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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.

To: "Alfred Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: RE: Laurie

Laurie did finish.

She was working in pollen but then got interested in animal bones and did her dissertation on the identification of some animal bone remains from a large archaeological site in Texas. I don't have a copy of her dissertation, but could get you a Xerox if you wanted.

She then left, moved to Houston, got married, had two kids, was teaching anthropology at Houston Community College, and was doing fine. However, I have not heard from her in over a year so I don't know the very latest....but could try to find out.

She use to have an email address with JUNO.COM....but lately those have been coming back to me so I guess she no longer uses that account..

Good to hear from you. Let me know what you need...

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
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-----Original Message-----
From: Alfred Traverse [mailto:traverse@ems.psu.edu]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2001 1:14 PM
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Subject: Laurie

Hi, Vaughn!

Did Laurie Zimmerman ever get a doctorate with you? If so, what was her dissertation title? If not, what happened? Is she still sailing under the Zimmerman flag or has she hoisted a new one?

Best. Al.
Alfred Traverse
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Department of Geosciences
307 Deike-PSU
University Park, PA 16802
Ph.:814-863-3419
Fax:814-863-7823

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Vaughn Bryant
8/23/00

To: "Devra Wexler" <dwexler@bib-arch.org>
Subject: Reply to Danin's letter

Devra,

Reading the copy of Danin's letter (see below) does clear up a few points, but I sincerely disagree with him that "...there was no need to mention that in our book." What in the hell were these respected scientists thinking about when they published the book? Danin and the other authors were working and examining something that is as charged with emotion as almost any relic that exists! Could it have been that all the authors were "too" influenced by the Whangers who for years "have been convinced beyond any doubt" that the Shroud is authentic. There is a large group of scientists and lay persons who believe the whole research effort associated with Shroud is useless and flawed and not useable as proof that it is authentic. This group's reasons fill books (several of which I have read). Then there is the other camp that grasps at any new or old research effort that in any way claims to authenticate the Shroud (I have read several of these as well). So, into this caldron of controversy Danin and his co-authors jumped with both feet. Had I been Danin, I would have been a great deal more careful to explain EVERYTHING in great detail. True, for the "convinced" no explanation more than what is offered in the book is needed. But, for the other group and other scientists who have great reservations about the authenticity of the Shroud only complete details of the evidence will even be considered.

Whenever I work on forensic cases I have to "explain" what happened to samples in GREAT detail or my results are viewed as worthless. Thus, I approached my review of this new book on the Shroud as a forensic expert and as a palynologist who does forensic palynology. In forensics partial explanations are often worse than no explanations!

Danin speaks about how Frei "removed pollen" from the sticky tapes and mounted them somewhere else. That fact was never published by Frei in any main publication I could find. It might have been mentioned in some obscure newsletter printed somewhere, but those types of sources are not considered as valid scientific evidence (non peer-reviewed) in a court of law or by respected scientists. In spite of all my background research on the Shroud, I first learned that Frei "might" have removed pollen from the original tapes when you sent me a Xerox copy of an unpublished manuscript (As you remember, I received that copy after my article on the Shroud was already written). In that Xerox copy it purportedly claims Frei did attempt to "cut out and mount" some of the pollen grains on the tapes. If that manuscript was really written by Frei, and if he really did cut out and mount pollen grains, then what happened to them? In the new Shroud book and in Danin's letter there is no mention that any of the authors have "ever seen" those removed pollen grains. Again, just going by what I have recently read in that Xeroxed manuscript, whoever wrote it says the following, "These sealed pieces of tape have---due to their transparency---the character of permanent microscopic mountings, the tape serving as slide and cover-glass at the same time. They can be examined directly under the stereoscopic microscope at lower magnifications from both sides. I used enlargements of 60:1 and marked with a ball-pen all particles of interest..." Later in the manuscript it says, "These marked areas were punched out of the tape so that the resulting disks contained only one grain."

If I were an attorney in court challenging what was just written in this manuscript I would have a "field day!" For example, I would ask the following questions: 1) How many of these "particles" were marked and cut out of the tapes? All, a few, 50%, or what? 2) I would challenge the next statement where it says that these particles were identified at enlargements of 60:1. I have a research paper published in the Journal of Economic Entomology (refereed journal) in which I discuss tests of pollen

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identification I made on adult, nectar-feeding moths. We examined these moths using a dissection microscope at a magnification of 125:1 [not 60:1]. My colleagues and I discovered that our ability to differentiate between "any type of fresh pollen grains" and other types of particles of non-pollen debris proved very unsuccessful. In one test our success rate was less than 50% and in another test it was less than 30%. So, I am highly suspicious that this technique could have been used with success at a magnification of 60:1, especially noting the "success" rate reported in that manuscript copy! 3) Later in that same manuscript it states, "...I wanted to confirm the result through a subsequent analysis by scanning electron microscopy. For this purpose it was necessary to remove the single grains from their mounting in glycerine-gelatine and clean them thoroughly." Again, if I were an attorney I would have a field day with that statement. First, fresh pollen "expands" when it is mounted in glycerin, and in the manuscript it states that it was more than 4 years later when the individual grains were removed from the glycerin slides. Second, removing single grains from a mounting media, such as glycerin, and then " cleaning them thoroughly" before mounting those single grains on a stub for SEM analysis is very, very difficult. Third, even if a person was able to succeed at all that (as stated in the manuscript), then coated and dehydrated the single pollen grain for SEM use, and then by some stroke of luck was able to "locate that one grain on the SEM stub" the chances of that one grain being "glued" to the stub in the correct orientation needed to make a positive ID has the same probability as buying a winning ticket in the lottery! I assure you, I know what I am talking about because not only have I tried to do exactly what is reported in that manuscript, but I also have published a atlas of pollen grains in which all are illustrated using SEM. My co-authors and I spent five years and 14,000 hours of time to complete that atlas. I believe this illustrates how difficult pollen work and pollen identification can be using an SEM; especially if you want absolute confirmation of your pollen IDs!

In summary, I offer these final points. If, as the authors of the book and Danin's letter claim, much of their case hangs on the successful presence and identification of a single pollen taxa, Gundelia, and on the correct geographical distribution of this genus, then I would challenge them on these points. For me, they have not justified the uniqueness of this single pollen taxa. Where is their proof that this pollen is unique and the plant's distribution is correctly located geographically? Other problems I have with these data, as these authors have reported them, are: 1) identifications of fresh pollen at any taxonomic level [family, genus, or species] is often very difficult; 2) fresh pollen stuck on transparent tape [remember that once pollen grains are stuck on tape their orientation can not be changed in order to make a positive identification] are even harder to identify with certainty; and microscopic studies of fresh pollen [on tapes] at magnifications of either 100:1 or 800:1 (as reported in the book on the Shroud) makes positive identifications, especially of pollen grains smaller than 35 micrometers, often unreliable. Finally, where at the pictures the authors must have taken of the two-decade-old fresh pollen grains for which the taxa were confirmed from the original tapes collected by Frei? A picture is worth a thousand words!

The defense rests its case!

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-----Original Message-----
From: Devra Wexler [ ]
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2000 8:23 AM
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Subject: [Fwd: question about pollen tapes]

Here it is.

Avinoam Danin wrote:

> Dear Ms. Wexler,
> Thank you for your letter. You should know (and we wrote it) that Frie
> sampled 2 sets of samples: 1. a small quantity he sampled in 1973, and had
> time to further study, 2. A large quantity he sampled in 1978, and did not
> succeed to study because of his death. In No. 1, he cut samples (not all
of
> the pollen) with their sticky tapes, remounted each grain individually on
> glass, dissolved the organic artificial components (= sticky tape and glue
> remnants) and studied them with light microscope. He studied the
morphology
> of his control samples with SEM. Since many people study pollen morphology
> with SEM, there was no need to mention that in our book. When Dr. Baruch
> studied the sticky tapes available to us (CSST) he checked Frei's
> determinations and you have table 1 on page 12 declaring all the
differences
> between what Frei thought and what is determined by the contemporary best
> expert botanist-palynologis for the Flora of the Near East. The most
> important outcome of Frei's determinations was the finding of Gundelia
> tournefortii. He did not know that he had the best silent witness in his
> hands (cf. the maps and all our discussion).
> The most serious work on the pollen of the shroud was done by Uri
> Baruch who analyzed all the pollen samples on the sticky tapes. To avoid
any
> McCronnish comments we did not touch the sticky tapes and due to the time
> which passed since sampling 34.8% of the pollen were not determinable with
> 100% (the quality of determination of the rest) which Dr. Baruch wanted to
> achieve. I suggest to you to look at the 2/3 of the filling of the
> drinking-glass (the determined pollen) and not at the 1/3 empty part of
that
> "glass".
> To be sure that I answered your questions I'll summarize it
again -
> I hope that it is fully understood = we worked on the samples which Frei
> took. Most of them were not studied by him, we also re-examined most of
the
> samples he isolated from his 1973 samples (others are not available). I am
> sending a copy of this letter to Alan Whanger and to Uri Baruch. It is
> essential that you get in touch with them as well if you do not understand
> the way the samples were handled since 1973 and 1978 until the final
> publication of our book. Sincerely yours, A. Danin

>
> At 10:41 11/08/2000 -0400, you wrote:
> >Dear Dr. Danin,
> >I have been reading over sections of your book as well as some published

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> >(and unpublished) manuscripts of Frei's, which Dr. Whanger sent to me.
> >>From Frei's papers, it sounds like he removed all of the pollen samples
> >from his sticky-tapes before he mounted them on slides and did his
> >studies. But I was under the impression that the study you and Dr.
> >Baruch did used Frei's original sticky-tape samples. Your book says that
> >it was hard to make positive identification of some of the grains
> >because of the "poor optical quality of most samples (caused by the
> >covering sticky tapes)" which implies (to me at least) that the grains
> >were still on the tapes. But Frei writes that he removed the grains from
> >the tapes, and used SEM and 1200X in his study. This isn't mentioned in
> >your book. Can you clarify these points for me? I'm trying to have a
> >better grasp on this material before our article is published.
> >Thank you VERY much. I look forward to hearing from you.
> >
> >Best wishes,
> >Devra Wexler
> >
> >--
> >
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To: "Al Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>,
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"Art Cohen" <cohen@geol.sc.edu>, "Bill Elsik" <wmelsik@txcyber.com>,
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"GrimmEric" <grimm@museum.state.il.us>,
"KershawPeter" <Peter.Kershaw@arts.monash.edu.au>
Subject: Re: Pollen Image Database - Europe & North America & . . . (think big)

Vaughn,

I applaud your effort, and I hope that the list of "consultants" will continue to grow, because the usefulness of the illustrations will depend on the extent to which the palynological community is involved. I suggest face-to-face meetings or at least several iterations of the list. In particular, I note the absence of Europeans, in fact only TWO non- North Americans (hi Mina and Dallas!) are included in the distribution. How useful could a list for Europeans be, if they are not consulted?

Regarding North America, I think you should make use of the resources available from the North American Pollen Database:

"Ceanothus" is not in top-100-NA-subarctic.doc as are other types which the fossil70.html list proves are common in North American pollen diagrams. In addition, there are many misspellings in top-100-NA-subarctic.doc For example, "6. Artemesia" is misspelled. And neither list (NGDC nor top-100) includes the important southwestern types: Larrea, Cactaceae, Nyctaginaceae etc., perhaps because NGDC is so slow in updating its data. Finally, you are ignoring the illustrations cataloged at
http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/paleo/tilia.html
http://medias.mereo.fr/paleo/fossil70.html

This email is an important beginning, and the distribution list is a good start, but particularly if you want to include European types, and moreover if you want to serve the Asian palynologists that dominated the recent IPC-10, or the South American or African or Australian Palynologists (which are being served by the World Pollen Database group) there is a long, long way to go.

I am interested in helping, if you plan to address the issue of full representation, and if you plan for this service to be free. It is not clear from your note whether you plan to charge for this service, or who will pay for the web site and CD's. Please comment.

In my opinion, this could be a very important service IF it is expanded to include a distributed database of standard pollen images and standard descriptions, housed on servers all over the world. NOT just in one country, state, or city.

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To: "Steve Hall" <shall@mail.utexas.edu>,
"Owen Davis" <palynolo@geo.arizona.edu>,
"Mina Evron" <evron@research.ahifa.ac.il>,
"Judy Lentin" <judith.lentin@thementors.com>,
"John Wrenn" <glwrenn@lsu.edu>,
"Fred Rich" <frich@gsaix2.cc.gasou.edu>,
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"Bill Elsik" <wmelsik@txcyber.com>, "Art Cohen" <cohen@geol.sc.edu>,
"Alan Graham" <agraham@biology.kent.edu>,
"Al Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: Need your help

We have embarked upon a large project with the final objective being the production of free CDs and free web sites. What we hope to do is produce a world key to pollen so that any palynologists or student could select a region of the world, get our CD or go to the web site and learn a list of key pollen types (and pictures) for the region in question.

Currently, we are putting our modern pollen collection of nearly 20,000 taxa into an ACCESS database file complete with data and pictures. Once completed we will be able to use it as a key to search for pollen types by: Family, genus, shape, apeturation, ornamentation, size, or geographical location.

While doing the above we have produced our first two "pollen lists" for two geographical regions as a test. We are hoping that if you have time you might look over these lists and let us know if we have forgotten some important taxa. We realize that any list will be somewhat subjective but we have tried to do the best we can for each region.

For each region of the world we plan to have the "top 100" pollen types. What we mean by this is that if you were to do Quaternary pollen studies in that region these are the 100 most probable ones you might find.

Eventually, when this project is complete we are considering doing the same thing for the Tertiary.

Thanks for the help. Just email us a reply when you get time. There is no rush. We will be working on this project for quite a while.

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Top 100 - Europe.doc


Top 100 - NA - Subarctic.doc

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

To: "Fred Rich" <frich@gsaix2.cc.gasou.edu>
Cc: "Mina Evron" <evron@research.haifa.ac.il>,
"Bill Elsik" <wmcelsik@txcyber.com>,
"Al Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: Boy did I goof up!

I would appreciate your advice on this...

I think I have committed a terrible error that only came to light when someone asked me a question by email concerned the fact that "the book on the Shroud says that Uri Baruch could not conduct SEM studies because of the poor state of pollen preservation in the Max Frei samples."

When I saw that question I wondered about it because I never remember any comment about SEM studies or even an attempt to do them in the material I was using to write the review. I then went back, got the actual printed book and read the whole thing again from cover to cover. It was then that I was shocked.... Shocked because some of my comments about the book in the PALYNOS book review did not appear in the final book. So....I wondered where did my comments come from.... After thinking about it for some time I now know what happened...

Months ago Hershel Shanks, editor of BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY, sent me a PRE-COPY of the Shroud manuscript that he has received from the Missouri Botanical Gardens.... I remember I read that draft copy, and thought "these authors are crazy if they think these data are going to be believed." Later I got the actual book, which I Xeroxed when I received it, and then put the actual book on a shelf (I wanted to use the Xerox copy so I could mark and underline on it without damage to the original book. During the next few weeks and months as I read more and more about the Shroud, which I found in other books and sources I got confused as to which of those "Xerox copies (the original copy of the draft or the Xerox of the actual book)" were which.... I am terribly afraid that some of my comments in the review are based on written material in the DRAFT copy, and that those passages from the draft copy were later omitted in the final book... In fact, the final book was toned down quite a bit from their original draft copy.

I am terribly sorry about all this... I feel very badly because I consider myself a careful scientist who always tries to be correct in what I say. I think I just got mixed up on which copy was which since both were Xerox copies and both looked identical. What is worse, I have given the book a bad review based to a great degree on what was said in their earlier DRAFT....not what was actually printed....

So, what should I do...If you were in my shoes how would you try to correct this error? I want to makes things right and I do think I owe the authors of the book and apology but I am not sure how I should do that?

From the wisdom of your past experiences, do you have any suggestions?

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
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Palynology Laboratory
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Texas A&M University

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

V. Bryant

To: "'Alfred Traverse'" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: RE: shroud article

Al,

Many thanks for the comments....The day I sent you that copy by email Carol's brother went into ICU in the hospital and died 5 days later. We went to NYC when he went into ICU and got back yesterday after the ceremony....What a mess with all the mourning relatives, hurt feelings, grief, etc...Anyway, I was glad to get back and will keep working on the paper.....

I will send a later draft and would like to correspond about the Shroud with the lady you mention in this email...if she is interested...

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-----Original Message-----
From: Alfred Traverse [
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2000 3:36 PM
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Subject: shroud article

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

file V. Bryant

To: "Bill Elsik" <wmcelsik@txcyber.com>
Cc: "Al Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: Do you like this rewrite any better?

Flora of the Shroud of Turin. Avinoam Danin, Alan D. Whanger, Uri Baruch, and Mary Whanger, 1999, Missouri Botanical Garden Press. 52 pages, 25 B&W figures. $14.95 (US)

"Is it, or isn't it? That is the question!" In this paraphrasing of Shakespeare, I ask a question that has plagued devoted Christians and scientists for centuries. Is the Shroud of Turin actually the linen cloth that covered the body of Jesus after he was crucified?

Late last year a new book published by the Missouri Botanical Gardens became the latest entry into the controversy surrounding the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin. The book focuses mostly on the evidence of the Shroud's floral remains and presents new interpretations as to why the four authors believe the floral remains confirm that the Shroud origin comes from a period earlier than eighth century AD, that it originally came from a place in the vicinity of Jerusalem, and that the Shroud was used during the spring between the months of March and April (i.e., Easter).

For those who are not familiar with the Shroud of Turin, a bit of background information might be helpful. The Shroud is purported to have been the burial cloth of Jesus of Nazareth and shows a full-length front and back image of what appears to be a crucified man. It is made of fine linen and is 4.35 x 1.1 meters in size. The history that some associate with the Shroud begins with the writings of an early Christian historian, Eusebius, who reported that in the year AD 30, Thaddeus, one of Jesus' disciples, gave a "cloth with an image on it" to king Abgar V, whose palace was in Edessa, Turkey. At the time Abgar V was very ill with what modern scholars believe may have been leprosy. However, after Abgar V looked at and touched the cloth, he was miraculously healed. The news of his cure spread rapidly and soon many pilgrims flocked to Edessa to see and touch the cloth. In A.D. 944 Romanus I, Emperor of the Byzantine Empire, wanted the "magic" cloth , which by then was being called the Mandylion. The city of Edessa refused to give up their sacred relic so Romanus I laid siege to the city until they surrendered the Mandylion. The cloth was then taken to the Byzantine capital of Constantinople by the victors. In AD 1204, Knights Templars of the Fourth Crusades reportedly took the Mandylion (Shroud?) to France. From France the Mandylion (Shroud?) went to England and then back to France. In AD 1453, the cloth (Shroud?) was given to the King of Savoy who took it to Turin where it has remained in the Chapel of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist ever since.

Almost from the first appearance of the cloth,(Mandylion, Shroud?) questions were raised about its authenticity. Many aspects of the Shroud make it a challenging religion icon to examine and to try to validate. Add to the numerous careful scientific studies of the Shroud the element of religious faith and immediately a problem develops. Many believe the Shroud is authentic and view any attempt to disprove the Shroud's origin as the work of non-believers who will do anything to destroy or challenge Christian faith. Thus, during the past four decades when any scientist has attempted to use scientific or forensic techniques to examine the Shroud all positive results have been accepted by the faithful, but all negative results have been met with immediate skepticism and challenges by the same faithful who then question the accuracy of the scientific methods. For example, during the 1980s small portions of the Shroud were removed and sent to different laboratories for dating using radiocarbon techniques. Radiocarbon labs at Oxford University dated the Shroud to AD 1322 + 50, labs at the University of California (Berkeley) dated the Shroud to AD 1340 + 50, and other Shroud fragments were dated by labs at the University of Arizona and the Zurich

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Institute for Middle Energy Physics as being an average of AD 1325 + 65. All of these dates were immediately challenged by the faithful who argued: 1) that the Shroud fragments that were dated were pieces of linen used to "repair" the Shroud during the 1300s, 2) that recent bacteria and fungi inside the examined fibers could have provided a younger date, and 3) that the heat of a fire in AD 1532 [which scorched but did not destroy the Shroud] may have increased the C14 content of the linen.

The radiocarbon dates and the many other scientific tests performed on the Shroud are numerous, but those data are not the focus of this book, nor my review. Instead, I want to concentrate on the botanical evidence associated with the Shroud, about which these authors have written. The botanical investigation of the Shroud began in November 1973, when Dr. Max Frei, Director of the Zurich Police Scientific Laboratory was allowed to collect 26 "tape pulls" from the surface of the Shroud. According to Walter McCrone (1996), on the sticky surface of the 1973 tapes Frei found slightly more than 100 pollen grains, many of which he stated made an unassailable case for the Shroud's having been in the area of Israel/Turkey. Frei first presented those findings during a lecture in October of 1978 at The Congress of Turin. Of the 44 pollen types Frei reported, he claimed 34 types were from plants that grow only in Palestine (Israel) or Turkey. In McCrone's 1996 book, Judgement Day for the Turin Shroud, McCrone reports that in 1981 Frei stated that a reexamination of the pollen on the original 1973 and later 1978 tape samples revealed not 34, but a total of 54 different types of pollen that came from plants growing exclusively in areas of Palestine and Turkey.

The authors of the current book on the Shroud of Turin report slightly different numbers for the various Frei studies that are listed by McCrone (1996). The numbers in both accounts are fairly similar, and I admit that I do not know which report is accurate because I do not have access to some of the original German and Italian notes, manuscripts, and obscure newsletter-type publications cited in both books. The authors of the most current Shoud study (Danin et al.) report that Frei identified 48 (not 44) pollen types to the genus level. Regardless of the actual number of different pollen taxa, the important issue is whether or not the pollen alone can verify that the Shroud had ever been in the region of Jerusalem, Israel. One of the authors of the current book, Uri Baruch, reexamined the original sticky tapes, slides, and other materials collected by Frei in 1973 and 1978. In an effort to confirm the pollen taxa found on the Frei sticky tapes, Baruch used comparative pollen samples he collected and pollen reference samples collected earlier by Frei and later by botanist Avinoam Danin. Baruch produced a taxonomic pollen list for the current book that shows he was able to confirm 18 of the original 47 (44?, 48?) pollen taxa that Frei reported as being found on sticky tape samples he collected from the Shroud in 1973. Baruch also reexamined the pollen stuck to 24 additional sticky tape samples taken from the Shroud in 1978 by Max Frei. The 1978 sticky tapes contained a total of 313 pollen grains of which Baruch said he was able to make a "...positive identification on 44.6%." In the "positive ID" group Baruch listed 91 pollen grains of Gundelia tournefortii L. , which the authors claim, "...becomes not only a temporal indicator but also a geographical one." Later, the authors continue by saying, "It Gundelia tournefortii) also grows at the center of the Mediterranean territory of Israel in bathas or shrubby formations that develop as seral communities in old fields succession."

