity Onion Skin

November 2, 1973

Dr. Warren Manspeizer
Chairman, Department of Geology
Rutgers University
Newark College of Arts & Sciences
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Dear Dr. Manspeizer:

This is in response to your letter of 25 October, and the subsequent phone call, regarding whatever input I might have on the promotion of Harry Cousminer. I have known Harry for many years, and have worked with him on several joint projects, such as the Joint Committee on Palaeontological Information, and the National Science Foundation's sponsored work on information storage in micropaleontology, etc. Harry has on several occasions visited me here at Penn State. I know Harry to be talented and well informed in palynology, a good organizer, a keen researcher, and only prevented from being one of the really top people in palynology by personal circumstances largely beyond his control. Although he has not published many papers, what he has published is of good quality. Harry is respected throughout the profession, and the only negative reaction I have is that he is still an assistant professor. I was stunned by that information. I would think Rutgers is fortunate to have Harry around. I recommend him for promotion with gusto.

Hoping to see you one of these days, I am

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Geology & Biology

AT/vsi

NEWARK COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Department of Geology
Newark, New Jersey 07102

October 25, 1973

Dr. Alfred Traverse
Department of Geology and Geophysics
529 Dieke Building
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Dr. Traverse:

Dr. Cousminer is serving in his fifth year as Assistant Professor of Geology. The faculty of the Geology Department is considering his promotion to Associate Professor, which carries tenure, and it is Rutgers' policy to make inquiry of selected persons outside the University regarding any candidate for such promotion.

I should be very grateful for any comments you would wish to make regarding research ability, professional competence, or fitness for possible promotion. Your comments will be held in strict confidence.

Sincerely,

Warren Manspeizer

Warren Manspeizer, Chairman
Department of Geology

WM:mm

November 16, 1972

W. Bruce Cornet, Jr.
R.M. 517 Deike Bldg.
Penn. State University
State College, Pa. 16802

Dear Bruce:

Rec'd Prof Traverser's apologia for your malfeasance following the AASP meetings. He should try to develop his students character by allowing them to apologize for their misdeeds!

Somewhat belatedly I am sending you copy of the reference you had requested.

Dr Warren Manspeizer (the chairman of our Dept) might be interested in someone to sample and study ^{Triassic} Jurassic section in North Africa next summer (Morocco). The person should demonstrate some competence in Triassic-Jurassic palynology. Seems to me if you were interested you could convince him via your New Jersey - Connecticut work

Best Regards to Prof. Traverser!
Harold L. Cousin

November 3, 1972

Dr. Harold Cousminer
American Museum of Natural History
Dept. of Micropaleontology
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Just wanted to thank you for the extra trouble I know you went to to have Bruce Cornet delivered to Hartford when he unfortunately missed his bus last week. I have heard by the grapevine that Dan Habib may have been a little annoyed by the extra time which was involved. Perhaps I one day will be in a position to mollify him by taking him out to dinner or somethingg!

Best wishes to Joy.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Geology & Biology

AT/vsi

The American Museum of Natural History

Central Park West at 79th Street New York, New York 10024 (212) 873-1300



MICROPALAEONTOLOGY PRESS

April 24, 1972

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geology and Geophysics
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

You are probably aware of our new publication "Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology" (BIM), which is a monthly citation list of all current literature on microfossils. Each month over 200 citations are listed by microfossil group and many are accompanied by keyword descriptors.

Both The American Museum of Natural History and the American Geological Institute are contributing citations and indices to the Bibliography and Index of Micropaleontology. This information is also included in the GEO-REF file. An annual subject index to the twelve monthly issues will be published separately.

Our initial response from specialists throughout the world indicates that the bibliography will be of great value to them in keeping up with current literature on microfossils and related living microorganisms.

BIM is available to individual subscribers at a nominal fee. Institutional libraries and commercial organizations are charged more, simply because we cannot be self-sustaining without this additional income.

We are enclosing a free copy of Volume 1, Number 1 of the bibliography for your evaluation and a subscription form for your convenience. If you multiply the contents by twelve and add a comprehensive annual subject index (averaging five subject sets for each citation) you can gain an idea of the content and format of an annual volume.