Aside from the pollen the authors also rely upon other floral evidence to authenticate the Shroud. The other floral evidence consists of images of plant flowers, leaves, and stems on the Shroud, which they admit are, "Plant images (that) are rather difficult to see directly on the Shroud." The authors point out that, "...photographically enhanced photos (of the Shroud) from negatives made by Ernie (in 1931) are excellent tools for discovering plant images on the Shroud." In all, the authors report finding 14 specific

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plant taxa that are revealed as faint "images" in photos taken of the Shroud. From those enhanced photos they state that most images can be identified to the level of both genus and species. Some of the plant images the authors purportedly identified from the photos include those of: Chrysanthemum (cf. C. coronarium L.), Pistacia atlantica Desf. and P. lentiscus L., Gundelia tournefortii L., and Zygophyllum dumosum Boiss. Of these five taxa the authors report that, "...Chrysanthemum coronarium is only suggestive and is not a conclusive geographical indicator for the Shroud." However, they also state that the plant images on the Shroud confirm that, "Gundelia tournefortii may serve as an indicator plant for the entire assemblage... and...its phenology is also indicative for chronology of the Shroud; Gundelia tournefortii blooms in Israel between March and May." Finally, the authors seal their claims for the Shroud's authenticity by saying that the image of "...the bouquet containing Zygophyllum dumosum appears on the body image's upper chest. Here, two young but well-developed succulent leaves are visualized.....The only species of Zygophyllum in Israel and its neighboring countries that sheds its pair of leaflets annually is Z. dumosum." The authors then include a map in their book showing the distribution of this plant and noting that the plant grows "only" in a very restricted region of the Sinai Desert and in areas of Dead Sea in western Jordan and eastern Israel.

As a botanist I am trained to be skeptical, and as a palynologist I am especially skeptical of pollen data that is not convincing. This is why I remain skeptical about the pollen evidence reported in this new book on the Shroud of Turin and do not believe that the current pollen studies can be used to authenticate the Shroud. First, I must assume that the authors based their precise (i.e., down to the species level) identifications of most of the pollen species mentioned in their new book on studies they made using only light microscopy because there is no mention of using SEM or TEM techniques. Second, the authors report that the basis for their pollen grain identifications were based on new studies they made of original pollen trapped on the sticky tapes personally collected by Max Frei from the surface of the Shroud in 1973 and 1978. When doing forensic pollen studies I have sometimes used sticky tape pulls to collect surface pollen and dust from a crime scene. I find that making pollen identifications from such sticky tapes is often problematical at best. Fresh pollen trapped on sticky tapes, especially pollen from insect-pollinated taxa, often have surface lipids and waxes that obscure surface morphological features, and the fresh pollen's cytoplasm makes precise studies of exine wall structure nearly impossible. In addition, if pollen remains on sticky tape too long the individual pollen grains begin to sink into the glue. Depending on the size and diameter of the pollen, part or most of the grain may sink to a point where the surrounding glue obscures essential morphological features. Third, much of the current authors' case for the authenticity of the Shroud rests on the precise identification of pollen from a single taxon, Gundelia tournefortii L. That plant is just one of over 920 different genera and one of over 19,000 species of composites. As palynologists know, the pollen from most composite taxa look very similar to each other. Usually, only with extremely precise studies using both SEM and TEM levels of analysis can the pollen grains of even some composites be confidently separated as being unique from all other members in this large plant family. I have looked at the pollen from many composite taxa, including Gundelia tournefortii. If Gundelia tournefortii pollen were associated with evidence in a forensic case, I would not be willing to state under oath that I could confidently separate it from all other composites. If the authors can identify these pollen grains to species, as they claim in this book, then they should provide convincing evidence about the criteria they used to do this. Fourth, even the authors admit that the ecological range of Gundelia tournefortii includes Israel as well as most of Turkey. There is purported evidence that the Shroud may have been in Constantinople, Turkey, at one

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time. If so, could the pollen, identified as being Gundelia tournefortii, have been introduced at that time and not centuries earlier?

In addition to pollen, there are more than one hundred plant images purportedly found on the Shroud, and as revealed only through negative enhancements. These are suppose to be the images of flowers and plants used as grave offerings that were placed on, or in the Shroud at the time it was first used when Jesus died. Of the 28 different plant taxa that several of the authors claim they can identify from these faint images, most of those taxa are identified to the genus and species level. Nevertheless, the only evidence the authors provide the readers of this new book are some faint B&W pictures that are suppose to be image evidence left by impressions of plant parts. A couple of the images are impressive, but many are not. My lack of training in photographic processes makes me ill-equipped to judge the reliability of the photographic process through which these plant images appeared after being enhanced from the original 1931 negatives. Nevertheless, I know that there are many new photographic techniques now available and there are ways to use digital enhancements of faint images. I wonder why none of those newer techniques were mentioned or attempted.

So where does this leave the controversy about the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin? I suspect not much has changed. Those who believe in the authenticity of the Shroud as a matter of their Christian faith will be happy to learn that this new book "confirms" what they have always believed. Those who have always doubted the age and purpose to which the Shroud is attributed will not have their opinions changed by the information in this new book. As skeptics, this group will find fault with the procedures that were used and the conclusions that were reached by the authors of this book.

As a final comment, I want to add that rarely have I found such total disagreement among so many people as to the possible authenticity of something. After initially reading this short, new book on the Shroud of Turin I felt that I had too many unanswered questions to write a book review. Therefore, during the next several months I read three more published books about the Shroud. Next, I contacted a scientist who for more than 30 years has worked on scientific aspects surrounding the Shroud. Finally, I found and read a number of articles, notes, and personal letters that were written about the Shroud. After finishing, I remain skeptical and note that rarely have I seen so much doubt cast by so many on the personal character and professional integrity of those working on a project! In short, because I do not personally know most of the people who are still working on, or who originally worked on the analysis of the Shroud, I have no way of assessing which ones are the "good guys" and which ones are the "bad guys!"

Is the book worth the price? I suspect it is. If you are interested in the controversy that surrounds the Shroud of Turin, you need this book for your library shelf. If you are a palynologist who wants to use this study as an example of what pollen data can, and can't tell us about past events and geographical places, then you also need a copy.

Reviewed by:
Vaughn M. Bryant
Texas A&M University

Vaughn M. Bryant
Professor of Anthropology
Director, Palynology Lab.
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-4352
409-845-5242 phone

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To: "'Alfred Traverse'" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: RE: Comments appreciated

Al,

Your comments are much appreciated. I agree with all of them. On one point, there have indeed several very pointed articles that state the authors believe that Max Frei did indeed "enhance" his pollen that was collected on the tapes. Frei died in 1983 and it is like the Piltdown hoax...we may never know the full story. I could have written a whole book just on the pollen procedures and problems and on the name calling by both pro and con groups as to the validity of the pollen, accuracy of identification, and probability of some being "spiked."

What I was trying to do was stick mostly to what claims the authors of this new book have made and not get mired down in all of the other claims attributed to the Shroud including whether or not there is blood on the Shroud....if so, what blood type....etc. I discussed the c-14 dates mostly so others would realize there is a big problem attributed to the actual date of the Shroud.

Anyway, thanks a lot and I think I will expand the review a bit to include some of the items you mentioned....

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
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Palynology Laboratory
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77840-4352
ph 409-845-5242
fax 409-845-4070

-----Original Message-----
From: Alfred Traverse [
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2000 2:47 PM
To: Dr. Vaughn Bryant
Subject: Re: Comments appreciated

At 02:59 PM 3/19/00 -0600, you wrote:
> Before I complete my book review of a new book on the SHROUD OF TURIN, I
>would appreciate any comments

Hi, Vaughn:

I have printed this thing out to meditate on it more at home, but I can say immediately that I think you have done a good job. You may have been even a little too kind about this whole thing. I didn't realize that the pollen work was based ONLY on sticky tape pulls. If the pollen was observed, untreated, as it lay in the gum on the tape, I am very, very suspicious , even more than before. In Paleopalynology somewhere I mention that the identifications that allergy pollen people make from smear slides exposed on Burkhardt and other samplers are only realiable insofar as they deal with a limited number of fairly easily recognizable forms that said operatives encounter over and over again. That any precise identifications can be made from such material I simply do not believe. For one thing, the protoplasmic contents obscure the critical exine features, in addition to the surface materials you mention. Even SEM doesn't work well on pollen

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that has not been cleaned up.

Another matter that needs addressing is the question of why the pollen on the surface of the cloth would represent pollen that got on there in 30 A. D. It would seem likely, given the admitted stormy history of the thing, that pollen would have got on there all during the 2000 years since 30 A. D., and the most superficial pollen would be the most recent. If the pollen is superficial and in fresh condition, in fact, it is far more likely to be recent--the heat of the 16th century fire would have at least partially carbonized the old stuff? And here's another matter that deserves attention--would need to be ruled out, as the medics say--how do we know that interested persons didn't intentionally salt the cloth with pollen and other plant material, knowing it was to be sampled?

I would lay some of that on them too.

Best . Al.
Alfred Traverse
Palynological Labs.
Department of Geosciences
307 Deike-PSU
University Park, PA 16802
Ph.:814-863-3419
Fax:814-863-7823

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

To: 'Alfred Traverse' <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: RE: Medullosa pollination biology

Al,
Any ideas that might help Anne??

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
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fax 409-845-4070

-----Original Message-----
From: Anne Raymond [SMTP:raymond@geo.tamu.edu]
Sent: Monday, December 13, 1999 2:58 PM
To: Dr. Vaughn Bryant
Subject: Re: Medullosa pollination biology

Dear Vaughn:
I was thinking about Paleozoic seed ferns - which have very few and very large pre-pollen (100-200 microns in diameter). I was wondering if ANY modern plant makes few and large pollen grains; and if we could discerne anything about the pollination biology of Medullosa based on those modern plants.

Some Paleozoic seed-fern pollen organs are very large and some workers have suggested that they show insect damage (Paleozoic pollen predation????). Others have suggested that giant millipeds and arthropleurids could have been the pollination vector (although this idea is controversial).

Paul and I are not finding much evidence of seed fern pollen in any of the coprolites he's investigated (although Paul could be ignoring a large torn grain - in one of his coprolite pictures. I keep telling him he has to do some standard palynology preparations with these samples or else he will never know how reliable the data gathered from microscope slides are.)

Anyway, this morning as I was making breakfast, it occurred to me that you or Gretchen might know of modern plants with very large pollen that might give us some insight into what Paleozoic seed ferns in general are doing vis a vis pollination, and what Medullosa is doing in particular.

Cheers, Anne

Prof. Anne Raymond
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College Station, TX 77843
U.S.A.

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e-mail alr4725@geopsun.tamu.edu
homepage

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Subject: bonfire, etc.

Hi, Vaughn!

It was good to see you in Savannah, though after it was over, I realized that I hadn't got much info about how things really are going with you, your family, etc. Nor did I remember to inquire about former students whom you also know, etc.

I write now because I have several matters on my mind:

1. Bonfire. I was staggered yesterday by the news on all networks that your president favors continuing that stupid bonfire, which should have been stopped decades ago, when PSU and most other places stopped having them. I won't address the danger element, that's obvious, but how about the poor witness environmentally to harvest at some cost, rearrange at big cost, and destroy so much wood for no reason, and the pollution it represents, etc.? How about having the kids who want to do that contact Jimmy Carter and build houses for the homeless under aegis of Habitat for Humanity?

2. Football. How about a wager on the forthcoming game? Stakes should be something easy to mail. I would offer six bags of my dried apples (delicious!) from this fall--cash value perhaps $12--against a product of Texas of your choice and of similar value--a bag of pecans, perhaps?

3. AASP charge. On my current VISA bill there are two AASP items. One is for $35 which I can identify as for the book that Bob Clarke was peddling. The other was for $80, and that beats me--we were paid for the convention in advance, and we paid for hotels, etc., separately. What could that have been for? It's not your problem, of course, but perhaps you would know to whom I should turn for info.

Happy holidays. Best. Al.

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From: "Dr. Vaughn Bryant" <vbryant@tamu.edu>
Return-path: <vbryant@tamu.edu>
To: "'Traverse, Al'" <bettyandal@juno.com>
Date: Sun, 12 Dec 1999 10:38:40 -0600
Subject: Shroud of Turin
Message-ID: <01BF448F.4C23F420@modem-0377.rns.tamu.edu>
X-Status: Read

Al,

Did you say that you attended the Botanical Meetings when they =
discussed their evidence on the Shroud? The reason I ask is that I have
=
been asked to write an article on the subject for BIBLICIAL ARCHAEOLOGY =
and I wanted to get some comments and information from someone who was =
actually at the meeting and heard the talk... Unfortunately, I did not =
attend those meetings, but did read the material that ended up in the =
newspaper..

Any suggestions about the early controversy back when Max Free did his =
original analyses??

Feliz Navidad=20

Vaughn M. Bryant, Ph.D.
Professor and Director=20
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Dr.& Mrs. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr ( )
Angus P. D. Bryant ( )
1202 Glenhaven Dr. (phone 409-846-0278)
College Station, Texas 77840-2644

Photos of all of us can be found at this web site ( )

Well, it is the last Christmas of this century and we are all waiting for the next century to begin. We were never sure we would make it to the next century, but here we are. Even Angus at age 9 is doing well and looking forward to Jan 1, 2000. ***We would love to hear from each of you. Email us or write us!!***

The longer we live in new house, the more we love it. The bottom line is that we very much enjoy our new home and love its location directly across the street from a large park and only 4 minutes from the Texas A&M Campus. We are also only 1 ½ miles from a 50- meter, outdoor city swimming pool that stays open all year long. I swim there daily (winter and summer) and get a free t-shirt if I swim 100 miles during the winter months and survive! If you get a chance, you have to come see us and stay in this palace. We have five bedrooms and five bathrooms in addition to everything else (study, kitchen, dinning room, living room, garage, utility room, etc.). Best of all this past year our highest utility bill (includes water, garbage pick up, and electricity) was only $275. Not bad for a house that is twice the size of our last one where our average summer utility bills ran us over $300/month. Shows you what $14,000 worth of extra wall and roof insulation can save you in utility dollars in the long run.

It was also a busy year for our children. Bonnie and Bill, her husband, and their two children are enjoying life in our previous house that is less than one block from the closest grammar school and is only one mile from the high school where Bill teaches history and geography. Best of all, our old house is only 2 miles from our new house so we get to see their two children on a daily basis. Bonnie still works for Weight Watchers and stays busy cooking and making many of the cute matching outfits worn by Clancy and Natalie. Vaughn III is also doing great. He accepted a new position as the Director of Family Affairs at Lakewood Church in Houston. For those who don't know Houston, that is the second largest church in Houston with over 15,000 members. VMB III is now responsible for planning all of the family events, attending to the family counseling need of the church, teaching classes on how to be responsible and loving parents, and he will soon be ordained as a minister of that church. He is also in the last stretch of finishing his dissertation for his PhD. He and Katherine stay very busy with their three children, Mary Katherine (now in second grade), Sam (who is almost ready for school), and Virginia Anne who is now walking and getting into everything. Daniel and Shannon love living in Houston. Both of them have been working at Chase Bank, but Dan will quit in January to return to the University of Houston where he is one semester short of finishing his degree in Computer Science. He is currently a computer programmer for Chase Bank and was recently offered a position as a Vice President at Chase Bank, but turned it down to finish his education. He knows that once he finishes his degree he will have many more options for jobs in the computer world.

Carol is doing great. She is the "ultimate grandmother" who loves playing with all her grand children and also driving around in her red Miata sport's car going from one mall to the next finding new things to buy for all her grandchildren. Carol has also become an active member and volunteer helper at St. Mary's Church where her speciality is helping prepare the many weekly evening dinners for Texas A&M students who belong to the church.

What about me? Well, after 25 years as the Department Head of Anthropology I finally stepped down and am now teaching full time and doing research. I am working on two "exciting" books that I know will hit the best seller list (**Floral Sources used by North American Honey Bees**, and the second one **Forensic Palynology**)! I have applied for a sabbatical for next fall and was told I was a shoe-in to get it. Lately, in my spare time I am having a blast with my new hobby–investing. I love developing investing strategies, writing investing programs, doing all the charting, and especially using the internet to gather information and make trades. After reading 15 books on investing I find I am getting very good at it. But, with the current stock market returns I guess almost anyone can make a killing!

We never thought we would be so blessed with such great children and grand children or that life

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could be so much fun. We all hope that you are enjoying life to the fullest as well. Don't forget to stop by and see us, as they say in the TV ad, "we'll leave the light on for you!"

Vaughn, Carol, and Angus

PS. Angus just got his new photo-ID VISA card and he loves going to the mall on a spending spree!

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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
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E-Mail: traverse@ems.psu.edu

16 July, 1999

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Presumably you are still tracking forensic palynology.

I wondered if you had seen the enclosed item. I read **Spiegel** weekly, though up to six months behind, and I noted this article at breakfast this a. m.

Perhaps you are also fluent in German. If not, the gist of the article is that a bunch of skulls were found in a burial site near Magdeburg, in what used to be the DDR. Question, were they Gestapo victims from WWII, or Russian soldiers executed because they wouldn't take part in putting down the uprising in DDR in July, 1953. Pollen analysis of sediment in the eye cavities of the skulls proved that the executions occurred in the summer (*Tilia, Plantago and Hordeum* pollen predominated), just when the uprising occurred, whereas the suspected Gestapo victims would have been killed in February or so. Furthermore, the young male victims had never been to a dentist despite badly decayed teeth. This would be expected of Soviet soldiers, but unthinkable for Germans. Etc.

Greetings. Will I see you in Savannah? I am contemplating attending, with a German colleague, Carmen Heunisch, in tow.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor Emeritus of Palynology

encl.: p. from **Spiegel**

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From: Vaughn Bryant <vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu>
Return-path: <vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu>
To: "'Benson, Don'" <dbenson@intertex.net>,"'Rich, Fred'",
<frich@gsaix2.cc.GaSoU.EDU>,"'Shane, John'" <jshane@mcri.org>,
"'Sobolik, Kris'" <sobolik@voyager.umeres.maine.edu>,"'South,
Leanne'" <lsouth@libarts.tamu.edu>,"'Traverse,
Al'" <bettyandal@juno.com>,"'Wood, Gordon'" <gdwood@amoco.com>,
"'Wrenn, John'",<glwrenn@lsuvm.sncc.lsu.edu>
Cc: "'Bryant, Dan'" <danb@wt.net>, "'Cegiels, Chuck'" <ccegiels@eb.com>,
"'Clarke, Bob'" <robert_t_clarke@email.mobil.com>,"'Clary,
Karen'" <karen.clary@mail.utexas.edu>,"'Cornell,
Bill'" <cornell@geo.utep.edu>,"'Cummings,
Linda'" <LSCummings@aol.com;;;;>,"'Davis,
Owen'" <palynolo@geo.Arizona.edu>,"'Goodman, Home'",
<flyfish@alaska.net>,"'Hall, Steve'" <shall@mail.utexas.edu>,
"'Jarzen, David'" <dmj@flmnh.ufl.edu>,"'Lentin,
Judi'" <judith.lentin@thementors.com>,"'MILDENHALL,
DALLAS'" <MILDENHALLD@wpo.gns.cri.nz>,"'Miller,
Merrell'" <MerrellMiller@compuserve.com>,"'Piel, Ken'",
<kenpiel@map.com>,"'Pocknall, David'" <dtpocknall@aol.com>
Date: Mon, 28 Sep 1998 16:13:12 -0500
Subject: Forensic pollen article
Message-ID: <01BDEAFA.E4DDB2E0@vbryant.tamu.edu>
X-Status: Read

Need a favor,

The latest issue of the magazine NATURE has an article in it discribing = a recent forensic pollen study done in Germany by a palynologist. The = study showed that pollen trapped in the nasal cavity of several skulls = in a mass grave in Germany were prisoners who the Soviets killed during = the summer of 1953, not prisoners killed by the Germans in the early = winter of 1945 (as had been suspected).

This story went out over the AP wire and might be picked up by = newspapers anywhere. The reason I mention this is that the reporter who = wrote this story (Alex Dominguez) and I had a lengthy interview about = the whole field of forensic palynology and I suspect much of that = information might be included in the story.

If you happen to see the story in the newspaper during the next few = days, could you clip a copy for me? It might not run in our local = paper.

Thanks.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

From: Vaughn M Bryant <vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu>
Return-path: <vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu>
To: "'Alfred or Elizabeth I. Traverse'" <bettyandal@juno.com>
Date: Fri, 17 Jul 1998 15:15:38 -0500
Subject: One day at a time
Message-ID: <01BDB195.C1C68BE0@vbryant.tamu.edu>
X-Status: Read

----Original Message----
From: Alfred or Elizabeth I. Traverse [SMTP:bettyandal@juno.com]
Sent: Friday, July 17, 1998 2:11 PM
To: vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu
Cc: vbryant@tamu.edu
Subject: empathy, etc.

Dear Vaughn,

I think I asked you before, where did the "7045" suddenly come from?
[Vaughn M Bryant] I seem to have several email addresses....one of them =
is VMB7045.....it still seems to work as does the new one (vbryant)

So sorry to hear about your and Carol's problems. I know her only from
your messages over the years. Maybe the booze makes it easier for her =
to
bear her pains. I seem to recall she is also a heavy smoker. That =
would
be impossible for me to stand. I hope that somebody (one of the kids?)
is helping the poor dear.
[Vaughn M Bryant] After her stroke she gave up smoking but got =
depressed and began hitting the booze...it finally caught up with her. =
She is in recovery now and is not drinking so we will see how things go.
=
She seems to be getting better, but it will be a slow process...

But now you are hurting too, and somewhere I had info that your health
had been less than robust lately too.
[Vaughn M Bryant] Actually, not so. I have lost weight, I don't smoke,
=
I swim a mile a day at a nearby pool that is open all year long, I eat =
great foods (low in fat and sugar), and have not missed a day of work =
for being sick in nearly 3 years.... I have also been fortunate enough =
to not have had to spend a day in a hospital since I had my tonsils out =
at age 4....

As you say, "what a mess."

Today we finished the moving out of what had been for 32 years the
palynological suite in the Deike Bldg. At the moment I don't even have =
a
phone there, but it is supposed to be hooked up in my cubicle that I
share with another old prof on Wednesday. Tomorrow we stay home to
supervise contractors in the latest phase of preparing my newly
constructed space there for my eventual office.
[Vaughn M Bryant] You know you are always welcome to come to TAMU....I =
made that offer to Dr. Ralph Solecki of Columbia University in 1985 and =
he jumped at the chance. Dr. Solecki is the world's leading authority =
on Neanderthals, but wanted to retire early and leave the cold of NYC =
for the sunny south. What I was able to do was guarantee him the =

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following: use of a lab, an office, free use of the xerox and phone and
=
email, use of secretarial help for typing, and the right to teach any =
course he wanted and be on any graudate committee he wanted to be on. =
The only thing I could not offer him was a salary....Nevertheless, he is
=
happy as a clam and has been here for over 10 years and comes to the =
office almost every day. So.....the same offer is open to you if you =
want to move to College Station.....

Now I have to hope that they will live up to their promise to let me
continue to have and use the wet lab "for forever, less one day."

Hang in there, old friend. This too will pass. Al.
[Vaughn M Bryant] True....in God's time....not mine. Having a strong =
spirtual faith at times like this has helped me weather the storm...At =
times I see myself cast adrift in the conditions made famous by that =
great best-seller THE PERFECT STORM. A great book to read if you have =
not done so already....

P. S. I made a mistake in the address the first time I sent this, but =
it
raises the issue of the VMB7045 business. Will vbryant@tamu.edu still
work also?=20
[Vaughn M Bryant] both work fine...
AT_____
You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.
Get completely free e-mail from Juno at http://www.juno.com
Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

--QAAAA02507.900365793/r2.boston.juno.com--

_____
You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.
Get completely free e-mail from Juno at http://www.juno.com
Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

From: Vaughn M Bryant <vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu>
Return-path: <vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu>
To: "'Alfred Traverse'" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Date: Fri, 3 Jul 1998 14:32:03 -0500
Subject: Reply
Message-ID: <01BDA68F.59871100@vbryant.tamu.edu>
X-Status: Read

Well, sorry I asked how things were going.... I knew that you had lost =
your office, but did not realize all the rest of the problems that were =
involved. It sounds like you are going to have a tough time getting all
=
of that stuff moved. I hope it all works out.

As for printing all the info from the previous message....I will try to =
remember to delete the previous message....but it is often easier to =
just hit the "return" button and then begin typing. That automatically =
sends back the original message.

All is not well here either. After 35 years of marriage Carol and I are
=
separated for the present. No, there is no "other woman" in the =
picture. Carol has had a long history of problems with alcohol and it =
finally got too much for me and I walked out. I am just working on this
=
day by day and I do not know where all of this will end....So, as you =
can see...I have also been moving a bunch of stuff. First to a vacant =
apartment that a friend let me borrow while they were out of town. =
However, he came back last night and so tomorrow I have to spend the 4th
=
getting a truck and moving to another apartment that I rented today. =
What a mess....

Maybe 1999 will be a much better year!

VMB

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From: V M Bryant <vbryant@tamu.edu>
Return-path: <vbryant@tamu.edu>
To: "'Hall, Steve'" <shall@mail.utexas.edu>,"'Mathewes, Rolf'",
<r_mathewes@sfu.ca>,"'Mildenhall, Dallas'",
<mildenhalld@wpo.gns.cri.nz>,"'Nichols, Doug'",
<nichols@usgs.gov>,"'Strother, Paul'" <Strother@hermes.bc.edu>,
"'Traverse, Al'" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>,"'Wicander,
Reed'" <Reed.Wicander@cmich.edu>,"'Pollen Lab'",
<pollen@tamu.edu>,"'Marshall, Dawn'" <dmmarshall@tamu.edu>,
"'Dering, Phil'" <pdering@tamu.edu>,"'Cummings,
Linda'" <LSCummings@AOL.COM>,"'Davis,
Owen'" <palynolo@geo.arizona.edu>,"'Rich,
Fred'" <frich@gsaix2.cc.gasou.edu>,"'Wrenn, John'",
<GLWRENN@LSUVM.SNCC.LSU.EDU>,"'Head, Martin'",
<head@quartz.geology.utoronto.ca>,"'Rick Holloway'",<rghollqs@AOL.COM>
Cc: "'Baker, Dick'" <dick-baker@uiowa.edu>,"'Beaudoin, Alwynne'",
<abeaudoi@GPU.SRV.UALBERTA.CA>,"'Cornell, William'",
<cornell@selman.geo.utep.edu>,"'Damassa, Sarah'",
<sdamassa@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us>,"'Edwards, Lucy'",
<leedward@rgborafsa.er.usgs.gov>,"'Jarzen, David'",
<dmj@flmnh.ufl.edu>,"'Legault,
Jocelyne'" <jlegault@sciborg.uwaterloo.ca>,"'Miller,
Merrell A.'" <mamiller1@hou.amoco.com>,"'Schoenwetter,
Jim'" <IKJXS@ASUVM.INRE.ASU.EDU>,"'Wood, Gordon'" <gdwood@amoco.com>
Date: Wed, 24 Jun 1998 19:03:54 -0500
Subject: Sounds pretty good—have you tried this?
Message-ID: <01BD9FA5.197D3C60@modem-1739.ms.tamu.edu>
X-Status: Read

From: DAVID SIMPSON[SMTP:PANGEA@compuserve.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 1998 4:37 AM
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Subject: e

RE: A NEW NON TOXIC, LOW VISCOSITY HEAVY LIQUID FOR PALYNOLOGICAL =
USES

Dear

You might be interested in a new heavy liquid that we supply called: =
LST.

If so let me know and I'll e-mail you a specification sheet and more
details.

Below is a brief extract from the specification sheet.

Best regards

David Simpson

Pangea UK=20
185 Oxford Road
Calne
Wilts
SN11 8AL
UK

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Tel/Fax: 01249 816010
International: +44 12 49 816 010
e-mail: Pangea@compuserve.com=20

A New Heavy Liquid: LST (lithium heteropolytungstates in an aqueous solution).

LST offers the following benefits:

Safe to use - needs no fume cupboards
Wide operating densities - up to 3.6g/ml
Low viscosity (11cp) fast separation
Low viscosity (11cp) increases recovery rate of material
=
to
be separated =20
High thermal stability - easily recycled

LST heavy liquid is an aqueous solution of low toxicity which enables =
rapid
and effective mineral and micro fossils separations. Specifically =
developed
as a safe and effective replacement for bromoform and TBE and developing
=
on
SPT to give a greater thermal stability.

LST has a low viscosity and high thermal stability with an expected operating density of 2.8 g/ml at 25 =B0C.

Toxic heavy liquids such as bromoform and TBE achieve only 90% recovery =
on
each cycle. With LST heavy liquid you can achieve 99% recovery, making =
the
working cost of LST only 1/10 of its apparent cost. Add the savings you =
get
from non longer needing to run fume extraction systems, and LST heavy liquid provides a competitive solution to the old toxic liquids.

In addition , LST heavy liquid can be used for separations at higher densities if you are willing to work at elevated temperatures. At 50=B0C
=
you
can use LST heavy liquid at over 3.2 g/ml, and at 75=B0C you can use LST
=
at
3.5g/ml. LST retains its low viscosity at these temperatures, too.

Used by mining and research laboratories throughout the world. LST was developed in conjunction with the Australian Research Association and is manufactured and distributed by Central Chemical Consulting Pty Ltd, distributed in the E.U. through their agent Pangea UKce

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To: vbryant@tamu.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: response
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Vaughn:

Well, no, all is not "going well with you guys..." I thought I told you that I got notice from the department that I had to clear out. I was expecting that, but not until next year. We have had an addition put on at home that will provide an office for me, but not as much space as I had here. So, I have to handle every object accumulated in 32 yrs. in this building. Throw it out? (all student samples and slides, most other samplesl and slides) Move it to the Field Museum (my entire paleobotany library)? Move it home (microscopes, essential slides that I am still working on)? Move it to our condo here in town? (Much of my correspondence) Move to our place in the Adirondacks? (Some geological and botanical books) Move to my cubicle in this bldg.? (One computer and essential items to handle correspondence--e-mail is being forwarded home temporarily but will be reconnected here in about a month.) Etc.

If LST really could be recycled that would make it a possibility. Recycling zinc chloride is only marginally possible, let alone practical. I always heard that zinc bromide was better.

The move is making work on the book impossible, but I will get back to it.

When you use the "respond" option for answers can't you tell your device not to reprint the original message? I don't like it when my message is included because it often (almost always) puts it into two pages when I print it.

Best. I hope YOU are having it a bit better. Al.

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From: V M Bryant <vbryant@tamu.edu>
Return-path: <vbryant@tamu.edu>
To: "'Alfred or Elizabeth I. Traverse'" <bettyandal@juno.com>
Date: Fri, 3 Jul 1998 09:18:12 -0500
Subject: RE: LST
Message-ID: <01BDA671.51E32D80@modem-1203.rns.tamu.edu>
X-Status: Read

We use Zinc Bromide because we really did do a number of tests with Zinc =
Chloride and Zinc Bromide and we found that Zinc Bromide really make a = cleaner separation. Yes it is more expensive and no we do not recycle = it...we tried it but it was just too much trouble and time consuming.
As for LST.....Gordon Wood at Amoco said that they used it for a while =
but that it was hard to recycle and was VERY expensive. They abandoned = it and went back to Zinc Bromide.
Thanks for the reply.....Hope all is going well with you guys!!

PS....how is the book coming???

From: Alfred or Elizabeth I. Traverse[SMTP:bettyandal@juno.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 1998 3:37 PM
To: vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu
Subject: LST

Dear Vaughn:

We use zinc chloride because, though it's not cheap either, one doesn't even
try to recycle it. You confuse me a little, because I thought that people
urged that the advantage of zinc bromide is that it is relatively easy = to
recycle--which makes it cheap. You don't recycle? One of the = advantages
of
this LST stuff is alleged to be simplicity of recycling. If that's right,
that would reduce the cost, huh?

Hey, something's happened to your address. 7045 and all that. Hmm.

After about a month or so I'll be back on line at the office. Indeed, I can
still be addressed at Traverse@ems.psu.edu , but it is forwarded to the home
computer.

Best. Al.

Alfred Traverse
Palynological Laboratories
Department of Geosciences
435 Deike Building, PSU
University Park, PA 16802
Ph.: 814-863-3419
Fax: 814-863-7823

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From: "Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr." <vbryant@tamu.edu>
Return-path: <vbryant@tamu.edu>
To: "Alexander Prokopenko" <sasha@epoch.geol.sc.edu>
Cc: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Date: Thu, 29 Jan 1998 15:05:59 -0600
Subject: Re: pollen work in Lake Baikal
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19980129210559.006ace7c@unix.tamu.edu>
X-Status: Read
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.4 (32)

You can order them from:

Bjorn E. Berglund or Thomas Persson
Department of Quaternary Biology
Lunds Universitet
Tornavagen 13
S-223
63 Lund, Sweden

At 04:05 AM 1/30/1998 +0000, you wrote:
>Dear Dr. Bryant!
>
>Dr. A.Traverse recommended me to ask you a question that I have. I
>am a post-doc at Univ. of South Carolina and I'm working on Lake
>Baikal Drilling Project. Our colleagues in Russia asked me to find
>exotic pollen (Lycopodium and Eucalyptus) that they can use for
>counting. Can you give me an advice on where can I order this exotic
>pollen (enough for about 1,000 analyses).
>
>Thank you very much,
>
>Alexander
>=====
>Alexander A. Prokopenko
>Stable Isotope Lab, Department of Geological Sciences
>University of South Carolina, Columbia SC 29208 USA
>ph (803)777-7668 fax (803)777-6610
>http://inlet.geol.sc.edu/tappa/sil
>
>

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 78743-4352
ph 409-845-5242
fax 409-845-4070

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From: Vaughn Bryant <VBryant@tamu.edu>
To: '"Alfred Traverse"' <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: RE: refs
Date: Wed, 25 Jun 1997 14:22:38 -0500
Return-Receipt-To: <VBryant@tamu.edu>
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by pangaea.ems.psu.edu id PAA04636

OK....I will go back to the drawing board and look around... one of the best US sources that I know, which shows distribution maps for pollen types is the book by Lewis et al (John Hopkins Press) Allegenic and Airborne Pollens.
I hate to say it...but I forgot which US reference you asked me about....

From: Alfred Traverse[SMTP:traverse@ems.psu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 1997 10:44 AM
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Subject: refs

Dear Vaughn:

No, that's not it. It was a fairly recent book, perhaps by John Birks or another of the Cambridge crowd, and it's full of vegetation maps, which were based on pollen data.. You also didn't comment if you know a better N. Amer. ref. than the one I cited.

Best. Al.
Alfred Traverse
Palynological Laboratories
Department of Geosciences
435 Deike Building, PSU
University Park, PA 16802
Ph.: 814-863-3419
Fax: 814-863-7823

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From: Vaughn Bryant <VBryant@tamu.edu>
To: "'Alfred Traverse'" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: RE: needed ref.
Date: Sun, 15 Jun 1997 22:35:35 -0500
Return-Receipt-To: <VBryant@tamu.edu>

I am at home, but I think I have the book you are looking for. I will email you tomorrow from my office.

From: Alfred Traverse[SMTP:traverse@ems.psu.edu]
Sent: Sunday, June 15, 1997 10:02 AM
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Subject: needed ref.

Dear Vaughn:

O. K., enough of jokes, here is a real problem for you:

I am writing a little article in which I refer to the beauty of palynology in permitting the production of vegetation maps for the past, and I am quoting Delcourt & Delcourt 1987--unless you have a better or more up to date ref. for me.

More importantly, I recall several years ago that the PSU library got a book with similar maps for northwest Europe, but I can't for the life of me remember who the author was. The PSU computer system for the library refuses to tell me whose book I'm thinking of--can you help me? (Hope you do better than with the cat deal.)

All the best. Al.
Alfred Traverse
Palynological Laboratories
Department of Geosciences
435 Deike Building, PSU
University Park, PA 16802
Ph.: 814-863-3419
Fax: 814-863-7823

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

To: vbryant@tamu.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: needed ref.
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Vaughn:

O. K., enough of jokes, here is a real problem for you:

I am writing a little article in which I refer to the beauty of palynology in permitting the production of vegetation maps for the past, and I am quoting Delcourt & Delcourt 1987--unless you have a better or more up to date ref. for me.

More importantly, I recall several years ago that the PSU library got a book with similar maps for northwest Europe, but I can't for the life of me remember who the author was. The PSU computer system for the library refuses to tell me whose book I'm thinking of--can you help me? (Hope you do better than with the cat deal.)

All the best. Al.

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Date: Fri, 31 Jan 1997 16:22:11 -0600 (CST)
X-Sender: vmb7045@unix.tamu.edu
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
From: "Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr." <vbryant@tamu.edu>
Subject: Re: thanks, etc.

Good to hear from you....always the editor!!! Many of these items I just capture from other sources and resend them out... I am too short on time to edit many of them..

One final point... Is your revised version of PALEOPALYNOLOGY going to come out soon?

Keep in touch.... life is hectic down here...especially since Carol had her stroke...

At 01:12 PM 1/31/97 -0500, you wrote:
>Dear Vaughn:
>
>I continue to enjoy the amusing things you send greatly. I am sending by
>snail mail a few items that friends have given me that you might want to use
>if they aren't already in your files.
>
>Regarding the most recent item: as I pronounce it, orange rhymes with
>binge, singe, etc.
>
>The statement that money isn't made of paper but of cotton is meaningless.
>Much paper is made of cotton.
>
>Regarding the ostrich, it should read "its brain" (no apostrophe).
>
>Best. Al.
>Alfred Traverse
>Palynological Laboratories
>Department of Geosciences
>435 Deike Building, PSU
>University Park, PA 16802
>Ph.: 814-863-3419
>Fax: 814-863-7823
>
>
Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head
Department of Anthropology

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 78743-4352
ph 409-845-5242
fax 409-845-4070

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

From: Vaughn Bryant <VBryant@tamu.edu>
To: '"Vaissiere, Bernand" <Bernard.Vaissiere@avignon.inra.fr>,
'"Warnock, Peter" <c581927@showme.missouri.edu>,
'"Wood, Gordon" <gdwood@amoco.com>,
'"Wrenn, John" <GLWRENN@lsuvm.sncc.lsu.edu>,
'"Waldorf, Helen" <hawaldorf@msn.com>,
'"Willem, Jan" <JANWILLEM@boev.biol.ruu.nl>
To: '"Wright, Lori Ellen" <lwright@unix.tamu.edu>,
'"Waters, Mike"
<mwaters@tamu.edu>,
'"Wicander, Reed" <Reed.Wicander@cmich.edu>,
'"Strother, Paul" <Strother@hermes.bc.edu>,
'"Tom Hester" <T.R.HESTER@mail.utexas.edu>,
'"Traverse, Al" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
To: '"Woodall, Ned" <woodaljn@wfu.edu>, '"Zippi, Pierre"
<pzippi@arco.com>
Subject: Annual Darwin Awards
Date: Mon, 20 Jan 1997 10:37:50 -0600

>The Darwin Awards
>
>You may recall last year's Darwin Award winner: The man who found
>out moments before making a 300 MPH dent in an Arizona cliff that the
>JATO (jet assist take off) unit he'd strapped to his car could not be
>turned off once it was turned on.
>
>Darwin Awards are (by definition) granted posthumously. This citation
>is bestowed upon (the remains of) that individual, who through
>single-minded self-sacrifice, has done the most to remove undesirable
>elements from the human gene pool.
>
>The 1996 nominees are:
>
>[San Jose Mercury News] An unidentified man, using a shotgun like a
>club to break a former girlfriend's windshield, accidentally shot
>himself to death when the gun discharged, blowing a hole in his gut.
>
>[Hickory Daily Record 12/21/92] Ken Charles Barger, 47, accidentally
>shot himself to death in December in Newton, N.C., when, awakening to
>the sound of a ringing telephone beside his bed, he reached for the
>phone but grabbed instead a Smith &Wesson .38 Special, which
>discharged when he drew it to his ear.
>
>[Unknown, 25 March] A terrible diet and room with no ventilation are
>being blamed for the death of a man who was killed by his own gas.
>There was no mark on his body but autopsy showed large amounts of

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>methane gas in his system.His diet had consisted primarily of beans
>and cabbage (and a couple of other things). It was just the right
>combination of foods.It appears that the man died in his sleep from
>breathing from the poisonous cloud that was hanging over his bed.
>Had he been outside or had his windows been opened, it wouldn't have
>been fatal. But the man was shut up in his near airtight bedroom. He
>was ". . . a big man with a huge capacity for creating [this deadly
>gas]." Three of the rescuers got sick and one was hospitalized.
>
>[Reuters, Mississauga, Ontario] Man slips, falls 23 stories to his
>death. A man cleaning a bird feeder on his balcony of his condominium
>apartment in this Toronto suburb slipped and fell 23 stories to his
>death, police said Monday. Stefan Macko, 55, was standing on a
>wheeled chair Sunday when the accident occurred, said Inspector D'Arcy
>Honer of the Peel regional police."It appears the chair moved and he
>went over the balcony," Honer said."It's one of those freak accidents.
> No foul play is suspected."
>
>[UPI, Toronto] Police said a lawyer demonstrating the safety of
>windows in a downtown Toronto skyscraper crashed through a pane with
>his shoulder and plunged24 floors to his death. A police spokesman
>said Garry Hoy, 39, fell into the courtyard of the Toronto Dominion
>Bank Tower early Friday evening as he was explaining the strength of
>the building's windows to visiting law students. Hoy previously had
>conducted demonstrations of window strength according to police
>reports. Peter Lauwers, managing partner of thefirm Holden Day
>Wilson, told the Toronto Sun newspaper that Hoy was"one of the best
>and brightest" members of the 200-man association.
>
>[AP, Cairo, Egypt, 31 Aug 1995 CAIRO, Egypt (AP)] Six people drowned
>Monday while trying to rescue a chicken that had fallen into a well in
>southern Egypt. An 18-year-old farmer was the first to descend into
>the 60-foot well. He drowned, apparently after an undercurrent in the
>water pulled him down, police said.His sister and two brothers, none
>of whom could swim well, went in one by one to help him, but also
>drowned. Two elderly farmers then came to help, but they apparently
>were pulled by the same undercurrent.The bodies of the six were later
>pulled out of the well in the village of Nazlat Imara, 240 miles south
>of Cairo.The chicken was also pulled out. It survived.
>
>[Times of London] A thief who sneaked into a hospital was scarred for
>life when he tried to get a suntan. After evading security staff at
>Odstock Hospital in Salisbury, Wiltshire, and helping himself to
>doctor's paging devices, the thief spotted a vertical sunbed. He
>walked into the unit and removed his clothes for a 45-minute tan.
>However, the high-voltage UV machine at the hospital, which is

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>renowned for its treatment of burns victims, has a maximum dosage of
>10seconds. After lying on the bed for almost 300 times the
>recommended maximum time, the man was covered in blisters.Hours later,
>when the pain of the burns became unbearable, he went to Southampton
>General Hospital, 20 miles away, in Hampshire. Staff became
>suspicious because he was wearing a doctor's coat. After tending his
>wounds they called the police. Southampton police said: "This man
>broke into Odstock and decided he fancied a quick suntan. Doctors say
>he is going to be scarred for life.
>
>"More intelligence-challenged people"
>
>45 year-old Amy Brasher was arrested in San Antonio, Texas, after a
>mechanic reported to police that 18 packages of marijuana were packed
>in the engine compartment of the car which she had brought to the
>mechanic for an oil change. According to police, Brasher later said
>that she didn't realize that the mechanic would have to raise the
>hood to change the oil.
>
>Portsmouth, R.I.Police charged Gregory Rosa, 25, with a string of
>vending machine robberies in January when he: 1. fled from police
>inexplicably when they spotted him loitering around a vending machine
>and 2. later tried to post his $400 bail in coins.
>
>Karen Lee Joachimi, 20, was arrested in Lake City, Florida, for
>robbery of a Howard Johnson's motel. She was armed with only an
>electric chainsaw, which was not plugged in.
>
>The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into Burger
>King in Ypsilanti, Michigan at 7:50 am, flashed a gun and demanded
>cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the
>cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings,
>the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The man,
>frustrated, walked away.
>
>In case you've forgotten about the 1995 awardees, some of them are
>listed below:
>
>* James Burns, 34, of Alamo, Mich., was killed in March as he
>was trying to repair what police described as a "farm-type truck."
>Burns got a friend to drive the truck on a highway while Burns hung
>underneath so that he could ascertain the source of a troubling
>noise. Burns' clothes caught on something, however, and the other man
>found Burns "wrapped in the drive shaft." [Kalamazoo Gazette, 4-1-95]
>
>* Same thing up here in MI. Seems some poor fella thought it

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>would be a good idea to "move" a downed wire from his car. Newspaper
>reports it took a FULL MINUTE of neighbors whacking away at him with
>a 2x4 to free their freshly fried former friend from the fatal
>flashing.
>
>* Bowling Green, Ohio, student Robert Ricketts, 19, had his
>head bloodied when he was struck by a Conrail train. He told police
>he was trying to see how close to the moving train he could place his
>head without getting hit.
>
>* In Wesley Chapel, Florida, Joseph Aaron, 20, was hit in the leg
>with pieces of the bullet he fired at the exhaust pipe of his car.
>When repairing the car, he needed to bore a hole in the pipe. When he
>couldn't find a drill, he tried to shoot a hole in it.
>
>
>
>
>
>
>----- End Included Message -----
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>~~~~~~
>The Irving Household
>e-mail: irvings@gil.com.au
>Wholely Made in Australia
>
>I never said I could spell!!!!!
>~~~~~~
>
>
Steve Pinel
Head of Computer Studies
St Stephen's College
Coomera, Gold Coast

"He has showed you, O Man, what is good.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dr. and Mrs. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
3414 Spring Lane
Bryan, Texas 77802-3131

July 29, 1996

Dear Al and Betty,

Many thanks for your nice card and for your concern. Life has changed quite a bit since Carol had her stroke. The good part is that she is making good progress daily and is on the road to recovery.