If it is to succeed, this bibliography must be financially self-sustaining as rapidly as possible. This can only happen if you and other micropaleontologists subscribe. Please let us know that our effort is worthwhile by subscribing yourself and recommending the bibliography to your colleagues and society members.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Cousminer

Harold L. Cousminer

Julia Golden

Julia Golden

Editors, Bibliography and Index of
Micropaleontology

*P. S. Best personal regards!
Hope you all have a pleasant summer
Harry*

July 28, 1970

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Our photographer, Don Krebs, whom you met when you were here, has no record of your having ordered a pic of the AASP convention last October. He admits to being fallible, however, and is sending you a copy of the photo. If, as I recall, you were pretty sure that you paid for one, this clears the docket. If you aren't sure, you could send Krebs \$2. He sells the pics, not AASP.

Good to have you here last week but frustrating that we could see relatively little of you because of the complications of the week. Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Geology & Biology

AT:kc

Phone call,

July 2

Harry Coe

July

2-VII-70

Coenocline

Coenocline

Using his modified version of our forms he

has now treated 100 Ostracoda & Foram

Papers! He has apparently deleted the

assemblage data, going straight from bibliographic

data to genera — and omitting species data.

I am meeting him at Data Central on

Thursday the 9th and will stay there the
10th (maybe).

He has written a general Cooperative

Proposal for us to look at, in which

we'd treat Sponges & sponges, & he'd do

Forams & Ostracoda, and others would do

other groups.

Alan Shaw has written a report against

bibliographic data banks. Harry has responded

to it and is sending us the copies of each.

His Catalogue venture, again had on
our format, but now curatorial are
working well. He's abstracted ~~400~~
~~to 500~~ some and wants the go-ahead
to do the 400-500 Index Forms
of F&D from their Catalogues. This
might work for YOUR Catalogue.

I've alerted him to Streell's
VISIT and invited him to the
"Colloquium".

RSS

The American Museum of Natural History

Central Park West at 79th Street New York, New York 10024 (212) 873-1300



CENTENNIAL YEAR -1969

DEPARTMENT OF
MICROPALEONTOLOGY

Richard Charmatz, Ph.D.
Acting Chairman and
Assistant Curator

Lili E. Ronai, M.S.
Scientific Assistant

Brooks F. Ellis, Ph.D.
Curator Emeritus

May 6, 1969

Dr. Alfred Traverse
Deike Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

In order to get Joy to come along we will have to leave New York late on the afternoon of May 15. Consequently we will probably not make it to Penn State until well after dinnertime. Under the circumstances it will perhaps be better if we stay at the Nitanny Lion.

If you people have no other commitments and are available Friday evening, we could stay over the additional night and leave on Saturday morning. How will that work out? Perhaps the theater tickets might be equally obtainable for Friday evening? These questions need not be answered before we see you. Best regards!

Sincerely,

Harry
Harry

HLC:mm

The American Museum of Natural History

Central Park West at 79th Street New York, New York 10024 (212) 873-1300



CENTENNIAL YEAR -1969

DEPARTMENT OF MICROPALEONTOLOGY

Richard Charmatz, Ph.D.
Acting Chairman and
Assistant Curator

Lili E. Ronai, M.S.
Scientific Assistant

Brooks F. Ellis, Ph.D.
Curator Emeritus

March 4, 1969

Dr. Alfred Traverse
Department of Geology
Deike Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Will be most happy to visit with you during the week of April 28. Since this is well past Easter recess, Joy will have to be back at work, but many thanks for the joint invitation.

Also, we'll probably be seeing one another in Norman on March 26, at Jack Morrison's invitation. Jack called with an invitation to attend Wilson's demonstration of GIPSY, and I assume you and other members of MIC will also be present. My plans include a stop-over at Lawrence, Kansas on the way back, to attend the GSA palynology symposium.

The third (and I hope) final version of the planning manual is now being typed, and will probably be distributed by the 15th of this month. What we are doing, and what you and Bob Sanders are developing, will certainly serve as substantial basis for discussion. I am certain that we will both benefit from this exchange in terms of further clarification of our procedures, and "where ~~do~~ we go from here".

My personal situation at the Museum has not changed at all, and still no funds from N.S.F., although this is supposed to be enroute. Meanwhile the Department continues to "dip into the kitty" to keep me going. This is most unsettling, to say the least.

In answer to your earlier request for information on Messina's death, although an autopsy was not performed, this was apparently due to a massive stroke.

Looking forward to seeing you and Bob Sanders in both March and April.