Her stroke on May 1st, and the subsequent operation and second stroke around the end of May caught us by surprise. Until then she had been in excellent health, except for breast cancer six years ago, and was only in her mid 50s. However, she did smoke, which the doctors said was a factor, but probably not the "single" cause of the stroke. In any case, it was a fairly severe stroke that left her partially paralyzed on her left side (she is left handed) and erased much of her cognitive processes. Although her speech and long-term were not very much effected, her short-term memory was effected quite a bit. Even now she still can't seem to remember things that happen right now or even a few hours ago. I have gotten her a tape recorder and she tries to remember to say messages into the recorder so she will not forget them. Other simple skills such as adding and subtracting have become very difficult tasks for Carol and we spend hours each day going over 1st grade math problems in an effort to teach her basic math once again. Reading was impossible for her until just recently, yet it still takes her so long to read a page that she is exhausted after 3-4 pages of reading. Worst of all, she cannot drive, which makes it difficult for me.

I don't want you to think that I am whining, because I am not. I was just filling you in on the extent of the current situation, which I know will continue to improve until she is more or less back to normal. I do admit, however, that it certainly changes the way you look at things. It also makes one grateful.

Thanks again for the nice card. I do appreciate you both thinking about us.

Best regards,

Vaughn

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Received: from mail.tamu.edu (MAIL.TAMU.EDU [128.194.103.4]) by pangaea.ems.psu.
Received: from vbryant.tamu.edu (vbryant.tamu.edu [128.194.172.22]) by mail.tamu
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 1996 12:48:03 -0600
Message-Id: <199602221848.MAA12179@mail.tamu.edu>
X-Sender: vmb7045@tam2000.tamu.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.4
Mime-Version: 1.0
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
From: vbryant@tamu.edu (Vaughn M. Bryant Jr.)
Subject: Re: Chinese book etc.
Cc: qjiang@geoms.geo.pku.edu.cn
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

The email and address of Dr. Jiang is listed with the review in the AASP Newsletter (or Palynos)....I can't remember which.

I have sent a copy of this message to China (see the address above listed for cc.... I agree, often I send messages to China and they get kicked back to me. I just keep trying and eventually they get through...

I hope that you can get a copy of the book. You might want to suggest that the folks from China might want to bring some copies to the US during the 9th IPC and they could trade them for some of our publications or similar materials....

Let me know if you continue to have trouble...

>Dear Vaughn:
>
>I tried hard to order a copy of the Chinese atlas you recommended, from:
>qjiang@geoms.geo.pku.edu.cn At the moment I can't put my hand on the place
>where you gave the address. Is this right? Our e-mail system repeatedly
>has kicked it back: "(unrecoverable error".
>
>Could you supply the correct address if this is wrong, or make some other
>suggestion as to how to proceed?
>
>Talk about being out of the loop. I just got the AASP ballot, and not only
>do I not know the candidates for Council, I never even HEARD of them.
>
>Best regards. Al.
>Alfred Traverse
>Palynological Labs.
>Deike 435, PSU
>University Park, PA 16802
>Ph.814-863-3419; Fax 814-863-7823
>
>

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email (vbryant@tamu.edu)

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Received: from vbryant.tamu.edu (vbryant.tamu.edu [128.194.172.22]) by mail.tamu
Date: Wed, 20 Dec 1995 11:13:11 -0600
Message-Id: <199512201713.LAA16980@mail.tamu.edu>
X-Sender: vmb7045@tam2000.tamu.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.4
Mime-Version: 1.0
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
From: vbryant@tamu.edu (Vaughn M. Bryant Jr.)
Subject: Re: pollen atlas
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I know that some people waste lots of time surfing the www. However, if you get a chance, get someone who has the web to pull up this page and look at it. The interesting thing is how "clear" and detailed the photos of these pollen grains can be seen on the computer.... As for a catalog (printed) I do not know. Someone told me about the page and I used my computer to pull up a copy and look at it....

Feliz Navidad!!

>Dear Vaughn:
>
>Yeah, I'd like to see the atlas, but I'm not yet into WWW. I am resisting
>spending all of my time sitting here instead of at the scope and elsewhere.
>Is hard copy available? Thanks for thinking of me.
>
>Happy holidays. Al Traverse.
>Alfred Traverse
>Palynological Labs.
>Deike 435, PSU
>University Park, PA 16802
>Ph.814-863-3419; Fax 814-863-7823
>
>

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Received: from vbryant.tamu.edu (vbryant.tamu.edu [128.194.172.22]) by mail.tamu
Date: Thu, 14 Dec 1995 18:09:40 -0600
Message-Id: <199512150009.SAA00766@mail.tamu.edu>
X-Sender: vmb7045@tam2000.tamu.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.4
Mime-Version: 1.0
To: head@mica.geology.utoronto.ca, glwrenn@lsuvm.sncc.lsu.edu (John Wrenn),
dtpocknall@aol.com (D.T. Pocknall), rtclarke@dal.mobil.com,
"Goodman David K" <Goodman#m#_David_K@msmail.aai.Arco.COM>,
"Alfred Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>,
"Owen K. Davis" <palynolo@geo.arizona.edu>, gdwood@hou.amoco.com,
Karl Reinhardt <reinhard@unlinfo.unl.edu>, RHAC101@uvm.haifa.ac.il,
horowitz@md2.huji.ac.il, James Philip Dering <pdering@tamu.edu>
From: vbryant@tamu.edu (Vaughn M. Bryant Jr.)
Subject: Pollen atlas on the WWW
Cc: dnichols@gdsvr1.cr.usgs.gov (Doug Nichols),
gjones@diamond.tamu.edu (Gretchen D. Jones),
David Jarzen <djarzen@mus-nature.ca>, jjansonius@gsc.emr.ca,
"J.H.McAndrews" <docjock@utcc.utoronto.ca>,
bernard.vaissiere@avignon.inra.fr,
"Pierre A. Zippi" <zippi#m#_Pierre@msmail.aai.Arco.COM>,
shall@mail.utexas.edu (Stephen A. Hall), 3yjwexp@cmuvm.csv.cmich.edu,
vbryant@tamu.edu, pollen@tamu.edu
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Do you want to see a pollen atlas of the UK? Check out this www location:

http://www-palecol.plantsci.cam.ac.uk/

The images are as good as, or even better, that what most of us see through the light microscope. Only problem is that you only get one view!!!

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Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Date: Sun, 12 Nov 1995 11:33:36 -0500 (EST)
From: "Alfred Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Cc:
BCc:
Subject: book
X-NUPop-Charset: IBM 8-Bit

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for message about book and other matters.

In the same e-mail was a note from John Wrenn asking about progress on the second edition, as he needs it for his classes.

I am aware of at least some of the opinions about the book (30-odd reviews were published, around the world). Several things are evident. No reviewer in any foreign country wrote anything but a positive review. Henk Visscher, for example, wrote that in Utrecht it was regarded as the Bible by his students. The persons who damned the book in N Amer. were all persons who have a perceived (by them) account to settle. None of them has ever taught the subject. The book is and was intended for instruction of non-palynologists. The negative reviewers said nary a word about its usefulness for teaching palynology. They just don't like Al T.

Thanks for the upper. Ye gods and little fishes. 55 is a juvenile.

Best. Al.

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Received: from vbryant.tamu.edu (vbryant.tamu.edu [128.194.172.22]) by mail.tamu
Date: Thu, 9 Nov 1995 17:31:04 -0600
Message-Id: <199511092331.RAA09592@mail.tamu.edu>
X-Sender: vmb7045@tam2000.tamu.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.4
Mime-Version: 1.0
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
From: vbryant@tamu.edu (Vaughn M. Bryant Jr.)
Subject: Re: book
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Keep me posted on your second edition...I would like to see it and probably use it when it comes out. I have enjoyed using your 1st edition...and as you know kept buying your copies to use for my class after they were no longer in print... I know that some of our "colleagues" thought your book was not very good, but I always appreciated all the information that it offered and found that it was especially useful as a reference source for new, as well as, seasoned students of palynology.

As for being screwed...as an administrator for more than 20 years I just never paid attention to who was doing it, or how many time. I guess I just developed a thick skin to all of that... I have had faculty members come in my office and actually call me an "ass hole," yet I just think that he/she must be crazy to "bite the hand that feeds them..."

I know about the energy...I am 55 and know that I can't do what I could do when I was 21...but I still try to keep as busy as possible.

Keep in touch and don't let the bastards get you down!!!

>Dear Vaughn:
>
>As you see, I am leading a rearguard action in favor of salutations and
>sign-offs for e-mail--it's a form of letter, after all.
>
>The work on the 2nd ed. of the textbook is going along, but slowly due to
>other commitments and the fact that I don't have as much energy as I had 15
>years ago when I started the first edition.
>
>You're right that one doesn't need to worry about other's OPINIONS. But the
>ACTIONS of others is what bothers me. I have been screwed so many times
>I've given up counting.
>
>Best regards. Al T. (I favor salutation and farewell in e-mail, regarding
>it as just another kind of letter.)
>
>

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email (vbryant@tamu.edu)

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Date: Thu, 9 Nov 1995 15:30:31 -0500 (EST)
From: "Alfred Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Cc:
BCc:
Subject: book
X-NUPop-Charset: IBM 8-Bit

Dear Vaughn:

As you see, I am leading a rearguard action in favor of salutations and sign-offs for e-mail--it's a form of letter, after all.

The work on the 2nd ed. of the textbook is going along, but slowly due to other commitments and the fact that I don't have as much energy as I had 15 years ago when I started the first edition.

You're right that one doesn't need to worry about other's OPINIONS. But the ACTIONS of others is what bothers me. I have been screwed so many times I've given up counting.

Best regards. Al T. (I favor salutation and farewell in e-mail, regarding it as just another kind of letter.)

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Received: from mail.tamu.edu (MAIL.TAMU.EDU [128.194.103.4]) by pangaea.ems.psu.
Received: from vbryant.tamu.edu (vbryant.tamu.edu [128.194.172.22]) by mail.tamu
Date: Wed, 8 Nov 1995 15:12:51 -0600
Message-Id: <199511082112.PAA19168@mail.tamu.edu>
X-Sender: vmb7045@tam2000.tamu.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.4
Mime-Version: 1.0
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
From: vbryant@tamu.edu (Vaughn M. Bryant Jr.)
Subject: Re: thanks
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Thanks for the kind message. Gretchen and I decided that we spent about 14,000 hours and 5 years completing the atlas you have. Yes, a light micrograph atlas would be nice. Gretchen, in fact, is doing just that and hopes to have it out by next spring...

One final point. What is the status on your revised edition of your textbook on palynology?

Keep the faith. Remember, it doesn't make any difference what others think of you, so long as you know you are good!!!

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
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email (vbryant@tamu.edu)

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Date: Wed, 8 Nov 1995 09:33:24 -0500 (EST)
From: "Alfred Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
To: vbryant@tamu.edu
Cc:
BCc:
Subject: thanks
X-NUPop-Charset: IBM 8-Bit

Dear Vaughn:

Settled back in my car office this a. m. as Betty drove us to State College. Started to peruse AASP C. S. No. 30 as item no. 1. Came across your unexpected commendatory inscription, which I shall always treasure. Thanks very much indeed! I sometimes feel a little sore about how I have been treated by some people--and AASP is one really bad thorn--a long story--so having that inscription right in an AASP pub. is very nice.

The book is a useful compendium. I wish, however, that there were light pics as well as SEM. Both modes have their advantages. Also I wanted to comment that I don't like "ornamentation"--anthropocentric and judgmental? Sculpturing is better, but maybe implies a sculptor. How about "surface texture" as a compromise solution?

Best regards. Al Traverse.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Received: from mail.tamu.edu (MAIL.TAMU.EDU [128.194.103.4]) by pangaea.ems.psu.
Received: from vbryant.tamu.edu (vbryant.tamu.edu [128.194.172.22]) by mail.tamu
Date: Mon, 18 Sep 1995 12:59:17 -0500
Message-Id: <199509181759.MAA23246@mail.tamu.edu>
X-Sender: vmb7045@tam2000.tamu.edu
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.4
Mime-Version: 1.0
To: "Alfred Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
From: vbryant@tamu.edu (Vaughn M. Bryant Jr.)
Subject: Palynology references. (Here is a message I found on the internet)
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>Return-Path: micropal@ucmp1.Berkeley.EDU
>Date: Mon, 18 Sep 95 09:44:22 PDT
>Errors-To: jlipps@ucmp1.Berkeley.EDU
>Reply-To: ucfbjpd@ucl.ac.uk
>Originator: micropal@ucmp1.berkeley.edu
>Sender: micropal@ucmp1.Berkeley.EDU
>Precedence: bulk
>From: ucfbjpd@ucl.ac.uk (Phil Dolding)
>To: vmb7045@tam2000.tamu.edu
>Subject: Palynology references.
>X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0b -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
>X-Comment: micropaleontogy mailing list
>
>Dear Palynologists,
>
>I am trying to track down a few references that are cited
>in "Paleopalynology" (Traverse 1988). Although quoted in the text,
>I can't find these references in either the main reference list at
>the back of the book, or the supplimentary reference list at the
>end of chapter one.
>
>If anybody can give me the full (or abbrev.) reference for any of
>the following it would be much appreciated;
>
>
>EHRENBERG, C.G. 1836. (1837?) I:15, 25; IX, 1; cap. to Fig. 1.4
>GOEPPERT 1838. I:15; IX, 1; XIV, 1
>MULLER 1773 and 1786.
>De JERSEY 1965. (re: migration of palynomorphs with hydrocarbons)
>
>Thanks in advance,
>
>Phil Dolding
>Department of Geological Sciences
>University College London
>Gower Street
>London
>WC1E 6BT
>UK
>
>ucfbjpd@ucl.ac.uk
>
>

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email (vbryant@tamu.edu)

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Received: from tam2000.tamu.edu by pangaea.ems.psu.edu
(4.1/PSU_ESSC/GEOSC-2.02) id AA13796; Thu, 1 Dec 94 20:56:32 EST
Received: (from vmb7045@localhost) by tam2000.tamu.edu (8.6.9/8.6.9) id TAA12045
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 19:56:26 -0600 (CST)
From: Vaughn M Jr Bryant <vmb7045@tam2000.tamu.edu>
Subject: Response to your letter
To: Al Traverse <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9412011948.A9305-0100000@tam2000>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Perhaps I never noticed before, but I didn't know you had email...If I did, I would have been sending you messages long ago. By the way, before I forget, do you know there is a pollen bulletin board? I am on it and get all sorts of messages. Some of them are junk, but others are interesting and occasionally I answer some of the questions that people are asking. I am hoping that more of the AASP members will get on the list of subscribers so that we can use it for an active exchange of ideas about palynology...I have put an item about this in the forthcoming AASP NEWSLETTER, which I am sad to say is very late. I am waiting for Martin Head to send it to me so I can get it copied and mailed out. However, I can't do anything until I get the original copy.

Thanks also for all the reprints. They will come in handy when I teach my pollen course this spring. By the way, I still have enough of your textbooks to outfit my class this spring...but that will be about it. I hope the new edition is out by the next time I need them.

Have a nice holiday season and consider putting on a symposium for the 9th IPC. We could use people, like yourself, who would be willing to organize an important symposium. You did such a good job in Brisbane that I thought you might want to do it again. Seriously, think it over...I really would like you organize one, if you were willing.

Have a great holiday season. I am still suffering from jet lag. I was in Israel for over two weeks and just got back...25 hours on the plane or waiting in airports is not my idea of fun. What was I doing there? Collecting pollen samples from a shipwreck site near Haifa, of course. Did I see Aharron and Mina Evron...yes. I spent several days with both of them...

More later.

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr. (vbryant@tamu.edu)
Professor and Head
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-3452

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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PALYNOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
435 DEIKE BUILDING
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Phone: (814)863-3419; Fax: 814-863-7823
E-Mail: traverse@ems.psu.edu

28 November, 1994

Professor Vaughn M. Bryant
Palynology Laboratory
Department of Anthropology
Texas A & M Univ.
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Did I ever thank you for the paper about Citrus-pollen-contaminated moths, by Lingren, you, and a cast of hundreds? It was fun to read and a nice thing to quote some day.

All the best for the holiday season.

I can hardly believe what my VB card tells me about reprints I haven't sent you. But I'm filling in the gap, with the idea you can give 'em to a student if they're duplicates.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

encl.: reprints

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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18 August, 1994

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynological Laboratory
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

"Paleolithic Health Club" was fascinating. I long ago made all of the same conclusions, based just on logic, and Betty and I have for decades lived as much like primitive humans as possible--largely low fat, mostly vegetable diet, lots of hard exercise (11 acres in PA will do that!), etc. One item not dealt with in your article, however, worries me--we consume 2-3 oz. of EtOH per day in various forms. (Our cardiologist son says it's good for the arteries, but that's coincidental.) Please tell me if paleo-people made any EtOH!

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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(409) 845-9334/5242 Tele.
(409) 845-4070 FAX

August 12, 1994

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Thanks for the help on the first name of A. Havinga. I guessed if anyone would know, it would be you...

By the way, THE BOOK was worth waiting for. It really does look nice and I have enjoyed reading a number of the articles in it. You can take pride in your work. It is a significant contribution to the field (what few of us seem to be left these days...).

I have been getting frantic calls from "former" oil company palynologists all summer asking for help in finding new positions somewhere else. It seems that this year the blood-letting has been particularly bad. I think this is also having an effect on this year's AASP Annual Meeting in College Station. Thus far the registration and abstract submissions seems to be down from previous years... I hope the rest of the folks will come!

Enclosed is the latest paper on our "pollen and moth" research. This is the fourth one in this series.

Thanks again for your help.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

enclosure

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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Phone: (814)863-3419; Fax: 814-863-7823

22 July, 1994

Prof. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Just found a minute to take care of your fax of 15 July. First source I checked for Havinga was the first edition of the World Directory of Palynologists, He is listed on p. 64 thereof, "Albert J. Havinga." Ol' George did a good job on that project, rest his soul.

All the best. I tried to phone in this tidbit, but you were reported as out of town by the young man who answered.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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(409) 845-4070 FAX

July 15, 1994

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

In an article I am writing for an encyclopedia on archaeology, I referred to "A. Havinga" as a palynologist who did important work related to our understanding of pollen preservation.

The book editor insists that I must have a first name for HAVINGA. I have searched and searched, but in every paper he ever wrote (I have about 7 of them) he is listed only as A. Havinga. In every other pollen book I can find (including yours) he is always referred to as A. Havinga. In short, I can find so source that gives me a hint of his first name.

Do you happen to know his first name? If so, could you FAX me that information?

Thanks a million.

Best regards

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

Sent Jan 9 : 10:50 a.m. 7-9-3

Post-it™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671 | # of pages ▸

To Alfred Traverse	From Vaughn M. Bryant
Co. Penn State	Co. Anth - TAMU
Dept. Geosciences	Phone # (409) 845-5242
Fax # 814-863-7823	Fax # (409) 845-4070

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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College Station, Texas 77843-4352
(409) 845-9334/5242 Tele.
(409) 845-4070 FAX

July 12, 1994

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Here is a copy of my latest article. I suggest you eat your pizza before you read it.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

attachment

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

I didn't know you invented them! I have been using mine for 15 years. I love them!

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES
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435 DEIKE BUILDING
UNIVERSITY PARK, PA 16802, USA
Phone: (814)863-3419; Fax: 814-863-7823

25 April, 1994

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 778430-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Just read the blurb on yellow paper re the aluminum heating blocks. I wondered if you knew that I was one of the inventors thereof? I just got tired of heating baths. My version is illustrated and described on p. 611 of my chapter of Kummel and Raup, 1965. As far as I knew at the time it was a totally original idea. I was then working for Shell and the really considerable cost of making them was borne by the Shell machine shop, of course. Here and now I can't possibly afford such a luxury. (Department Head was just in the office to 1. demand that I retire and 2. tell me that I should pay for all telephone calls.)

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

PS, See attached for a good laugh!

I'll give you PR in place of pay!

AT

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25 April, 1994

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 778430-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Just read the blurb on yellow paper re the aluminum heating blocks. I wondered if you knew that I was one of the inventors thereof? I just got tired of heating baths. My version is illustrated and described on p. 611 of my chapter of Kummel and Raup, 1965. As far as I knew at the time it was a totally original idea. I was then working for Shell and the really considerable cost of making them was borne by the Shell machine shop, of course. Here and now I can't possibly afford such a luxury. (Department Head was just in the office to 1. demand that I retire and 2. tell me that I should pay for all telephone calls.)

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

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1 February, 1994

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Department of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for yours of 7 Jan. re the forthcoming meeting. Dale Beeson and I have a little thing based on his work here (mostly) and some observations of mine, on screening, which would make a good contribution to your program, under item 2.

Could you get back to me with info about where the session will be, which I don't find in the letter? Now that I have pay all such expenses personally, I have to exclude the west coast, I suppose (unless I could get a special fare). Also, exactly when? My palynology course is always a problem with AASP meetings, but some dates are better than others.

All the best, as always.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

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7 April, 1994

Dr. David Atta-Peters
Department of Geology
University of Ghana
P. O. Box 58
Legon-Accra, Ghana

Dear David:

I hope I am not being presumptuous in using your given name.

It would be great fun for me to work with you on your doctoral program--especially if it at long last provided an opportunity for me to visit Africa! As far as the palynological facilities are concerned, they are splendid right here--including perhaps the best spore-pollen palynological library in North America. So, I look forward to hearing more about the project.

Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

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January 7, 1994

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al,

We, John Wrenn and Vaughn Bryant, are organizing a symposium for the 1994 AASP Annual Meeting, and we would like to invite you to consider presenting a paper as part of that session. The session will include research pertaining to pre-Quaternary, Quaternary, and contemporary palynomorphs. The title of the symposium will be: **The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Sampling, Processing, and Analyzing Palynomorphs**. The primary purpose for holding this symposium is to focus on new and innovative discoveries rather than trying to summarize existing, or already well-known, techniques and procedures. The only exceptions might be instances where existing techniques can be shown to be ineffective, inaccurate, or in need of change.

If you wish to participate, please send a letter to either John or me stating your interest and an explanation of what the focus of your presentation would be. Before deciding to participate, please review the following points to see if your presentation would fit one of the topics listed below:

1. ***Sampling***: What existing sampling techniques are no longer reliable? How much material needs to be collected in a sample? What new techniques have been developed that make palynomorph sampling accurate (i.e., new ways to collect samples in the field, new ways to subsample existing materials, ways to concentrate palynomorphs prior to laboratory extraction, etc.)? Also, what are some of the sampling techniques in newly-developing fields of palynology (i.e., medical palynology, forensic palynology, etc.).

2. ***Processing***: Evaluation of the application of existing techniques. For example, what existing laboratory techniques actually accomplish what we say they do, and which ones do not? Which ones actually destroy some of the palynomorphs? What new processing modifications, equipment, or techniques have been developed that make palynomorph extraction more reliable? What new techniques are proving useful to concentrate palynomorphs more effectively and remove more of the unwanted debris during

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extraction? What new processing techniques have been developed to extract palynomorphs from special types of samples (i.e., insects, forensic, honey, certain types of geologic sediments, archaeological, varve, etc.)? What new types of equipment are proving useful for speeding up the extraction process or making the removal of detritus complete? What types of tracer-spores (pollen), or inorganic spheres are the most effective, and when should they be added to samples during processing? What are the health and environmental hazards associated with processing techniques? What new ways have been developed to improve processing for SEM and TEM studies of palynomorphs?