Sincerely,

Harry

April 14, 1969

Dr. H.L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

of your most recent report. (I note that you locate us in Philadelphia - wishful thinking?). The next
Dear Harry: rely on in a hard report. Sanders and I should have
a lot of the discrediting the reports when he gets back--he is

The conference on information processing previously set up for 29-30 April has been moved to 15-16 May, as we have discussed by phone. We are expecting that you will arrive sometime on Thursday, 15 May. We will all have dinner together somewhere that evening. The conference-proper will be held Friday morning in the palynological laboratories of Penn State. We can continue over into the afternoon and evening, if desired. You hold a reservation at the Nittany Lion Inn for Thursday and Friday nights, 15-16 May. Spackman, Sanders and I look forward to seeing you. 20 April. I would suppose that you, Charcutz, Elze, Sanders, Spackman (and perhaps others), would join us for dinner somewhere that evening.

Yours very truly,

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology
and Botany
Associate Professor of Geology

AT:kwc

cc: R.B. Sanders
W. Spackman

P.S.: I made the reservation in case you want to use it, but Betty and I are hoping that you and Joy will want to stay with us instead and will look forward to hearing from you about that.

Fidelity Onion Skin
100% COTTON

April 4, 1969

Dr. H.L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10224

Dear Harry:

Thanks for the copies of your most recent report. (I note that you locate us in Philadelphia--wishful thinking?) The next one will surely be in a hard cover! Sanders and I should have a lot of fun discussing the reports when he gets back--he is in Washington today discussing the whole situation with Jim Mello.

Louis Cima called this morning to firm up the meeting up here. It will be on the morning of 30 April. He wants you and Charmatz both to come because he says that Charmatz is looking for a data grant too and might profit from the discussions here.

I am making reservations for you and Charmatz for the evening of 29 April. I would suppose that you, Charmatz, Cima, Sanders, Spackman (and perhaps others), would join us for dinner somewhere that evening.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology

AT:kwc

The American Museum of Natural History

Central Park West at 79th Street New York, New York 10024 (212) 873-1300



CENTENNIAL YEAR -1969

DEPARTMENT OF MICROPALEONTOLOGY

Richard Charmatz, Ph.D.
Acting Chairman and
Assistant Curator

Lili E. Ronai, M.S.
Scientific Assistant

Brooks F. Ellis, Ph.D.
Curator Emeritus

January 27, 1969

Dr. Alfred Traverse
Deike Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I hope that all is well with you and Bob, and that you are both making vast strides forward in your project.

To date, I have heard nothing further from N.S.F., although my last indications were to expect something before the end of January. This date rapidly approaches. Meanwhile, I am busy revising the manual, to bring it as nearly as possible into line with the various critical reviews that have been received. We also continue to work on refining the indexing procedures, and have been able to simplify many of these.

In going through the drawers of my desk I located the misplaced application card to A.A.S.P. (first filled out on June 14, 1968) and am sending it on to you with the enclosed check.

Best regards to Bob Sanders and your family.

Sincerely,

Harold L. Cousminer

HLC:mm

November 11, 1968

AIR MAIL

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

I am glad that you are sending duplicate copies of things to me and Sanders now. Saves us the bother of duplicating the stuff for interna distribution. Sanders is running pretty well with the ball.

November 28 is Thanksgiving, you anarchist! GSA fouled up that holiday for us last year, but I am adamant that nothing will this year. Besides, we have invited relatives in for the day.

How about December 5, 6, and/or 7 for the MIC meeting? Practically anytime in December after the fourth would be o.k., though I will balk at the 25th. Sanders is agreeable. We both should attend.

Regards to your wonderful family.

Yours cordially,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology

AT:kwc

cc: W. Riedel

June 12, 1968

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Mea culpa!--during Spring Term I am even farther behind than usual in answering letters and taking care of other obligations. Application form and form letter re AASP enclosed. Look forward to having you aboard.

Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Secretary-Treasurer
AASP

AT:kwc

Enclosures: application form and form letter re AASP

P.S.: Thought your 4-VI-68 memo on MIC to the point.

October 11, 1968

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Thanks for yours of 3 October. I am very confident that we "lucked out" in finding Bob Sanders. He is not only capable but seems to have enthusiasm for this project. What good fortune!

We look forward to getting copies of the new procedural manual, assuming that we shall be so favored.

The results of our project will be absolutely public and must be compatible with what the rest of MIC people are doing--that was a condition of the grant. If this weren't true, I would have little interest in the whole thing because there are several other people already in the field with private plans (Wilson, Kremp, etc.), and I could see little percentage in yet another such deal.

Sanders and I will be at the MIC meeting with bells on, but I must say, because of the AASP meeting (I am terribly sorry that you can't make it) and subsequent field work that I am doing and travel that Sanders has planned, it would be best if that meeting could be held in December.

Best wishes to your charming family.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology

AT:kwc

cc: Dr. R.B. Sanders

May 29, 1968

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

This is to thank you and Dr. Messina for the fine work the Museum did to make the weekend conference a good experience for us all. Running such a thing is always more trouble than it seems. I enjoyed the Alden Hotel--a new-old experience. Of course, I also appreciated your Joy's, and the children's hospitality at your house--a needed change of pace in a rather fatiguing weekend.

I will keep in touch with you re developments on the project here. Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology
Editor
Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen

AT:kwc

March 20, 1968

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Glad to get yours of 13 March. I still feel somewhat on the outskirts of things in that we are still to take an active role in the development of the various systems.

I was glad to see the draft of the "procedural manual", because I had heard grapevine-wise that there was acute unhappiness in some high places that the manual had not yet appeared.

I don't know enough to ask very good questions, but one that certainly comes to mind is that I don't understand from the draft procedural manual what will be done with regard to #3 on p. 4. I guess the explanation is a little too brief for me to understand. With regard to 2a on p. 3--who will assign the "unique reference number"? With regard to palynological literature, for example, and presuming that we are funded to try our hand at it, would we assign the numbers? If so, does this mean that we would be assigned by somebody a block of numbers?

What, if anything, do you know about the data storage and retrieval system Kremp has been developing for some of the oil companies?

What do you think we ought to be doing in a practical way to get ready for the big push, in case it comes?

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology

March 20, 1968

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street at Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Under separate cover I am sending you the sample of Brandon lignite I promised you so long ago that you have probably forgotten all about it! My mills grind slow, but eventually do grind.

I figure that detailed location information, etc., is not necessary, since it is all in my publication on the subject.

Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology

ATLkwc

December 5, 1967

Dr. Harold Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
Central Park W. & 79 Street
New York, New York 10023

Dear Harold:

We received today a copy of your summary of the meeting held the evening of 21 November, 1967, in New Orleans. We were interested to receive the copies of the declaration of intent, and we enclose herewith a copy of our similar declaration. It will be noted that we introduced only one change from the format of the other declarations--that we promise to proceed with this plan only if financing is forthcoming. Our present staff and facilities cannot be diverted from present tasks to an extent that would make an appreciable dent in the information-retrieval task that lies before us.

We would also like to have it a matter of record that we disapproved of the fact that your report treats the meeting held on the evening of 21 November, apparently in your hotel room, as the "official" meeting in New Orleans. You announced in a letter to us dated 10 October, that the meeting was set up as follows: "The meeting will immediately follow the Wednesday morning (Nov. 22) Geoscience Information Society symposium to be held in the Gold Room Roosevelt Hotel." Because of commitments previously made, we were not able to attend the impromptu evening session. We stayed in New Orleans for Wednesday in order to be present at the session called in your letter. It is somewhat distressing to us to find that we are not listed as official participants in the micropaleontology information systems meeting and that consequently we are not among those who "agreed to be designated a formal committee". We regard it as improper that ostensibly "formal" arrangements were made at a meeting at which we could not be present, held at other than the announced time.

It is painful to bring this matter up, but we feel that doing so has value in dramatizing the importance of conducting all the affairs of this very

Dr. Harold Cousminer

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December 5, 1967

important undertaking in a businesslike way if the 100% cooperation that is necessary for its success is to be achieved and preserved.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Editor
Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen

William Spackman
Editor
Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen

AT:WS:kwc

Statement of Intent

Contingent upon sufficient funds being available to us, we agree to supplement the operations of our Catalog in whatever way is necessary to cooperate with the American Museum of Natural History, Department of Micropaleontology, in the:

1) Development of compatible output requirements, data elements required to generate these outputs, and output and input formats, for a central machine-based information system in micropaleontology.

2) Establishment of a central micropaleontology information system at the American Museum of Natural History that will serve all micropaleontologists and other earth scientists.

3) Building of data files in the central system by supplying input of specialized micropaleontologic information in a form compatible with system requirements.

Name Alfred Travis
Name Richard Spockman
Organization Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen
Date December 5, 1967

A meeting was held in New Orleans, Louisiana November 21, 1967
from 8:30 PM to 11:30 PM, to discuss Micropaleontology Information
Systems development.