3. ***Analyzing***: What existing, and often accepted, analytical techniques should be considered inappropriate? What new ones should replace outdated ones? How have computer programs changed our perspective towards palynomorph data? What new techniques are available for identifying palynomorphs, producing palynomorph keys, and generating palynomorph atlases? How many palynomorphs are needed from a sample (or samples) to ensure that the data are reliable? How have palynomorph statistics and data been used incorrectly and how can we correct these errors?

We hope to produce a symposium volume from some, or all, of the presentations. Therefore, it would be helpful if those who present papers can also have a written version by the time of the November meeting.

We hope to hear from you soon, and hope that you will be able to contribute to our program. Our plans are to limit each presentation to 15 minutes with a 5-minute question and answer period at the end. Also, we expect to limit the total presentations to about 25 papers. So please act early.

Should you have any questions, please contact either one of us.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
John H. Wrenn

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1 November, 1993

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Department of Anthropology
Palynology Laboratory
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Re: Page proofs for Sedimentation of Organic Particles

Dear Vaughn:

Betty and I have proof-read the entire book, using the only method that really works: one person (Betty) reading aloud from the typescript as submitted, the other person (AT) following each word of the typesetters' proof with a ruler. I believe we have caught all errors. I do not wish to bore you with unnecessary details, but, as most of you discovered, it is clear the CUP had a computer-glitch of some sort: e.g., hundreds of hyphens were dropped.

After our go-through of the book, we went back to compare our markings with yours. Thank you for your very prompt return of your section (we got both the xerox and the retrieved original)! We hope you realize that the typesetters' proof as you received it reflects earlier editorial changes made by CUP and stylistic corrections of one sort or another made by us. We have vetoed most requests to add anything, but you've made a compelling point that it's silly to have "personal communication" for things now published, so we put the new references in. We had also caught the typos you noted, plus one you missed (at least your MS had 243 samples in Table 4.1, not 234, so we corrected it). A couple of tiny changes you noted that really only affected style, not accuracy or grammar, we decided not to add, to increase the strength of our "you-just-have-to-add-Bryant's-new-references" argument!

All has now gone off to CUP, and we await the next development (for us probably the index and the final proofs; for you, the book itself). Thanks very much for your patience and encouragement.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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3 August, 1993

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Just read your description of "Palinologia de los Tuxtlas, Part I. Especies Arboreas." Two questions you could help me with:

1. Do you know how I can obtain it?

2. Is there a "Part II"?

I really could use this publication for my Central America efforts.

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

P.S. Although totally unrelated, I'm sticking this letter in with the Anne Raymond proposal copy--doing my bit to save PSU 29 cents.

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9 August, 1993

Professor Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Department of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, Texas 77783-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for your fax letter of 5 August. I use the fax machine seldom because I fear a visit from the department head threatening mayhem because I'm spending too much of HIS money.

Re: the Mexican pollen atlas. I very much doubt that I would have better luck than you with getting an answer from Mexico. Your institution is a neighbor, after all. So, yes, I would like to borrow the copy you have, and I promise to return it yesterday. IF we get funded for the current Honduras project, it could be helpful. The Panama one I found out about through you sure helped the last similar (Guatemala) job.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

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8 August, 1993

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Department of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for the computer programs, which I'll get around to playing with one of these days.

Thanks also for the reprint of paper by you and Steve Hall--fun reading.

I look forward to seeing your pollen atlas.

Re my work on Cenozoic of Texas--all I was trying to make clear was that I was Doug's Ph. D. advisor, and his Cenozoic work all got started in my lab. I began what later became his doctoral work while I was at UT and got an NSF grant to do the work. I brought the grant with me to PSU, and Doug soon showed up looking for a project.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

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(409) 845-4070 FAX

August 5, 1993

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I have a copy of the Mexican study called, *Palinologia de los Tuxtlas, Part I*. Other workers in our lab also wanted a copy so we wrote to Mexico on three different occasions requesting information on how we could buy extra ones... To date we have had no response to any of our letters. Maybe you might be luckier.

As far as I know, there is no part II. I guess the person who did part I hoped to finish part II someday, but never did. It is always possible there is a part II that was published in some other source. My biggest problem is not being able to find someone down in Mexico City who might have the correct answers.

If you want me to send you my copy, let me know. You might want to make a good xerox copy. That would be better than nothing and we find that some of our xerox copies of pollen keys (like the expensive Africa ones printed in France) are almost as good as the originals.

Your review of Anne Raymond's grant proposal was fair and well stated. We have the same type of problem with archaeologists who think that they can become palynologists "overnight!" I have been telling Anne for years that you can't just "call" yourself a palynologist, and that it is not something you can just "pick up" over the weekend, or learn by just sitting in on my graduate pollen course. But, like many young Assistant Professors, she is out writing lots of proposals and chasing funding in hopes of finding money to do some type of research...

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

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9 September, 1993

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Department of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77783-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for the loan of the Mexican booklet. Includes some very useful stuff. It's on its way back to you. The Labor Day weekend interfered with getting it on its way sooner.

All the best. Have 20 in my palynology class this semester.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

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2 September, 1993

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for the "archeological palynology...." piece by you and Hall. You cite my book as 1989, but you cite it. I must use your paper in 2nd edition of Paleopalynology--already being negotiated.

Just yesterday I wrote a report on two samples of reddish-brown well-sorted clay for the local archeological consultant firm. Even though two of their staff are former students of mine, they don't seem to have learned that we need grayish silt! (The samples contained a mite of charcoal and 15 pollen grains in seven slides--the entire residue from 100 g of raw samples.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

You got me! Yes it is 1988! I hope that was our only error in the article.

Glad to hear you will do a second edition! Let me know if I can help in any way.

The enclosed was in a botanical newsletter. They wanted something "plant-y" & sweet!"

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THE UWPT NEWSLETTER ✿ SUMMER 1993 ✿ VOL. 1 NO.3

Useful Wild Plants

Sprinting Toward the Finish

Houston Foundation Gives Boost to Magnum Opus

The project received a high-voltage jump start when The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston funded the publication subsidy for Volumes 1 and 2 of the encyclopedia. This grant makes it possible to meet our November obligations to Timber Press. We, and all of you who plan to purchase and use The Encyclopedia of the Useful Wild Plants of Texas, owe the foundation an enormous debt of gratitude.

Right now we are sprinting toward the publisher's November 1993 deadline. Readying Volume 1 for publication entails completing three principal tasks:

Updating the manuscript. Because of publication delays, the manuscript for the first six volumes — completed in 1988 — must be brought up to date before its final editing. Thanks to the able assistance of Tom Gaines and Travis Green, current data from 16 scientific journals, plus additional references and interviews, are now being incorporated into the manuscript for Volume 1, thus assuring that you will have up-to-date information.

Procuring plant photographs. Although 80 percent of the photos for the entire work have already been taken — amounting to some 50,000 slides — several "toughies" have yet to be photographed or contributed by volunteer photographers. Unfortunately, most wildflower photographers focus, literally and figuratively, on beautiful plants, and as you've probably noticed, many of the really useful species are unlikely ever to grace the pages of Texas Parks & Wildlife Magazine, Texas Highways, or Outdoor Photographer. Consequently, Lynn Marshall and I, together with several volunteer traveling companions and photography assistants, have been on the road much of the growing season rounding up the reclusive species tucked away in little niches around the state, in the murkier swamps, or on that one mountain top we have yet to climb. (Lynn's journal "On the Road" chronicles these plant-hunting expeditions.) We hope that the publication of Volume 1 will inspire more plant enthusiasts to arm themselves with cameras and capture some of these homely but valuable native species.

Preparing range maps for electronic media. The range maps for most of the species were defined over a decade ago. Had publication gone forward in 1988 the maps would have been readied for camera paste-up using rubylith mask. With the advent of high-quality desktop publishing, however, it looks like we may also be assisting with, if not producing, the actual layout for Timber Press right here at our Austin office. We are now attempting to produce high quality digitized maps that can be incorporated into the electronic lay-out.

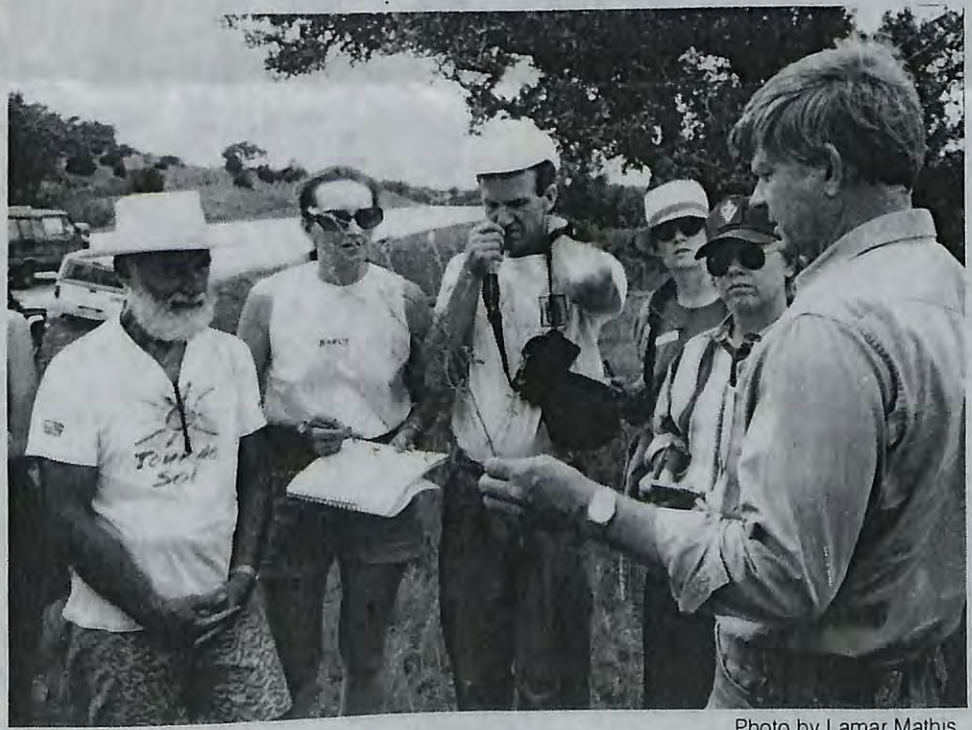


Photo by Lamar Mathis

Field trip to Krause Springs

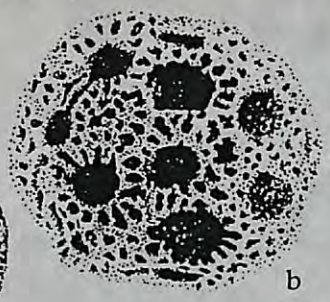
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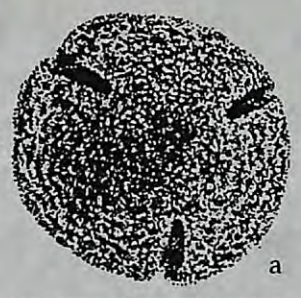
BILLIONS AND BILLIONS

POLLEN AND SPORES IN THE SKIES OF TEXAS

by Vaughn Bryant



b



a

Guess the names of these pollen types and find out which plants turn your immuune system upside down. See the end of this article for answers.



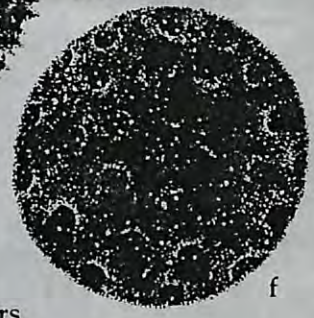
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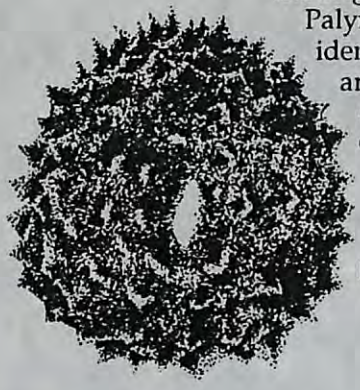
CONNIE SHARIBLI '93



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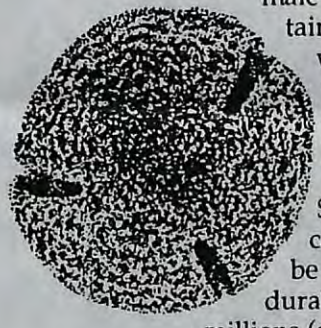
Most Texans don't realize that the same material that makes some sneeze and others miserable is also one of nature's most valuable products. Palynology is the technical term for the study of pollen and spores, and there are fewer than 5,000 palynologists worldwide.

Today a group of Texas palynologists is busy helping geologists locate new oil and gas deposits by studying the fossil pollen and spore record. Others work with climatologists helping them reconstruct and understand the cyclic patterns of Texas' environments during the last 30,000 years. Still other palynologists are working with archaeologists to unlock the secrets of what prehistoric Texas Indians ate, how healthy they might have been, and how those earliest Texans gathered and prepared their foods thousands of years ago. Some palynologists are forensic specialists who are aiding Texas law enforcement agencies in finding and prosecuting criminals by using modern and fossil pollen as evidence to associate a person with the scene of a crime or to trace the origin and transportation routes of illegal drug shipments.



Palynologists working with agricul-turalists are helping beekeepers identify the floral sources used to produce Texas honeys, while others are searching for ways to eradicate agricultural insect pests such as the corn earworm and cotton boll weevil that ruin millions of dollars worth of Texas corn and cotton crops each year. Palynologists are able to do this because both of these insects rely on pollen as one of their primary food sources.

In technical terms, microscopic pollen grains are defined as the "multinucleate gametophytes" of flowering plants. In simple terms, they carry the male genetic materials (sperm) needed for plant reproduction. Spores, on the other hand, are produced by nonvascular plants such as algae, fungi, mosses, and ferns. Spores can be either male or female, or both types of genetic material can be contained in a single spore. After spores are dispersed by the wind they develop into tiny, free-living, gamete-producing plants called gametophytes. Later, these gametes combine and form a new spore-producing plant, called the sporophyte.



"...without pollen...we couldn't find the oil and gas deposits in Texas..."

Spores and pollen are similar in size, content, and chemical composition. Both are produced in vast numbers, both can be carried long distances on air currents, and both have very durable cell walls that can remain preserved in sediments for millions (or even billions) of years. The oldest fossil evidence of life on earth is spores that have been recovered from sediments that are more than two billion years old.



As indicated earlier, there are many applications of pollen data. However, for this article I want to focus on an area that is of the most concern to many of us, especially those who suffer from hay fever.

Each year thousands of Texans are immobilized by the crippling effects and allergic reactions caused by inhaling pollen and spores. It is estimated that during an average spring day in Texas, the pollen count reaches 500+ pollen grains and spores per cubic meter of air. On those days, a non-active individual who spends much of the time indoors, will inhale about 7, 200 pollen grains during a 24-hour period. If that same person were active

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and working out-of-doors, the amount of inhaled pollen would be many times larger than that amount. The reason this figure is so high is that a single blooming tree, like pine or oak, can produce and disperse between 5 and 10 billion airborne pollen grains within a few days. And, if you think that the figures for pollinating trees are astounding, and that they are the primary producers of airborne allergens, then consider the following statistics. In the moister regions of Texas hundreds of types of fungi grow, mature, and disperse their spores into the air. One example is the bracket fungus (*Ganoderma applanatum*), which can discharge 30 billion fungal spores every day beginning in early May and not ending until the end of September. This means that just one plant of this fungus can discharge a total of 4,500,000,000,000 spores in one season. This is equivalent to one spore per dollar of the current national debt owed by the U.S. government!

In the springtime thousands of weeds, bushes, and trees cast billions of pollen grains to the wind. Some of the main offenders include ash, elm, pine, oak, pecan and hickory, poplar, and walnut. Each of these plants produces millions of airborne pollen grains that are carried on air currents. A few months later, other species of weeds and shrubs mature. These include the grasses, composites, sedges, cattails, goosefoot, and others that release their loads of pollen to the winds. By late summer and early fall, ragweed and other species of grasses fill the Texas air with new types of pollen. During the autumn and winter there is some relief for sufferers from the clouds of airborne pollen and spores. However, for some Texas residents, like those living along the Balcones Escarpment and in the Hill Country west of Austin, the winter pollen cycle is the worst of all. Junipers begin to bloom by October and continue to produce airborne pollen late into the winter. Worst of all, for some, are the millions of spores produced by some species of mold and mildew.

Humans everywhere suffer from the effects of pollen and spores because these microscopic cells are inhaled and are rich in different types of proteins. Once inhaled, pollen and spores rupture when they come in contact with our moist nose and lung membranes. Next, our body's natural defense system goes on full alert and treats the newly released proteins as foreign substances.

Part of our immune system consists of mast cells that line the walls of our respiratory system and release histamines and other compounds into our bloodstream as a defense. It is this immune response that causes our runny nose, congestion, itching, and sneezing.

So, the next time your eyes water and you sneeze because the hay fever season is upon us, try not to be too upset; and please don't curse the existence of the tiny pollen grains and spores that float on our air currents. As I mentioned earlier, without pollen and spores we couldn't find the oil and gas deposits in Texas that you burn in your car or use to heat your home in winter. Without pollen we wouldn't know the sequence of past climatic changes in Texas or be able to verify the origins of honey samples. Gone too would be our information about the diets of prehistoric Texans, and we would still be wondering about how Native Americans gathered and processed plant products into foods. Finally, our hope of finding a new way to eradicate insect pests such as the corn earworm and boll weevil would be slowed without our knowledge gained from pollen research. In short, Texas would not be a better place without pollen and spores in the air!!!

Vaughn Bryant is the chairman of the Department of Anthropology at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.

Answers to pollen quiz:
a) OAK (*Quercus sp.*)
b) PRICKLY PEAR (*Opuntia englemanii*)
c) CATTAIL (*Typha angustifolia*)
d) CHESTNUT(*Castanea* sp.)
e) RAGWEED (*Ambrosia trifida*.)
f) LAMBS QUARTER (*Chenopodium* sp.)

DONATIONS

There have also been several generous donations of equipment to the UWPT project since the last newsletter. **Jeff Myers,** recognizing the extreme importance of backups, purchased a Syquest 88 MB external drive to safeguard the manuscript, map, and page layout files. To ease our electronic communication with the editor and other botanists, **Stewart Snider** sprang for a modem and came by to install it. **Margaret White** heard our many requests for legal filing cabinets (if you've visited the office, you've seen the storage boxes stuck in every possible crevice) and offered one up as did Jimmie Carr. Thanks to all of you. Of course, the project still has many equipment needs (see equipment wish list), and UWPT welcomes any and all contributions. Remember, these are charitable gifts and are tax-deductible!

WISHLIST

The following items would be gratefully accepted.

- CD ROM drive (recent version).
- Scanner
- Laser printer
- 486 computer with a page layout monitor
- Copy paper
- Toner cartridges for a Mita DC-111 copier
- Printing (i.e. an issue of the newsletter, or a round of brochures).

Memorial

A memorial contribution has been made to the project in memory of Kermit Wilson Gilley of Cincinnati, Ohio and Big Stone Gap, Virginia by Lois Wooderson and Marilyn Goodwin of Cuero, Texas.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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July 27, 1993

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

It was nice to have a chat with you today. As for the proposal by Anne Raymond, you are on your own... I am sure you will find a solution to your dilemma. She is a nice person and is trying to get things going, but a palynologist she is not (as least not yet).

Enclosed is the computer program by Aharon Horowitz and also the one by Glen Fredlund. Both have text portions to them that explain how to run them. Aharon said that I could give copies to anyone I wanted. All he asks is that if people have suggestions to make it better, let him know. As for the one by Fredlund, he may have another updated version. You may want to write to him. This is the last one he sent me.

I am trying to reach Grimm about his *Tilia* program; the one you mentioned. I am always looking for a better way to do things and also for <u>easy</u>-to-understand programs.

I have also enclosed the article that Steve Hall and I just published. We wrote it because we were fed up with the flood of parapalynologists (I still remember that talk you gave in Tucson on "parapalynology," it was funny, creative and I thought one of your best...) we are seeing in the field. Most of them don't even know what they are identifying, much less know what to do with the data once they have it. At least for the present there seems to be a lot of business out there from archaeologists wanting pollen work done. Some of my former students (Rick Holloway, Glenna Williams, and Eri Weinstein) are doing this type of contract work almost full-time. They, however, are among the ones that seem to be doing it <u>correctly</u>. There are others who do not fit in this category.

I didn't know you were doing so much archaeological palynology. I would be interested in any tips or insights you run into while doing this type of work. I am always looking for new ways, and better ways, to do things. Also, don't forget that John Jones is still at the Smithsonian Institution Tropical Research

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Station in Panama where he is working full-time on pollen projects coming mainly from Panama, Belize, and Guatemala. He has been working with Mark Bush and others down there.

Gretchen Jones and I are almost finished with our pollen atlas of some southern US pollen flora. The atlas will include about 400+ taxa and will be done all in SEM (over 800 photos will be included). The reason we selected SEM is because we had a grant to do it, and it is vitally needed for our ongoing research with the USDA. Gretchen, in fact, has a postdoc with the USDA beginning this September. Her job will be to do their pollen work from moths and other bugs. Her dissertation, which is nearly finished, will be on the melissopalynology of east Texas. She is doing really top notch work and I think she has a bright future. Kris Sobolik (who finished last year) is now at Orono, Maine where she is an Asst. Prof. and is doing pollen work in the Anthropology Department. So far, some of my students are doing fairly well on the job market. How much longer that will be true, is questionable. The job market, especially for palynologists, seems to be going down hill all the time. It is depressing...

Things never seem to get any slower around here. I had made great plans to finish all sorts of things this summer. However, there were too many people stopping by to talk, too many phone calls, too many students wanting papers and dissertations read, too many projects to oversee in the lab, too many students wanting help on pollen projects in the lab, etc. As a result, I am as far behind now as I was in June. By the way...Judy Gennett will defend her dissertation next week. Actually, she ended up with a pretty good thesis on the Eocene palynology of Texas lignites. I was familiar with your article (with Nichols) in Vol III of *Geosciences and Man*, but didn't realize you had done so much other work on the Texas material. We, of course, knew of Doug's many published works on the Tertiary and she used a lot of them in her study.

Keep in touch.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

enclosures

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THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
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23 July, 1993

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Lab.
Texas A. & M. Univ.
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Just got the AASP Directory, among other things, from you. It is not directly obvious to me who is responsible for the Directory, but could you please pass along that I DO have a fax number? It's not that I make any secret of it--it's part of my letterhead above, for example.

News and for long periods lack of it from CUP continues to plague me. The responsible editor just resigned and turned over our project to her boss. I fear that will delay us yet again. Arrgh. Also, groan.

Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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(409) 845-5242 phone
(409) 845-4070 FAX

April 1, 1993

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Gordon Wood called to say you "paid" your dues for 1992 and that we now owe you a copy of volume 16 of *Palynology*. Is this correct, or did I already send you a copy.