The following persons were present:

Harry C. Kent	Colorado School of Mines
Paula Worstell	Colorado School of Mines
Donald Eicher	<i>Spring Geol.</i> Colorado State University of 1
William R. Riedel	Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Helen P. Foreman	Oberlin College
Angelina R. Messina	American Museum of Natural History
Lili E. Ronai	American Museum of Natural History
Harold L. Cousminer	American Museum of Natural History

+ *M. Cima*

The report, "A Comparative Study of Information Systems for the
Micropaleontological Community" formed the basis for discussing compatible
systems development.

The following itemizes the results of the meeting:

1. The persons present agreed to be designated a formal committee,
that would work together to develop a "universal micropaleontologic informa-
tion system".

2. It was agreed that the following data elements would be included in
the system to be developed:

a. The use of bibliographic citation elements compatible with
U.S.G.S. (for North America) and G.S.A. (exclusive of North America)
bibliographies.

b. Colorado School of Mines, American Museum of Natural History
and the McLean Paleontological Laboratory would exchange and use common
unique foraminiferal species numbers.

c. A common hierarchical supergeneric coding system for
foraminifera would be used by Colorado, American Museum, and the McLean
Paleo Lab.

d. The Standard Stratigraphic Code adopted by AAPG (AAPG Bull.,
Vol. 51, No. 10) would be used for input of stratigraphic data. This
includes the use of standard codes for rock stratigraphic units. A
coding system for geologic age will be expanded as required, by consensus
of the committee.

e. The committee will work together to develop common designators
for repository data including:

- 1) Types
- 2) Museum localities
- 3) Accession numbers
- 4) Museum catalog numbers

f. The committee will work together to develop common designators for:

- 1) geographic localities
- 2) environmental data
- 3) lithologic descriptive data

3. Common output elements will include:

- a. Bibliographic citation and cross reference capability
- b. Stratigraphic occurrences
- c. Geographic occurrences
- d. Assemblage data
- e. Author indicated synonymies

Also discussed was the requirement by N.S.F. that micropaleontologists interested in information services demonstrate their close cooperation before systems development projects would be funded. A statement of intent was drafted and signed by committee members (representing their respective institutions) and is appended to this report.

Harold L. Cousminer

November 29, 1967

Statement of Intent

Contingent upon sufficient funds being available to us, we
The undersigned agrees to cooperate with the American Museum
of Natural History, Department of Micropaleontology, ~~to assist~~ in the:

1) Development of compatible output requirements, data elements required to generate these outputs, and output and input formats, for a central machine-based information system in micropaleontology.

2) Establishment of a central micropaleontology information system at the American Museum of Natural History that will serve all micropaleontologists and other earth scientists.

3) Building of data files in the central system by supplying input of specialized micropaleontologic information in a form compatible with system requirements.

Name Harry C. Kent
Organization Colorado School of Mines
Date November 21, 1967

agree to supplement the operations of our Catalog in whatever way is necessary

Statement of Intent

The undersigned agrees to cooperate with the American Museum of Natural History, Department of Micropaleontology, to assist in the:

1) Development of compatible output requirements, data elements required to generate these outputs, and output and input formats, for a central machine-based information system in micropaleontology.

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3) Building of data files in the central system by supplying input of specialized micropaleontologic information in a form compatible with system requirements.

Name

William N. Foreman

Organization

Oberlin College

Date

Nov. 21 1967

Statement of Intent

The undersigned agrees to cooperate with the American Museum of Natural History, Department of Micropaleontology, to assist in the:

1) Development of compatible output requirements, data elements required to generate these outputs, and output and input formats, for a central machine-based information system in micropaleontology.

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3) Building of data files in the central system by supplying input of specialized micropaleontologic information in a form compatible with system requirements.

Name

Augustine R. J. Massin

Organization

American Museum of Natural History

Date

Nov. 21, 1967

Statement of Intent

The undersigned agrees to cooperate with the American Museum of Natural History, Department of Micropaleontology, to assist in the:

1) Development of compatible output requirements, data elements required to generate these outputs, and output and input formats, for a central machine-based information system in micropaleontology.

2) Establishment of a central micropaleontology information system at the American Museum of Natural History that will serve all micropaleontologists and other earth scientists.

3) Building of data files in the central system by supplying input of specialized micropaleontologic information in a form compatible with system requirements.

Name

W R Riedel

Organization

Scripps Inst. Oceanography, La Jolla, Calif.