If you have not received a copy of volume 16, FAX me a note and I'll drop a copy in the mail.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

Post-it™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671 | # of pages ›

To Alfred Traverse	From Vaughn M. Bryant
Co. Penn State	Co. Anth - TAMU
Dept. Geosciences	Phone # (409) 845-5222
Fax # 814-863-7823	Fax # (409) 845-4070

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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(409) 845-4070 FAX

February 1, 1993

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Note the zip code is now added. Thanks for pointing that out.

Enclosed is a check for the books. Thanks for taking care of this so quickly for me. I'm glad to hear that we may have at least one more year for getting extra books from you. Actually, I teach the pollen course only every other year so it may be two years before I need another shipment. In the meantime, if you need to get rid of a batch of them, let me know. I don't buying them in advance.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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25 January, 1993

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Before you do anything else, go at once to your computer and program into your letterhead thing your zip-code!

Your ten books have gone off to you UPS. The invoice for you is enclosed with this letter: $35 per copy for the books and whatever Betty has to pay for the UPS. According to our records, that is the same as last year.

I enclose also a flyer from Chapman and Hall about how to order the books from them. They will be paperback and will cost about $45, if I'm not mistaken. Please don't mention that I am in competition with them! Incidentally, I am now left with 42 copies of the hardbacks I bought. You could call me next year about copies for your class, as I will by then have a better handle on the question of how many more years I'll be teaching good old Geosc./Biol. 423. Judging from the last year, I'll probably get rid of about 10 copies during the year, as gifts to visitors and the like. I therefore probably have enough for one more year for both your and my class. I had 17 in the course this year, but that was very exceptional.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

encl:invoice, info re publisher

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

1 name —
2 no social #

PALYNOLOGY LABORATORY
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January 21, 1993

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Please send me 10 copies of your text (by mail or UPS, whichever is easier). If you wish to sign them, the students would be flattered to have an autographed copy signed by the author!!

Please send a bill with the books and indicate to whom you want the money sent. We can either pay you officially through the University, or I can send you a personal check for the amount. If you prefer the personal check, I will still need a bill (so I can turn it in and get my money back).

Thanks. If you have any questions, just call or FAX them to me.

By the way, how many books do you still have left? If you want to sell more of them faster, let me know. I might have an idea on how you could do that.

Best regards,

Vaughn

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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January 8, 1993

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I am sending the dissertation by John Jones on Belize. When you finish, just return it please.

Yes, I noticed that there was a "Vaughn Bryant" playing for Stanford as a linebacker. I have asked all my relatives and nobody knows anything about this person. I also noticed he was black. Because we find that there are a number of blacks with last names of both Bryant and Vaughn, perhaps they, by chance, combined the two names in the same way that my great grandfather did...

Keep me posted on the progress of the book. We are all anxious to see a copy when it comes out.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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3 January, 1993

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant
Palynological Labs.
Texas A. & M. University
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Just read the abstract of your student, J. G. Jones, re the Belize project. Could I borrow a copy of that for a few days, to read, and perhaps to copy a few pages, if it seems pertinent?

Hope you have a great 1993.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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25 November, 1992

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Sec. AASP Foundation
Palynology Laboratory
Texas A & M Univ.
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Vaughn:

Greetings!

Here's a minor complaint about something I'd like to nip in the bud.

Lately I've received several AASP things addressed to my paper corporation (Travspore, Inc.) at my home address. Though I use Travspore checks to pay for AASP things, my AASP address for all purposes should be the above.

I enclose order slip returned with recent order to demonstrate that my address was indicated as here.

This is no big deal and does not require response.

Happy holidays. I'll be eagerly watching your football team on Thanksgiving. I'll be rooting for them, or anyone else that ever plays Texas, except possibly Miami. Hope you get the NC this year.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

enclosure

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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5 November, 1992

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843, U.S.A.

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for yours of 2 Nov. Interesting about The Crime Scene. You surely keep busy.

It's too bad that the empty envelope from you didn't enable you to identify which Newsletter it was. I'm hoping that they were coded (paper color) some way. Anyway, 25:2 seems to be what I'm missing.

Re our book. You were sent word of the statement from CUP of a while back: "very early 1993". However, we are really upset by their glacial pace--we've returned every chapter they've edited so far (about 1/4 of total) within 48 hours of receipt, but lately they've been very deliberate about sending us chapters. I've been after them again today.

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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November 2, 1992

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Thanks for the article on forensic entomology. I had heard that these folks could use bugs, like we use pollen, to find clues not normally known. Speaking of forensics, I find it a bit frustrating that even though I have done my best to spread the news about forensic palynology (I even made a one-half hour TV program for the series called The Crime Scene [want to see a copy?]) I get few callers interested in trying to use the technique. Now I am working in other areas such as melissopalynology and entomopalynology. I am trying to "drum" up more business in these areas. I am also in the middle of producing an SEM pollen atlas of selected flora of the southern United States (about 200+ taxa). I hope to complete it by the end of the year.

I shall make an effort to find the missing Newsletter for you. I think I have some extra copies of #25:2. If so, it will be in the mail today. If not, I shall try to find you one somewhere. I get extra copies sometimes, not but always. However, because I mailed the one you got, I ought to have some extra copies. Number 4 in the series ought to be mailed soon. I heard that Bob was getting ready to print them and then mail them to me to distribute.

One final question. Any news when "the book" will be out? The reason I ask is that several people have asked for reprints of our article in the book because we have referenced it in other articles.

Keep in touch and give my best to Betty.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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12 October, 1992

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843, U.S.A.

Dear Vaughn:

Was the empty item I returned for an AASP Newsletter? Probably 25:3? Or an earlier one? 25:3 just came, and I wanted to tell you that your review of the Barro Colorado book caused me to order it--good review!

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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30 July, 1992

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for your two recent notes (21-VII-92), one in red, one in black. Good news re Carol! Re the book: an editor at CUP is apparently working full time on it. What more can I say? Late 1992, probably?

Re Paleopalynology--if you could just send me the $ the kids pay it would be better in the sense that IRS wouldn't hear about it. (There's nothing shady about it--but when my ss# is used, etc., I have to run it through the tax return form.)

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

I was in Metz when your letter arrived. My secretary had already sent all the papers on the way. I hope it arrives soon. Best wishes for a pleasant Fall. I have much to do! IRS can wait!

Thanks again for the books!

Vaughn

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16 July, 1992

I N V O I C E

To: Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

From: Alfred Traverse (364-22-6156)
Dept. of Geosciences
Penn State Univ.
University Park, PA 16802

For: 5 copies of Paleopalynology @ $35.00
Postage 5.63

Total, payable to Alfred Traverse: $ 180.63

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES
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Carol is doing great. She passed her 2-year check-up with flying colors!

16 July, 1992

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

We're back!

Now, re yours of 7 April--5 hard-bound copies of Paleopalynology @ $35 + postage are going out to you today via book post. I took the liberty of autographing them. Bill is enclosed herewith.

Hope you're o.k. Best regards to you and Carol.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et
encl: invoice

July 21

Al, Thanks for the books. Check will be sent in about 10 days. Appreciate the service. Hope your trip to Germany on an analysis of U.S. bryophytes was fruitful. Am now working on a grant from the American Philosophical Society. By the way, I've got a Board of Trustees meeting here at A&M (the one that has our chapter?) Vaughn

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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April 7, 1992

Dr. Al Traverse
Forschungsinstitut und Naturmuseum Senckenberg
Palaobotanische Sektion
Senckenberganlage 25
6000 Frankfurt A.M. 1
Germany

Dear Al,

I got your letter. Thanks for the information about the forthcoming book. I know you are ready to put the whole thing to rest. Being an editor is a real task and one that I am not sure I am ready to take on again anytime soon. Anyway, all of us who are in the book thank you for your efforts.

You asked about John Jones' new address. Currently his address is:

Dr. John G. Jones
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
P.O. Box 2072
Balboa, Panama

I spoke to John just the other day and he said that if his address comes out as being here in College Station, that would be OK. That is because I know where John is and could forward any mail on to him.

Hope your stay in Germany is enjoyable. Continued cuts in higher education in almost every state makes the daily news on TV and in the papers. I fear that we will see the downfall of higher education during the coming decade if something isn't done soon to stop the budget cuts.

When you get back to the US, send me 5 more copies of your hardback text (if you still have copies for sale) at the discounted rate of $35 each (I think that is what you said they were). Anyway, send them and include a bill and I'll get you a check. I won't need them for a while, but I have used up the last supply I purchased from you.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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18 September, 1991

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

No sweat!--your MS is all through the editorial process, and I had written the drawing off long ago.

Sorry to hear you'll be down to your last Rolls and to only one or two motor boats and all that. As one who has <u>never</u> had even <u>one</u> paid lab helper (I have had Betty as a volunteer, thank God), I find it hard to empathize. But, kidding aside, the same sorts of things are happening elsewhere, including here. Meanwhile, grade and high school teacher locally make more than (most) professors, because they are unionized. Isn't there a message!? Really, faculties have lost control of their fates to an alarming extent, and are now almost powerless. Yet universities <u>cannot</u> operate without us. I believe we must organize.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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Texas A&M University
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(409) 845-4070 FAX

September 9, 1991

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

It is time to be honest with you....I just don't think I can get you that drawing you wanted for the pollen article in your book. I have played with ideas off and on, but I never came up with something I thought really told the whole story. Now, time is running out and I didn't want you waiting for something I don't think I can produce.

Since I returned from my summer vacation things have taken on a sour note at A&M. The State cut the appropriations to all state schools and the cuts were passed on down the line. At our peak (1988) we had $6,000 more in departmental operating funds, $8,000 more in graduate assistantship money, and annually received about $10,000 to buy new equipment and computers. By last year we had already lost all of these items. Now, for this year we are being asked to cut our department's base budgets by another $50,000, and we are told we will probably have to cut out another $50,000 next year. I included my memo to the faculty just so you could see what this is doing to our program. The staff personnel we had to cut to 1/2 time are two of our four secretaries. If cuts come again next year we may lose three of our four secretaries and have to cut most of our graduate student support. Our departmental operation expenses are already too thin and our faculty travel funds are now almost gone. With that will also go limits on phone calls, xeroxing, etc.

Maybe I have been at this job too long. It was fun during the last 20 years of growth, but for the past two years (and then again this year) I have had to make tough decisions and preside over a faculty that is becoming demoralized. We now lack enough faculty to teach the sections of courses that are needed by the student demand, so they put us in giant classrooms with 250-350 students each. Even that can't seem to meet the requests for all of our courses. And, as budgets shrink, our enrollment climbs to 42,000 students this fall!!!

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Anyway, trying to work out budget problems, teaching my giant class of 350 students, minding my other chores (like being secretary of the AASP Foundation), trying to take care of my graduate students, and trying to meet some promised deadlines on other articles is just too much. That is why I don't think I can get you the illustration you wanted. Sorry to disappoint you, but I felt I ought to tell you now.

If you want to draw the picture, you have my blessings.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

enclosure

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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August 15, 1991

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Enclosed are the pages from the original manuscript that you sent with your comments. As requested, I have added my response to each comment.

You were correct. The spelling of the bog that Hall examined should be Hughes, not the way I spelled it.

As I mentioned on the telephone, the reason there are now four authors is because the data reported in the manuscript comes from two different research projects that have been worked on by all four of us. I was the only common bond to both projects. Below I have included a brief biography of each of the other two authors.

DAVID CARLSON: Holds a PhD from Northwestern University, is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Texas A&M, is Director of our Archaeological Research Laboratory, and is a computer "genius" who is great with the numbers.

JOHN JONES: Has completed his PhD on the pollen record of Belize, and will have it awarded from A&M in December, 1991. He leaves here next month to begin a post doc to study tropical pollen at the Smithsonian Field Station in Panama for the next year.

Congratulations again on your award and on being asked to speak at Harvard. If one is good, and patient, sometimes the just rewards come their way!

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

enclosures

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22 July, 1991

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Just read the recent batch of reprints with interest and profit. I can't wait to try red fingernail polish, for example. Nit-picking: I protest use of "pollens" in the very title of Benedict et al. The plural of pollen is pollen.

Best as always.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

I agree, but I was not 1st author and that title was selected by Benedict!

Aug 14
In reprints in my mail!

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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Julie Vaughn Bryant

17 June, 1991

Janice Fuschek
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-4352

Dear Ms. Fuschek:

In response to your fax of 13 June, 1991, I am furnishing you with my social security number, so you can process the textbook invoice:

364-22-6156

Sorry I didn't think of it in connection with the original invoice.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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15 July, 1991

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Am now working with your letter and materials of 10 June, which came about 15 June. Betty says the diskette is o.k. Thanks for getting this to us.

The check for the books came. I have virtually unlimited numbers of them, so it will be a pleasure to get future orders from you all!

I guess my hopes for a summary cartoon of your ideas, that would have been a memorable adjunct to the chapter, did not happen. Too bad.

Have you already told me all about authors #3 and #4? When it was just B&H, the MS seemed very similar. How did J&C earn their credits? And because the general editor needs to know, could you tell me just a little about them?

Did I already comment that the Lycopodium stick method (MS, pp. 8-9) is less elegant than my weighing method for p.g. calculations? (see Paleopalynology)

Important question that apparently escaped me previously: p. 12, 2 l. up and p. 20, last line: don't you mean Amaranthaceae? To me "cheno-ams" (and shouldn't it be lower case?) means families in both cases. There are a slug of periporate amaranths that are not genus Amaranthus.

Another important problem: p. 18 of MS, 5 ll. up to end: in 5 ll. up, "degradation" is used as the general term, in 2 ll. up, it is used as a subset of "deterioration." This is confusing. The second of the two "degradations" should be changed--take a look at my suggested new wording on the enclosed pages (of which I have retained xerox copies).

Could you assure me that "Hughs" (p. 19, 7 ll. up) is the correct spelling?

Lastly, I'd like to say that I think the chapter as it will finally be is a fine contribution. It already gives me a probable explanation for a raft of barren Pleistocene samples on terraces near here!

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et
encl: green-bled-on MS pages--please return with red "ok" notations for changes, or comments.

you are right! it should be HUGHES.

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Vaughn Bryant

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Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

June 10, 1991

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Believe it or not, here is the final copy of our manuscript and all of the figures and tables. At times, I didn't think I was ever going to finish, but I did. There were too many distractions and other commitments, but I'm glad it is still in time for the final deadline. All in all, I think this version is much improved and the reviewer comments, though caustic at times, were helpful. We have tried to incorporate as many of the comments into the rewritten version as possible. If future changes are warranted, let us know. I am sending it Federal Express because I don't want it to get lost in the mail. It contains the originals for the figures. The disk has the manuscript in two forms. One is written in Wordperfect 5.1 and the other is in a generic format that can be read by most other software systems. We also tried to comply with your style requests.

I got your invoice for the books and it is being processed. Also, the next time I teach the course I will order the books directly from you (for the class), if you still have copies. Give my best to Betty.

Thanks for your patience.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

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20 May, 1991

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Dept. of Anthropology
Palynology Labs
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Your fax of 17 May came ok. I knew very well what the odd date meant!--proof that the computer doesn't really think (yet).

Your problems and Rick's are obviously real, but nevertheless we are down to the "___ or get off the ___" stage. so, please, please take a couple of days off and get the job done.

What's a "vacation?" I don't understand that concept at all. Must be awfully time-consuming. Couldn't you attend to it in a day or so? Takes a whole week, huh?

I'm sorry to hear of your parental problems. I've recently been through all that, as you know. Betty's mother still is in a nursing home. Betty goes out to Indy bi-monthly to care for her. You don't mention Carol, so I guess things are better on <u>that</u> front, thank God.

The reprints <u>did</u> arrive, <u>much</u> belated (postmarked 11 Apr.91). I thought the package was MS material, and was pretty disappointed whan I opened it!

Hurry, hurry, hurry. All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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May 17, 1991

MEMORANDUM

TO: Al Traverse

FROM: Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr. WB
Professor and Head

SUBJECT: Last letter

Please pardon the cryptic letter I sent. I am not sure what happened, but you should ignore most of what you received. Things have been hectic and confused around here lately and some strange things have happened. This is why I am FAXing you this letter rather than sending it.

Here is an accurate assessment of the present situation. Rick Holloway still has the manuscript, which he has been working on between jobs and interviews. In addition, he has just moved from an apartment into a new house and just changed jobs as well. As such, he has not had much time to complete his part of the rewrite. As you know, we moved in mid March from one building to another one and it took a while for us to unpack and find everything. Between that, trying to finish my courses and grade term papers and other administration duties, I didn't have much time to work on the paper either. My schedule for the rest of May includes, a trip to Louisiana this weekend, returning next week for a few days and then off for a week's vacation and then return on June 2.

I will send a copy of your last letter to Rick urging him to do what he can to complete his part of the paper. I will try to take my portion with me on vacation and see if I can find time to work it. I know we are tardy, very tardy. I am the kind of person that drove me nuts when I was trying to edit and publish my book on North American Late-Quaternary sediments.

For what it is worth, I am doing what I can to wrap this and many other tasks up as quickly as possible. I could give you a series of "real" reasons why I have taken so long on this project, including a series of 1,000 mile round-trips to tend to my father and my aging step mother when he had pneumonia and was in and out of the hospital four times over a period of one and one-half

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months. Then, my mother decided to come stay with us for a month before she headed to Central America where she volunteered to help teach English in an Episcopal school for orphans. Anyway, my time has not been my own for some months.

I am doing what I can as fast as possible. Thanks for your understanding.

By the way, the reference to some reprints are the ones I thought I sent you. They should include one on pollen analysis of honey, one on pollen studies of moths, one on pollen studies of boll weevils, and the one from PALYNOLOGY on forensics. If you didn't get these, let me know and I'll send you another set.

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10 May, 1991

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

An absolutely weird thing just happened. I got a letter from you (xerox enclosed) with the date "December 31, 1990." It mentions finishing by "the end of May," which is appropriate (and really does need to happen!).

There was a two-page letter from you dated 31 Dec., which I answered on 21 January, with comments about the review of your MS, and a request for a jazzed-up illustration or so, per previous comments.

In this "Dec. 31" letter, you mention some reprints you sent--must not have come yet, if this letter really is from May, 1991.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et
encl: xerox

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21 January, 1991

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Just got yours of 31 December--lost within PSU's "mailstrom," I guess.

Re the Trinity River study--a more detailed study is planned for, of all places, our joint book!

Forensic palynology reminds me that I've spent much of Dec.-Jan. on such a case. I just got back from testifying in West Virginia. This case has to do with the identity of a disputed coal seam. It's been interesting.

Sounds as though things are looking up for Carol. That is great.

Betty and I spent the holidays visiting her mother in Indy in a nursing home, my sister in St. Louis area re Mother's estate, and a son and his family in Memphis, then back here to provide "Christmas at Grandma's" for the two local daughters and their boys, then on the 26th to Lancaster, OH, to confer with the lawyers for the abovementioned case.

Now re your chapter for the book:

1. I believe the illustration we've discussed will be a big plus for your chapter and for the book.

2. The reviewer of your MS was a very talented young fellow who is also one of the authors, Stephen T. Jackson. He doesn't seem to mind being identified to you. As you can see, he is pretty strong in his comments. I find that helpful, but it is sometimes hard to take. Since he is agreeable, I'm sending you a xerox (dark, so his pencilled comments are legible) of the whole thing, letter and all.

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Now, please get down to the necessary reworking. I previously gave you a red-pencilled preliminary critique from me. I believe that between my comments and Steve's, most of the important points are covered. Incidentally, I find two copies of my letter of 12 November, 1990, to you. I wonder if you ever got one, so I'm sending a copy.

Best regards.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et
encl: xerox of edited MS, etc.

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December 31, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

We are still working on the revisions of our manuscript. Not that it is that hard to do, but we have been sidetracked with other more pressing problems. At present Rick is reworking some of the sections of the paper and I am waiting for his reply to do my part. I know you are eager to get all of these papers finished and I want to finish it as well. I hope to finish it by the end of May.

Hope all is going well at Penn State. I sent you some reprints the other day. Hope you got them.

Best regards

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

Archaeology Conservation Ethnology Folklore Geoarchaeology Nautical Archaeology
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December 31, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Thanks for your letter of December 8th. I am still working on a sketch of the figure for the article. I have tried several so far, but have not been happy with the results. I shall keep working on revised copies. I think I will have something for you soon.

I just received my copy of the proceedings of the Brisbane meeting. They looked very good and I read through some of the brief articles with interest. I also noted your article on the pollen flow in the Trinity River. I hope that you are planning a more detailed article of that study in some other source. I would like to know more details about the study, and especially more about which pollen types were under and over represented at various levels in the river flow. The more we know about these aspects, the better we ought to be able to correct for them when making interpretations. You probably also noted the article on forensics. Dallas had told me that the article was coming out in that source. However, the reason he and I wrote a much longer one was because of the brevity of the one in the proceeding volume. The longer version is due out in Volume 14 of Palynology.

As a member of the selection committee for the LSU chair position, I was told that so far we had only one applicant. I did not hear this from the chair of the selection committee, so I cannot be certain as to how true this might be. Anyway, we are suppose to have a meeting in Baton Rouge soon. I'll keep you posted.

Carol got her port-a-cath removed (by surgery) in mid December and that has made a difference in her attitude. The port-a-cath is what they surgically inserted and was used for the chemotherapy treatments. She said that as long as it was there, she felt she "had" cancer. Once it was out, she felt cured.... So, at least for now things are looking up. She is still weak and that is why we didn't go anywhere for Christmas. Often in the past we have

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gone skiing but decided to wait another year for that.

I hope the holidays were nice to you. We had two straight weeks of rain and sleet so we all have cabin fever. Hopefully, the sun will come out soon and dry and warm things up.

Let me know when you have the edited suggestions on our paper. When we make the needed revisions, we will also add the new material from Rowley's article (volume 14 of Palynology) to our paper at that time.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

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30 December, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Clipping re your 7000 slides from Mobil read with interest. You reckoned them to be "worth" $25 each. I better rethink the value of our collections. Gee whillikers!

All the best for 1991.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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5 December, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Yours of 16 November has been on my desk for a while. I was holding off answering it in part because I thought another package that came in was the review of your MS. I just opened it to discover it contained a completely different assortment of papers!

The article by Lampe about you was fun. But the cover picture by Parmenter was so poignant that I can hardly get over it.

Sorry to hear of Carol's state of mind--certainly understandable. She should be a little comforted by the better status of medicine now. We have a friend in the department, whose family suffers from a hereditary kidney disease. Most are gone by age 40. She got a transplant and recently took part in the transplant olympics (as a swimmer) in Indianapolis--at about 50. Nevertheless, Carol's fears <u>are</u> reasonable. It would be nice if she could view each day as a new miracle of survival--it is for us all!

What I wanted for your article was a figure (I wouldn't call it a "chart") that would show in diagnostic fashion the fate of the various items you discuss. I believe it would help readability a lot. The reviewer is a very capable guy, and his review may help quite a bit, too.

So, do work on that figure. More soon, I'm sure.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Pollen provides information on drug origin

Law enforcement might have another weapon in the war on drugs — ordinary pollen.

Forensic palynology — identifying pollen grains trapped in shipments — can provide information on the origin of some illegal drugs, says Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant Jr., head of anthropology at Texas A&M and a renowned palynologist.

By studying pollen "reference" slides under a microscope, palynologists can identify pollen at a crime scene or recovered from a drug shipment and help pinpoint its place of origin, Bryant says.

It is also possible to relate the grains to other parts of the same or similar drug shipments.

Pollen, while generally considered only a nuisance for the allergy-prone, is useful in oil and gas exploration and in recreating ancient climates.

Pollen also is considered "nature's fingerprints" when assisting in criminal investigations, Bryant says.

A&M is one of the leading centers in North America where this type of information can be generated.

"This collection is unique," says Bryant, who also heads the University's pollen research laboratory. "With it, we can do new types of research other labs can only dream of."

Mobil Oil recently donated a large number of pollen reference slides. This collection, valued at more than $175,000, includes 7,000 reference slides of key pollen types from modern plant species worldwide.

The lab housing the Mobil collection already maintains samples of more than 300 types of seed from the Western and Southwestern United States — 3,500 types of modern pollen mostly from North America; 1,500 other floral and raw pollen samples; 2,000 fossil coprolites; 6,500 other slides and samples from pioneering coprolite work; collections of fossil and modern spores; as well as charcoal and wood samples.

"The key to forensic palynology — recreating a picture of the past through pollen samples — is having a good reference collection of key pollen groups," Bryant says.

"With the Mobil collection, we have one of the best pollen reference collections in the country. With it we can do the kinds of forensic palynology we may be called on to perform."

He says the donation has an especially good representation of pollen from tropical regions of the world, which already has helped one graduate student constructing the first record of the prehistoric environment of Belize, an ancient center of Mayan culture.

Before the Mobil collection arrived, the student was stymied by more than 50 pollen types he could not identify. Since the collection arrived last summer, he has cut the number to seven.

"There are millions of species of pollen- and spore-producing plants in the world," Bryant explains. "No one palynologist can become an authority on all, and it is rare for a palynologist to have a working knowledge of pollen flora found in more than a few regions of the world."

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November 16, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I was sad to learn about your mother's death and know from experience how events like that can consume all of one's time. Hopefully, for you things will return to normal soon.

My situation, as far as time to work on research goes, has improved, but other events still sap some of my energy. Carol is physically better, but has become depressed and seems to be obsessed with the fear of dying. Her father died of cancer at age 61 and her mother died of a heart attack at age 62. Even though Carol is in her early 50s, she seems to have a fatalistic attitude that she is near the end... I am at a loss to help her and my every suggestion seems to be rejected so I have just quit making them. From experience I have learned that at times like this, I need to do what I can, but cannot become obsessed with trying to "fix" things. Instead, I find it is important for me to continue my routine, take care of my own mental health and to do what I can for Carol without letting her become the only focus of my existence. Anyway, I'm hoping things will improve. They usually do after a while.

You are correct in thinking that our manuscript is pretty much finished as you see it. The Rowley et al. article is quite good and I think there are several places in our paper where we can add a paragraph or two in reference to his findings. Essentially, their data support our findings and show how pollen is actually be degraded, but their data will not change any of our overall results or conclusions. Also, we are still thinking of some type of chart for the article, along the lines you suggested.

There is no rush in returning the review copy of our article. I am flooded with a backlog of other projects and now that I was appointed as the fourth trustee (secretary) to the AASP Foundation, my job has increased to include more duties.

Enclosed is a copy of that article from The World and I. I had some xerox copies made even though I should get the actual reprints sometime in the not to distant future.

It's always good to hear from you. Keep me posted on how things develop.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

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October 26, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

When I was in Canada, at the AASP meeting, I got a galley proof copy of an article by Rowley et al. The article will appear in the next issue of Palynology. It is really an important article on pollen degradation and discusses pollen wall deterioration. Rowley has used the actual pollen grains that Havinga used in his 20-year experiment and has done TEM and SEM analyses of those grains to show how phases of pollen wall destruction occur. After reading the article, I think I would like to mention some of his findings in the article I have written for your book. It won't take long to add the new information, but I wanted to let you know I felt the final article would be strengthened by this addition. However, I shall wait for your editorial comments and then make all the needed corrections at the same time.

One final point. I am told (although I have not seen it yet) that in the November issue of the magazine The World and I, I have been featured in their section called "scientists past and present." Some months ago they did a long telephone interview and then I sent them some photos, which they said would become part of an article "at a later date." They called yesterday to say November was the "later date." Anyway, if you happen to be at a Walden Book store, you might take a look at the article. I understand that few newsstands carry this magazine, which I am told is mostly for international distribution. However, I have seen it for sale in local Walden Book stores.

The meetings in Canada were fun, but expensive. The total cost for my trip turned out to be $1,285 US. I knew it would be expensive, but that is really too high. I went to the board meeting and made an appeal for using college campuses to keep the cost down. As a result, LSU was selected for the 1993 meeting site. I bid College Station, but was told to come back with a proposal for 1994 at the mid year meeting.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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October 4, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Enclosed is the finished manuscript and a copy of the illustrations. I have not enclosed the originals, but will do so when you request them. I have also sent a disk with the manuscript on it. It is in Wordperfect 4.2. We are making new plates using new SEM photos so the final prints will not be exactly the same as the ones I have enclosed. The pictures I enclosed are just an example to show you there are plates there (which we have called figures [not plates]) in the text. We have new photos that show these features much better than the pictures shown in these plates. This reminds me, do you want these called figures or plates in the text?

The other figures (maps and graphs) we have included are xerox copies of the final ones we had planned to use. If you want any of them changed, please let me know what changes are needed. Figure captions are at the end of bibliography section. We are still working on a possible "cartoon" for one of the figures, but wanted to get the manuscript to you as soon as possible for you to examine and edit. You can make the editorial changes yourself on the enclosed disk, or send the manuscript to me and I will make the changes.

Monday I am off to Canada and the AASP meeting. I seriously considered not going because of the total cost involved, but decided to go anyway. I have already written Judi an official protest about the cost of the meeting and hope she will discuss it as the Board Meeting. I have suggested we consider university campuses in the future. Holding an annual meeting in an exotic place is nice, but expensive. I would much prefer to meet someplace where it was less expensive, even if less exotic.

Thanks for your patience. There were many days I worried whether or not I would ever find the time to finish this paper.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

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20 September, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University faxed to: 409-845-5663
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Please see Post, W.M., et al., 1990, American Scientist Jul.-Aug. 1990) 78: 310-326, esp. pg. 320. Two possible illustrations for your chapter occurred to me while reading this article:

1. a (black & white cartoon) of the sort of picture in Fig. 11, to dramatize the xerophytic system which you studied.

2. a (b&w) cartoon like Fig. 10, to show your concept of the fate of pollen in an arid zone.

In both cases I could get the final artwork done if you flashed up a draft. On the other hand, if A&M could do the whole thing, that would be great!

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

PALYNOLOGY LABORATORY
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-4352
(409) 845-9334/5242 Tele.
(409) 845-4070 FAX

September 17, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I finished the final words on the article last night. Rick sent me his corrected portion with some added material but I ended up rewriting it to fit my own writing style. The illustrations have been redone and are ready with the article to send. However, from your FAX you said you were sending down a red lined copy of the earlier draft. Thus, I will wait to see what you suggested as changes. I may have made some of them already, but if not I shall try to incorporate them into this final version before I send it to you.

The main reason for my returning this FAX is to assure you that the manuscript is FINISHED and I think it is a much better version than the one I sent you.

By separate mail I am sending you a copy of a write-up I prepared on our graduate program in palynology. Judi (see July NEWSLETTER) called to say she wanted a write-up from us and then explained the issue again in the newsletter. I admit it sounds like we are bragging about our facility, and we are. More important, last week the Palynology Laboratory was finally recognized by the University higher administration as being a separate administrative unit within Liberal Arts and as having its own separate budget. I was appointed as the Director which will give me the autonomy I need, and want, once my current term as Department Head is finally over.

Carol continues to get better but she is impatient for her strength and energy to return to full force. The surgeon warned her not to expect that until Xmas, but she wants it NOW. It has been a long haul and now she wants to "get on with her life." As for the statistical odds of being "cured" that depends. With the kind of cancer she had, and by doing all of the things she did (radiation, chemotherapy, taking anti-hormone pills, etc.) her statistical chances are 80% of living 5 years without a reoccurrence of cancer. After that the odds get even better for 10 and 15 years. However, at any phase of the recovery stage there is always that potential for the cancer to return and that is why she must get thorough check-ups from now on at intervals of 3-6 months.

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17 September, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

faxed to: 409-845-5663

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for yours of 29 August, with several pieces of good news, including the proof that the sedimentation chapter is nearing completion. I am sending a red-pencilled version of the draft for your edification (?), as requested. I now pray that you can swiftly complete it. After all, the boy who cried "wolf" finally did produce a wolf.

The news of the Key to North American Pollen Types interests me greatly. I'll want to have that! But I want your chapter for the sed-book first.

Good to hear of Carol's improvement, but I'm naturally sorry about the side effects of the medication. Maybe this is a place where some other opinion could be sought. Is there another medication that might work? What is the evidence that the medication actually prevents further morbidity? If it does, in how many cases out of 1000? Etc.

Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

P.S. I note there's now a third author--may I have a few details about him? If he were John P. Jones I could count on him to call out, "Don't give up the ship."

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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18 September, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Here are the red-pencilled pages of the MS (I have saved a complete copy here). I didn't do a final job at all, as you stated that the MS was provisional, and it obviously was. But I did make some points you can already address.

In addition to what's written down, I'd like to call attention to the fact that I'd like really good captions to all figures. I am sometimes criticized for putting too much in captions, but I think they're important.

Any chance of a photographic figure?--maybe a plate with several photos--field operations would be especially interesting. I'm a little concerned that the book will be too dry.

Can you provide your MS on a diskette?--(5¼", IBM-compatible, Word Perfect or convertible software preferred, although we can deal with others if necessary).

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

P.S. Have your fax of earlier today (18 Sept.). Interesting about the potential honey grant. I even kept bees for a while after one of our honey projects.

AT/et
encl: pages of MS with red-pencilled notes

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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College Station, Texas 77843-4352
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FAXED 9/18/90 8:00AM A.T.

September 17, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I finished the final words on the article last night. Rick sent me his corrected portion with some added material but I ended up rewriting it to fit my own writing style. The illustrations have been redone and are ready with the article to send. However, from your FAX you said you were sending down a red lined copy of the earlier draft. Thus, I will wait to see what you suggested as changes. I may have made some of them already, but if not I shall try to incorporate them into this final version before I send it to you.

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In addition to the North American Pollen Key book we are finishing, I am also 2/3 the way through writing a textbook on Forensic Palynology. Since mid June of this year I have been working at almost a "manic" pace on research and teaching trying to catch up for the "lost semester" this spring. As an example, just last week I submitted a grant request for $108,000 to do a comprehensive study of U.S. domestic honey produced in all 50 states. I also got another grant from the USDA to continue our pollen and moth research (entopalynology). I'm keeping my fingers crossed for the funding on the honey grant.

Thanks for your patience in waiting for this long overdue manuscript. I am rarely this late on anything, but I assure you, it is now finished and only awaits the changes you suggested. Hope to see you in Canada nest month.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Director

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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12 November, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Since I last wrote, my mother fell, broke her hip, received an artificial hip-joint, and died on 11 October, with all the attendant things that meant. I really lost October.

Yours of 4 October, and the MS came during all of this. You will recall that what I had previously from you was itself labelled "provisional manuscript." I got no review, just gave you some of my first-hand reactions. Now I should send it out for one real review, but that is a little difficult, as your MS is still not quite in final form. However, I'm going to send it anyway, with appropriate qualifications. Surely the additions you wish to make re Rowley on pollen degradation, etc., etc., can only strengthen your chapter! I continue to believe that some sort of additional snappy diagram up front in your contribution will help to dramatize you main points. The chapter is quite short, so there's no space problem.

All the best. Regards to Carol.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

August 29, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

By now you must know I am the "boy who cried wolf" when it comes to getting our paper in to you. However, I have enclosed a draft (not quite finished) and copies of the illustrations just to show you we are nearly finished. I want to stress the enclosed is only a DRAFT and not the final copy. Rick was out of town for nearly a month and now has promised to add some additional material to the discussion section and then we will write the summary and be finished. In the meantime, if you have any comments or suggestions you want to add to the enclosed draft form, let us know now so we can examine those as well while we are writing up the final version.

In a twist of fate I was appointed to the LSU Chair in Palynology Selection Committee. I say "twist" because we were one of the schools trying to get the chair in the first place. Anyway, I went over to LSU last week with Harry and we met with the committee. The members of the Committee seem committed and lets hope that things work out for the best. Shortly, they will be issuing an ad for a palynologist to fill the chair position. If you have any suggestions of candidates, feel free to let me know. Our object is, of course, to find the very best person we can for the position and try to make this thing work. It will be to AASP's advantage to do so...

Again, I know I have been late on this paper and promise that the FINAL draft will be coming to you very soon. There have been too many other things going on including writing what is now a book on FORENSIC PALYNOLOGY (which is nearly finished) and also a book on a POLLEN KEY TO NORTH AMERICAN POLLEN TYPES complete with a software package so you can use the key on an IBM type computer. That also is nearly finished. I hope to get both of these projects finished by the end of this year or early next year. Monday I also began teaching two courses, one of 350 students (an intro course) and the other a graduate course on paleoethnobotany. All of this in addition to my administrative duties have taken a heavy burden on my time lately.

Carol is doing better, but her spirits are down. She has been taking a pill form of Novadex since January and hoped to be able to stop soon. It

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is a pill form of chemotherapy that the doctors now say she will have to take for "life" as a precaution against further attacks of cancer. It has two side effects that really are upsetting to Carol. First, it puts weight on, and second it kills all sex desire. She keeps saying she is just going to stop taking them (against the advice of the doctors) and we have discussed it aspect many times. It is a tough decision. Do you stop and risk more cancer, or do you continue and live with the side effects?

Hope to see you in Canada in early October.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

enclosure

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27 August, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Have you noticed O'Rourke, M.K., 1990, Grana 29:2: 147 ff.?
Seems as if it should be mentioned in your chapter.

Which reminds me--hope it's getting nearly ready to send to me!

All the best, as ever.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

PENNSTATE

1855

Department of Geosciences

(814) 865-6711

503 Deike Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802

10 July, 1990

Dr. Vaughn Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for yours of 25 June. It's good to know that the MS is in final stages. Actually, my own problems (closing Mother's home, getting her into a nursing home, etc.) have got everything in arrears, so your delay hasn't hurt anything at all. The MS will be very welcome when it comes.

I am off tomorrow for several days with George Hart to work with him on his 2 MSS for the book.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Al (et)

Alfred Traverse

(dictated by AT; signed in his absence)

AT/et

An Equal Opportunity University

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

June 18, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Thanks for your quick reply to my request. Yes, I had written to Dr. Stanley last summer but never received a reply. I also tried calling him last summer and even left a message several times asking for him to return the call, but again, I did not hear from him.

As you can see from the enclosed, I have written to him again. Maybe this time I will have more success.

Thanks again for your help.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

enclosure

Thanks for your continued thoughts and prayers. We are hanging in there and just counting the days until we can get back to living our lives the way it use to be.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Name_____

Address_____

_____

Forensic Palynology Questionnaire

___yes ___no Has your lab, or your law enforcement agency, ever used pollen analysis to search for clues or to solve a case?

___yes ___no Our forensic laboratory has produced pollen information which was used in a criminal or civil case.

___yes ___no Our law enforcement agency has used pollen information obtained from sources other than our own forensic lab.

___yes ___no Our law enforcement agency has used pollen data in an effort to solve a case in more than one instance.

___yes ___no The search for pollen information as clues is a routine part of our investigation on a case.

If you know of any instances where pollen was used effectively as a clue in a civil or criminal case (regardless of whether it was used by your law enforcement agency or another agency) please list it below and briefly explain how the pollen data were used.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

___yes ___no I would like a copy of the results of this survey and a copy of the article on forensic palynology when it is published.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

June 18, 1990

Dr. E. A. Stanley, Director
Forensic Laboratory
New York City Police Department
235 E. 20th Street
Room 836
New York City, New York 10003

Dear Dr. Stanley:

Dr. Dallas Mildenhall (New Zealand Geological Survey) and Dr. Alfred Traverse suggested that you might be able to assist me. I am writing this letter in hopes that you will take a few minutes from your busy schedule to fill out the attached questionnaire and return it in the enclosed envelope. I wrote you a similar letter last summer (see enclosed copy) but cannot be certain you received it. However, it was not returned to me as being undeliverable.

The collected data from this survey, combined with the knowledge we have learned from our previous research efforts, will form the basis for our attempt to write an article on forensic palynology. Thus, I would greatly appreciate any comments or suggestions you could offer that might assist us in this venture.

As the head of an academic department I receive a lot of these types of questionnaires in the mail and cringe each time one arrives because it means taking time away from my other duties to fill them out. This is why I especially appreciate your efforts to fill out this one and why I have tried to make the enclosed questionnaire as brief as possible.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to discover the extent to which palynology is currently being used as a technique in the search for clues or has been used as evidence in criminal or civil cases investigated by law enforcement agencies. The data recovered from this survey will help me assess the current scope and potential of forensic palynology in the United States and compare these data with results from other countries.

As a palynologist who teaches a graduate course on palynology, I like to include lectures and laboratory experiments on a number of ways palynology can be used, including forensic palynology. In addition, last summer I taught a one-week short-course on forensic palynology to forensic personnel of the U.S. Customs Agency.

Our Palynology Laboratory engages in a number of types of research including forensic palynology. During the past eight years most of our forensic work has been conducted for the federal government's Office of the Inspector General, private companies, and in a few cases state

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agencies. We have also advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation on several occasions concerning the collection of forensic samples and the potential uses of forensic palynology; however, they did not send samples to us to examine. As yet, we have not worked with any local law enforcement agencies.

Thank you again for taking the time to complete and return this questionnaire. For your information, I have included a brief, published article I wrote on the general subject of palynology.

Sincerely,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

enclosures

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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12 June, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for update of 7 June. We continue to hope and pray for Carol.

My own problems are still demanding--I leave tomorrow for 10-15 days of work on my mother's home--my sister and I must dispose of a century of acquisitions. With my pickup truck (and a trailer?) I will personally move a lot of the stuff all over northeastern USA. However, it is not in a class with your problem.

Re the forensic palynology bit--you've got it close enough. I had a number of such contracts--they never told me any of the details. For example, one time we were supposed to determine what fruit-trees, if any, bees were visiting--probably (but I was not told) for legal reasons (orchard owners refusing to pay for bee-keeper's services?). I red-pencilled one suggested change.

Ed Stanley, a famed paleopalynolosist, is now head of the crime lab for NY City police (address: Police Lab, 235 E. 20th St., Room 836, NYC 10003). Have you written him at all?

Look forward to getting your MS!!

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et
encl

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
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(409) 845-5242/5260

June 7, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Carol and I are still "hanging" in there as far as her chemotherapy treatments are concerned. She still has another two months to go on those treatments and has reached the point where she is getting tired of the whole thing and is a bit depressed. At times she even thinks she is not going to survive until this Christmas. As with others who go through this type of treatment, each time she gets weaker and weaker and the doctors say that it is normal. They also note that it is normal for people to begin to feel like they are dying from being so weak. It's no fun, but it is one of those things you do not have a choice about completing. Anyway, we are both looking forward to the day when it is all over and we can get back to our active lives.

As we go through our ordeal, I keep remembering we am not the only people who have suffered with these kinds of problems. This brings me to ask how your situation is coming. Like us, I remember you saying that you had your own set of troubles that required much of your time and mental efforts. Hopefully, those situations are improving.

On another matter, last year you were kind enough to send me some information on several forensic palynology cases you investigated. I need to refer to those cases in a written paper and wanted to make sure I have correctly represented the facts of one of the cases. A copy of my written explanation is enclosed.

I would appreciate your reading the attached material and letting me know if it correctly reflects the general facts of the case. Because your reference was incomplete as to exactly how all of it happened, I admit I have added some logical possibilities about how the case might have developed. This was done in an effort to put the example in a prose format that would interest those reading about it. In the paper I am working on I do not refer to you as the person who did the work, or the name of the company involved, only that this is an actual example of a forensic palynology case.

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I'll keep you posted on what becomes of my efforts to get people interested in forensic palynology. So far, I can't seem to get anyone very concerned about it except for an occasional beekeeper.

I got your last letter about the need to get a completed copy of our other paper: the chapter for your book. I had to finish this short item (listed above) before I could "clear the decks" to get to the other paper. I sincerely am going to get to work on it as soon as I can.

One final point. I was surprised to hear that LSU got the Center for Palynology. I admit that our administration did not give it the priority or attention they probably should have, but I know there were other very good proposals besides the one from LSU. I agree with you that from what I can find out, the whole matter may not have been handled by AASP in a fair manner. My only concern about LSU is that the state of Louisiana is broke and they keep cutting funding to education. I just hope they come through on what they promised...

Thanks a million for the help.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

attachment

AGGIELAND BOND
THE STATE OF TEXAS
A&M UNIVERSITY

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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June 25, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Just a quick note to reassure you that I am finally able to devote my full efforts to working on the article for your book. For the past two weeks I have been working on it part-time, but now am working on it during every available free minute. I have to go to Galveston to teach a two-week course in mid July, but hope to wrap this article up before then. Please let me know if you have a critical deadline for the manuscripts before then.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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21 May, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Yours of 1 May finally got read (on 20 May). I got called to Michigan on 6 May about my Mother, whom I had to put into a nursing home, etc. My sister and I are now working on the house and contents thereof. It was a great joy to read of Carol's improvement, which we pray will continue.

So--don't worry about the deadline. I have been prevented by Mother's affairs from making normal progress on the book. But do try to get the MS to me ASAP! No matter when, I'll be able to use it (within reason), and it is a MUST for success of the book.

I thought, and still think, that Penn State's proposal, if carefully considered, was the best proposal for "the chair." I am concerned about the ethics of LSU having a sitting member on the AASP board--AASP should have prevented even the appearance of unfair advantage, to forestall the question being raised. The PSU delegation (our Dean, and the head of the Earth System Science Center) are aware that the LSU delegation was privy to our and all other proposals and other confidential information, before the fact. It is obvious how this happened! Penn State is very disappointed by the outcome. On the positive side, it may (just may) have interested PSU in making palynology permanent here.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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(409) 845-5242/5260

May 1, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Our semester is nearing the end and I wanted to bring you up to date on a number of things. First, Carol is doing better. We have finished the six weeks of daily radiation treatments (they were all done in Houston so we had to drive daily from here to Houston) and are now half way through with the chemotherapy treatments. All of this, I hope, will be behind us by late this summer. After that, we will just keep our fingers crossed and hope that there is no recurrence.