Date

21 Nov 1967



File Cousminer

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CENTRAL PARK WEST AT 79TH STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10024

DEPARTMENT OF MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

Angelina R. Messina, M.A.
Acting Chairman and Associate Curator

Richard Charmatz, Ph.D.
Assistant Curator

Lili E. Ronai, M.S.
Scientific Assistant

Brooks F. Ellis, Ph.D.
Curator Emeritus

October 10, 1967

Dr. Alfred Traverse
Deike Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Dr. Traverse:

You are invited to a meeting of micropaleontologists interested in information systems development, during the GSA annual convention in New Orleans. The meeting will immediately follow the Wednesday morning (Nov. 22) Geoscience Information Society symposium to be held in the Gold Room Roosevelt Hotel.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss a drafted manual attempting to formulate data elements, coding structure, and format for a general information system in micropaleontology.

Please advise if you will be able to participate in this meeting. Let us know if you cannot be present, so that we can keep you posted on future developments.

Yours very truly,

Harold L. Cousminer
Harold L. Cousminer

HLC:np

cc: Foster Smith, Jr. - AGI
Don Squires - Smithsonian Institution
James Mello - USGS
Harry Kent - Colorado School of Mines
William Riedel - Scripps Institution
Helen P. Foreman - Oberlin College
Alfred Traverse - Pennsylvania State University
William Spackman - Pennsylvania State University
Louis Cima - NSF

October 13, 1967

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Got your letter of 10 October re the meeting in New Orleans. Spackman and I will be there, with or without bells on. Both of us are very interested in finding out more about the whole subject, with idea that the Catalog is almost certain to be involved in the general line of work we have discussed.

See you in New Orleans.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Associate Professor of Geology

AT:kwc

cc: W. Spackman



THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CENTRAL PARK WEST AT 79TH STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10024

DEPARTMENT OF MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

Angelina R. Messina, M.A.
Acting Chairman and Associate Curator

Richard Charnatz, Ph.D.
Assistant Curator

Lili E. Ronai, M.S.
Scientific Assistant

Brooks F. Ellis, Ph.D.
Curator Emeritus

September 8, 1967

Dr. Alfred Traverse
Deike Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Sorry to have referred to enclosures that did not get enclosed. Investigation indicates that: 1) the reference was mailed to you in a separate envelope and 2) it did not get posted until after the Labor Day hiatus. The girl typing this letter apologizes.

Although you probably received the reference by now, I am enclosing another copy.

Sincerely yours,

Harold L. Cousminer

HLC:np
enc.

September 5, 1967

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Thank you for your letter of September 1, to which this is not really a reply. (I am still digesting and thinking about its contents.) I just wanted to mention that the enclosure which you mentioned in the letter (article by Don Squires) somehow or other failed to get enclosed. It sounds from your letter as if I ought to see it, and I wonder if you might be able still to find it and send it on to me.

Looking forward to seeing you again in the not to distant future, I am

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Editor
Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen

AT:kaw

August 28, 1967

Dr. Harold L. Cousimer
Department of Micropaleontology
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street & Central Park West
New York, New York 10024

Dear Harry:

Having returned from the camping trip to Montreal and vicinity, I am now back at work and have given first priority to a serious effort to digest and understand "A Proposed AGI/Micropaleontology Information System". I am very much impressed by the amount of thought and effort that has gone into developing the system to the extent that the proposal shows. I have a number of questions, such as whether we could get along with the same forms, basically, or would need to change them somewhat for fossil spores and pollen; whether the formidable amount of paperwork that seems to be necessary in the initial stages of setting up the basic forms for each taxon could not be somehow reduced; whether there would be some easy way to correct errors and make emendations of the basic data once they were stored; whether anybody has devoted any thought to the always troublesome business of how one could go about having users of the system pay an equitable amount for the services they use, etc., etc. But I suppose there are already framed or easily framed answers to these questions.

I feel strongly that the Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen should definitely get aboard and expand its activities to include an effort to put palynological data in a form that could be incorporated in the general system. I do not view this as replacing our present compendium, but as an effort running parallel to it.

What is your counsel about where we go from here? I recall that Dr. Cima suggested submitting a proposal. It would be very helpful to have your help in drafting it--perhaps have you go over a very rough draft from me, or something of the sort. I also recall your mentioning some

Dr. Harold L. Cousminer

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August 28, 1967

sort of meeting to air the complex of questions involved within the next few weeks. Is that still on? If it is, would that provide the opportunity for me to pick your brains about a preliminary draft that I could have ready?

Needless to say, I will welcome whatever gems you may feel like throwing my way!

Regards to your charming wife.

Yours very truly,



Alfred Traverse
Editor
Catalog of Fossil Spores and Pollen

AT:kaw