As for the paper I am suppose to be writing, it has been on hold for some months now because of my other responsibilities. I had tried to work with Rick Holloway by telephone, but that has not been too successful. Thus, it looks like I will have to work on the paper if it is to get done. I will make an effort to get to it sometime later this month after finals are over. I know it is long overdue, but that could not be helped. My suggestion is that if we can make the deadline, then fine, but if not, then you will probably just have to go without it. I don't see any other solution for now. However, I do appreciate your concern and understanding throughout this ordeal.

I learned from our representatives that LSU got the center for palynology excellence. Frankly, I was shocked. I thought it would be Penn State or maybe some other institution. I thought we had a fairly good proposal and I know from experience that A&M is a "rich" school that can do a lot of things in terms of funding when it wants to. The reason for my concern about LSU is that the state of Louisiana is in terrible financial trouble. Just last year two top anthropologists from there left to take jobs at other schools because their financial situation was so bad at LSU. In addition, my son is in graduate school in Louisiana and he said that budget cuts at the university has forced them to drop many key journal subscriptions. Now, he is having to come over here often just to spend the weekend in our A&M library trying to do his needed research. I just hope none of this will effect the future of our palynology center.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

On those days when I have to spend much of my time taking care of Carol I think of you and your situation and realize how things like this can burden what we try to do at the professional level. In that regard, I hope that your situation is improving. Having to care for sick parents and having to support our grown kids can sometimes make all of us wish for an easier and simpler life (I know, I have a 24 year old daughter living at home right now).

Hope to see you in Calgary this fall and I hope to get you that paper sometime in the not to distant future.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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2 April, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Here I am again with my hat in hand! I hope you and Rick have your MS about ready to send in. I'm also writing Rick. Situation isn't yet "desperate," but it's getting toward "pressing," or something of the sort.

I have marvellous memories of central Texas at this season, including once when I gave a talk at A&M (over 30 years ago) in early April.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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fax: 814-865-3191

12 February, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Yours of 2 Feb., postmarked the same day, took 4-5 days to get here apparantly, though I confess that this semester, with 3 courses going and other matters, I'm a little slow taking care of correspondence.

The progress report was, of course, read with sympathy and interest. The sickness-through-radiation-and-chemotherapy thing is a bad trip. However, with the sort of malignancy Carol has, it does offer real hope. When, as often is the case, it is used for cancers such as of the liver, I have often doubted if so much suffering is justified, as the prognosis is practically zilch.

Anyway, your first letter didn't mention the chapter, and as I said in my response, I hoped maybe Rich could help more than was originally planned. I called him a few days ago, and he intimated he was trying to do just that. It is good to know per this "groundhog (= Candlemass)" letter that you yourself will be able to put a hand to it also. I look forward to getting it, of course!

All the best, old friend.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843-4352
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February 2, 1990

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Thank you for the nice letter, your concern, and your prayers. They all helped. Believe me, this whole thing was a real shock to us as well. As I may have mentioned, we were just 3 days from leaving for our usual ski trip to Colorado and already had the car half packed. Of course all that changed. The enclosed fills you in on what happened next (after the initial report I sent you). I thought I would try to keep a record of what happened by writing these short "chapters" as things occur. Most of the relatives keep calling to find out what is going on, so I just send them these chapters to fill them in. I am a bit behind on my writing of this, but have taken good notes and will continue as I find time.

The operation went well and none of the axilla lymph nodes showed signs of cancer. This was almost more than we had hoped for since Carol has infiltrating lobular carcinoma which is ranked as the most "aggressive" form of breast cancer and the one that tends to spread the fastest to other parts of the body. We were set to go home from the hospital on Saturday as they originally promised us (the operation was on Tuesday morning, Jan 16) but things didn't work out as we anticipated. Carol received her first chemotherapy treatment on Friday while still in the hospital and her body reacted badly to the treatment. She had nausea and was throwing up for 18 continuous hours even though the nurses were giving her shots for nausea every three hours. Along with the nausea came headaches, terrible chills, and a fever that would not let up. Those side effects lasted for 24 hours and at times we had three blankets and two down quilts on Carol and she was still shaking so badly the bed rattled. It is the chemicals that cause all these side effects. For example, the chills and fever occur because the body is tricked into believing there is a "mass invasion" of foreign microbes into the system. Until the initial effects of the chemicals wear off, the body continues to keep the heat on in an attempt to "kill" the invaders. Chemotherapy seems to be one of those "cures" where the cure may really be worse than the disease...

These side effects Carol had in the hospital were just the beginning. Others appeared once we got home. She lived through those first few days of the first treatment even though at times she said she had her doubts if

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she wanted to live. Now she is at home recovering and dealing with other side effects which keep her pretty restricted. However, it was the initial bad side effects that kept us in the hospital those extra days while they continued to watch her reactions. Finally on Tuesday, Jan 23, (8 days after she was admitted) they let her go.

We still have a long haul ahead of us with six months of chemotherapy, 1 1/2 month of radiation treatments, and four months of hormone treatments. We expect to finish it all by this Christmas and then it will take about another 2-4 months for Carol to get her strength back, but between then and now things are not going to be too much fun. We are hoping the next treatments won't cause so many side effects, but we won't know until it happens. The written reports we have read and our doctors all say that there is no way to predict how individuals will react to any of the treatments. It seems to be a very individualistic thing that depends a lot of a person's body chemistry and immune reaction.

I have not forgotten about our chapter. Things are beginning to calm down a bit and I am trying to get back to those things I had to drop and leave undone back in December.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

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YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

The Gathering Storm

Chapter 2

Often, as major hurricanes near the coast their powerful winds push tremendous volumes of water ahead of the storm's core. This surge creates a rapid rise of sea level in coastal areas and is called the "storm surge." Often its pre storm effects are devastating.

Like coastal residents in front of an oncoming hurricane, we also are caught in a storm surge of our own. The amount of information we have already learned, the number of doctors we have seen, the amount of money we have spent, and the number of tests Carol has had performed on her have all overwhelmed us. Our minds have become flooded; we have glimpsed the future and have learned only too well what lies ahead. We now fear the nearness of the storm as each second ticks by, but now more than ever before we are resolved to cling to life and survive the storm's oncoming fury.

Today marks the end of the second week since we learned Carol had cancer. Just two weeks, yet it has seemed an eternity of bad dreams. During this storm surge we have read five books, xeroxed and read a number of articles, talked to no less than 12 different doctors and lost count of how many related hospital and lab personnel we have seen. We visited four major hospitals, by her own count Carol has stripped and dressed 49 times that she can remember. She has had 7 tests such as bone scans, liver scans, organ scans, blood work ups, chest x-rays, GI exams, mammograms, and etc. We tried, but couldn't recount how many hours we spent making long distance telephone calls, or the number of hours waiting in doctor's offices, or waiting to take some test in a lab. Also a blur are the number of car trips and the number of miles we have driven during the past two weeks to meet all our appointments. Finally, we have had long talks with four women who have breast cancer and have survived the ordeals of treatment and are still alive today.

Like the flood of a storm surge, the strain and stress has been overwhelming. Some days we have broken down and cried and said we just couldn't go on. Other days we have seen so many doctors or had so many tests in one day we were afraid we would have killed the next one in anger. Before dawn on some days we knifed through pre dawn fog in our car as we headed for doctor's appointments in Houston and returned home under the stars so physically and mentally spent that all we could do was crawl into bed and try to sleep. Our house needs cleaning and our decorated Christmas tree still stand vidual in the living room as if waiting for the next yuletide season. Mail accumulates in a neat pile by the telephone, newspapers are discarded unread, neither of us knows what current events are happening in the rest of the world nor who is playing in the upcoming Super Bowl.

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The days are difficult but the nights are worse. It is at night that each of us finally stops to rest. We lay in bed and watch TV as we try to unwind or sometimes just embrace and try to reassure each other things will be O.K. After stressful days sleep is not easy. In the still of darkness the imagination wanders around the mind like an Irish farmer wearing hobnail boots. The scuff marks from those boots leaves pains that plague the conscious mind for hours or days.

As each day passes my stress level quickens. I realize I am in a struggle between what my mind knows intellectually needs to be done and what my mind permits me to accomplish emotionally. I know I could reduce my stress level if only I could not worry, yet this is not easy for a first born.

In birth order I am a first born and as recent studies report, first born children often have personalities that focus on being organized, solving problems, and achieving success. All of the Apollo astronauts that went to the moon were first born and even today in the NASA astronaut program 90% of them are first born. But there is a dark side. First born have a lousy survival rate. Like glowing embers, they shine brightly for a time, but all too often burn out prematurely.

Like most first born children, my natural instinct is to solve problems and I am effective at it, except when I run up against something that is beyond my control to solve. My inability, or my unwillingness, to let go and quit trying to solve the unsolvable is dangerous. It is the equivalent to running an engine without a coolant; the engine overheats and unless it is turned off, it will burn up. Right now I am running low on coolant and trying like hell to find the off switch.

We spent New Year's Eve with friends and then returned home several hours into the new decade. At home we sat for hours looking through albums of old pictures that captured us and our children at happy times in our lives. We looked at pictures taken of us on ski trips and during vacations in the Bahamas, the Cayman Islands, in Cancun, and at the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. Every time we found a close up of Carol we would cheer and note what a striking pose she made with her curvaceous bust line. When it was nearly dawn Carol went to the bedroom and assembled her sexy lingerie and modeled each in front of the full length mirror.

"Look at that bust line..." Carol said with a smile, "its damn good for someone over 50."

We slept off and on New Year's day and it was the first year in over two decades that I didn't watch at least one of the football bowl games. I didn't even know who was playing or who won what bowl until I heard it on the car radio the next day.

On January 2nd we sat down at the breakfast table over a hot cup of coffee in the calm of morning and made our resolve. Carol decided to have her surgery, the radiation, hormone treatments, and the chemotherapy done locally but added that if any problems developed we would rush to Houston

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for help. Carol made appointments with all the local doctors who would be involved and scheduled the operation for the morning of January 11th at Human Hospital, the hospital where she has worked for years as a nurse. That afternoon we had a long talk with the surgeon who said he would perform a modified radical mastectomy of the right breast and remove the lymph nodes of the axilla (around and under the armpit) for biopsy. He also recommended a biopsy of six areas of the left breast while the operation was in progress. If any of the left breast tissues showed traces of cancer, he recommended a mastectomy of that breast as well. Reluctantly, Carol agreed to follow his advice.

Next we went to see the Oncologist who would be in charge of the post operation chemotherapy and hormone treatments. He told us he would ask the surgeon do a cut down on the left chest and insert a port-a-catheter into the major subclavian vein during the mastectomy. Since these catheters have to be surgically inserted and sewed into the vein and the terminal part must be sewed into the chest muscles just under the skin, he said it would save her from having to go back for more surgery later. He said that he would use the catheter for about six-10 months during her chemotherapy and hormone treatments. Finally, when all the treatments were completed, and he was sure there was no traces of cancer remaining, Carol would have the catheter surgically removed during day surgery about a year from now.

We knew from our readings that almost all chemotherapy is given through either a subclavian port-a-catheter or into a catheter cut into the femoral vein found in the crotch. These sites are selected because they are large veins and are big enough for threading a catheter through them. Large veins have to be used since most of the chemicals used in chemotherapy are so toxic they would kill the delicate cells of small veins. In other words, the chemicals have to be inserted into the body at the site were the greatest amount of blood is present so the chemicals can be diluted quickly. The only place this can occur is the heart. This is why a long catheter is carefully threaded into a major vein and then pushed along until it empties directly into the heart.

The oncologist said that he would want to start Carol's first chemotherapy treatment right after surgery while she was still in the hospital. He then outlined his complete treatment plan of nearly 10 months which would include chemo and hormones therapy.

After listening to what he had to say, Carol began asking questions about side effects. He smiled and said that only those patients with a "poor" attitude actually got sick from the treatments. "Patients with a good attitude generally have only mild reactions," he continued.

"That's not what some of your patients have said," Carol retorted with a bit of anger in her voice. Then she began arguing with him over statistics she had read in a recent journal articles claiming that chemotherapy really only increases a patient's survival changes by an added 2%. By now the oncologist was on the defensive and was evading Carol's questions and kept saying that she was over reacting and needed to

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calm down. That was the last straw. Carol just walked out of his office and left me sitting there with the doctor. I apologized, asked for some additional information on chemotherapy and said we would see him later.

"There is no way I will let that jerk touch me," Carol said in an angry voice when we reached the car. "He expects you to just do what he says and never question procedures...and that part about a patient's attitude being the source of side effects is a bunch of bull," she continued. I agreed but then added that he was the only oncologist in town and that we had no other choice but to use him.

At home Carol continued reading a book she had bought called Coping with Chemotherapy. It is the story of a woman who had cancer and had to take extensive chemotherapy treatments. But the book is more, it also tells about the chemicals that are used, the side effects of each, what to expect, and how to try to survive on a day to day basis while getting chemotherapy. I began reading parts of it but stopped quickly because I found it more scary than any Stephen King book ever written. The book pointed out that the poisons used in chemotherapy are very toxic and that they can kill a person in stronger doses than are generally used. Most are designed to kill new and growing cells in the body so they not only attack rapidly dividing cancer cells, but also destroy natural cells like red and white blood cells, hair follicles, blood platelets, and the cells lining your mouth, throat, stomach and intestine. Often the body become so weakened from these treatments that patients have little energy to do anything but the most basic of needed functions. Finally, the book pointed out that infections are common because the body's defense system is weakened, and the potential for nausea in patients can become intense.

"After reading parts of this book it sounds like I won't be able to do much for the next year," Carol lamented. "We still have a week before my surgery, let's go have one last fling in Cancun...then I will be ready to face the ordeal of the year ahead, Carol pleaded.

"That's the best idea I have heard of in a month, but do you think you can find us tickets for Cancun leaving from Houston in just over 24 hours from now," I asked?

"You bet," Carol smiled. "I'll call every local travel agent and every one in Houston if I have to..."

So ended another eventful day in this long odyssey. We scheduled the surgery, were resolved to accept what lay ahead, and best of all we made a decision to go live it up in Cancun for a few days on the beach.

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11 January, 1990

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
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College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Yours of 3 January was a terrible shock. I don't believe I have ever met Carol or your children (though I recall that Vaughn I was at my ordination to the diaconate), but I feel greatly upset about your news. We have "problems" with two invalid ancient mothers and some other family worries, but we know we should never complain when we hear about real problems like yours. We do hope and pray for the best outcome possible for you and Carol. Her courage in going through with Christmas is astounding.

Under the circumstances I will not send you a MS to review for the book as I had planned, unless I hear back that you would like to do it under your current ground rules.

I hope that you will be able to finish your MS for the book, which must have been nearly done by end-December. Perhaps your co-author can increase his participation? I naturally am hoping to have something from you or get the MS asap!

Yours cordially as ever,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

3414 Spring Lane
Bryan, Texas 77802
January 3, 1990

Dear Al,

We had a wonderful 1989 year. Carol and I celebrated our silver wedding anniversary in April, Vaughn III and Katherine Washington got married in May, Bonnie graduated in December from Texas A&M University with a degree in secondary education, and Carol and I took the Caribbean cruise of our dreams for a week during the summer. Some of you received my 42 page account of those glorious, fun-filled days at sea and on the shores of those many exotic ports of call along the way. If you didn't get a copy and want one, let me know.

Our Christmas this year was quite different from what we expected (see enclosed). Even so, we tried as best we could to put those events aside and enjoy the company of our children, other relatives, the beautiful Christmas dinner Carol prepared, and the exchanging of presents.

All of our children were home for Christmas. Vaughn and our daughter-in-law Katherine came over from their home in Monroe, Louisiana where they are both attending school. Daniel had just finished his semester at Blinn Junior College and was getting ready to go to Austin where he wants to continue his work at Austin Community College for another year before trying to get admitted to the University of Texas at Austin. Bonnie graduated from Texas A&M and is now working as a sales person full time at Foley's department store. She is moving into her own apartment here in town sometime during this month.

Because of the forthcoming events we know will occur for the rest of this year, I have arranged to do most of my academic, and administrative duties for the next 9 months at home. I have also cancelled all of my classes for the spring semester. This will be difficult, but it will permit me to take care of Carol, to do the cooking, and do the house chores that will be needed. After talking to others who have already taken this path we must now follow, we have learned that Carol will not be physically able to do much of anything for the next year but just try to survive. Since we live so close to the campus, I will be able to get to campus or back home in just a few minutes whenever I need to go to either.

Carol and I wish you and your wife a very Happy New Decade. Our pledge and new year's resolution is to both <u>be here</u> to welcome in the new century in 10 years. Please keep us in your prayers; right now both of us can use all the help we can get.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

enclosure

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YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

The Gathering Storm

Chapter 1

As mortals we have little power to alter some of the major events that happen to us. We are born, we grow old and we die. These events are inevitable. Along the path of these events things happen to each of us. Some of those things we can control while others are beyond our power to alter. The only difference between one person's path and the path of another is courage and acceptance. It is the courage to accept situations that are beyond our control to change, the courage to try to change those events that can be altered, and most importantly, the wisdom to know which situations and events fall into each category. Along with courage comes a resolve to accept those situations and events over which we have no control.

These are simple rules of simple words, but carrying out these ideals will challenge the very fabric of our existence. The ability to recognize those events beyond our control is often difficult because of personal denial, stubbornness, and ego. Yet happiness is dependent upon how willing and in what way we respond to the adversity of unchangeable situations.

The events of the last few days have forced Carol and me to come to grips with the philosophy expressed in the prose above. During this period, we call "The Gathering Storm," we are still sorting out events, options, and trying to find acceptance and happiness.

This year, during the Christmas holidays Carol and I returned to being students and enrolled in a non-credit course we call CANCER 101: BASIC FACTS AND OPTIONS ABOUT THE DISEASE. No, this is not a course offered by the medical school at Texas A&M University. Instead, it is a self-taught course for which you receive no grade, get no grade points, and receive no credit towards any degree. Few students ever sign up for this course for fun or take it as an elective. Instead enrollers generally take the course when events in their lives or the life of some loved one becomes a matter of life or death. Each person who takes this course brings different skills and progresses at their own pace. In our case our only real advantage when enrolling in this course is that Carol has a BA and is an RN and I have a PhD; factors that have enabled us perhaps to gather and process information faster than some of the others who enroll in this course.

Over a year ago a doctor found a lump in Carol's breast while doing a routine physical. He advised a mammogram. The mammogram suggested the lump was in a non-dangerous region of the breast and was probably benign. Both the doctor and radiologist felt the lump was nothing to worry about, but suggested Carol see a surgeon just to make sure. While she was working in Denver as a traveling nurse earlier this spring she had a sonigram and another mammogram taken and saw a surgeon; each suggested the lump was not suspicious but that she should continue to check it. A few weeks ago in early December Carol had another doctor examine the lump. He advised her to get another mammogram and to discuss the lump with a local surgeon even though he, like the others before him, believed the lump and mammogram

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report were indicating some type of benign cyst rather than a cancer. The surgeon looked at the lump and mammogram and said he wanted to do a needle aspiration and biopsy of the lump just to make sure. This is not dangerous and consists of inserting a large needle into the breast and lump area and extracting tissues for biopsy. This procedure was uncomfortable, but seemed worth the effort for the peace of mind it would bring.

By now the December weather was getting colder and each day on the evening news Carol and I watched the ski reports from our favorite resorts out west and began planning where we ought to go skiing right after Christmas. At school I had already given my final exams and was finishing up some of my administrative chores. Carol was working a few days here and there at the Nursery of Humana Hospital and spending the rest of her time putting up Christmas decorations and getting ready for the holidays. Neither of us had any intention of enrolling in a new course, especially not CANCER 101.

The needle biopsy showed the lump to be a tissue mass of some kind. It also revealed the mass was not a typical type of liquid-filled cyst and that it was not a type of malignant cancer. The surgeon told Carol he was not convinced by the biopsy, and would not be convinced the lump was harmless tissue unless he actually did a more extensive biopsy during surgery. Carol thought it over and decided she would feel more at ease during Christmas and during our planned ski vacation if she knew for certain that the lump was indeed benign. She was optimistic; after all four doctors, one surgeon, three mammograms, and a sonigram had all indicated the lump was most probably benign. The only one who was not convinced was the last surgeon who wanted to get a biopsy.

The biopsy is surgery, but not of the major variety. It is done in the out-patient hospital facility and generally takes no longer than half a day. Carol scheduled the biopsy surgery for a few days before Christmas hoping to get it over with quickly so she could finish her Christmas shopping and help get the tree and decorations completed before Christmas. On the appointed morning we arrived at the hospital at 7:30 AM and Carol was checked in and changed into her surgical gown and lay down on her bed as we watched TV on the wall-mounted set. I was edgy and nervous. I hate hospitals and each time I enter one my heart rate doubles, I get a dry mouth and I have to fight my constant compulsion of wanting to turn around and run for the nearest exit as fast as I can. I have never been a patient in a hospital, except as a very young child, so I don't really fully understand my abhorrence for hospitals.

At 9:00 AM the surgeon arrived. A nurse and several aids rolled a gurney into the room and transferred Carol onto it. They whisked her off down the hall and finally into another room behind closed doors. As I walked along holding Carol's hand I turned toward the nurse and spoke. For emphasis I used Black English Vernacular and said in a joking manner with a smile, "You be careful with her; I don't like no one messing with my woman..." The wording of that phrase in BEV carries with it a degree of emphasis and certainty not easily expressed using our Standard English.

The nurse smiled back as I spoke and reassured me that this was a very safe and routine surgery.

I paced back and forth in the waiting room and tried to relax as I thought of all the things that still needed doing at home before our son and his wife, Carol's brother and his wife, and my mother all arrived to

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spend Christmas with us. Every 15 seconds I looked at my watch and then tried to read a newspaper someone left behind on the chair next to mine. During the next 30 minutes I read the paper from front to back yet 10 minutes later couldn't even remember the headlines on the front page. Needless to say, I was nervous and was preoccupied with other thoughts.

I had never met the surgeon so didn't even know who to look for as various doctors dressed in their scrub suits came to the waiting room to talk to relatives of patients. Around 10:30 a polite Indian, Dr. Haji, dressed in a light blue scrub suit came to the door and asked if any of Carol Bryant's relatives were waiting. I stood up and introduced myself and then the two of us walked slowly down the hall towards Carol's room. He smiled and said the operation was successful, that there would be little scaring, and that Carol was in the recovery room, was conscious, and would be brought back to her hospital room in a few minutes.

As we got to the door of Carol's room I noticed she was not yet there. We entered, the doctor closed the door and then said, "I have bad news, the lump is malignant."

My eyes rose to meet his and I stared at him in disbelief as I reached for the edge of the bed to steady myself. "Are you certain," I asked? As I said it I realized that the question was a stupid one since a surgeon and a pathologist are not generally going to make mistakes of this magnitude.

"Yes, it is cancer," he responded. "I removed the lump and an area of tissue around the lump for biopsy. The preliminary report is not good. Carol has infiltrating lobular carcinoma which has focal areas of severe atypical intralobular hyperplasia."

This is where my course in CANCER 101 began. One thing I have discovered is that there is a whole dictionary full of jargon that goes with this course. I knew what the word carcinoma was, but did not understand any of the other terms of the preliminary biopsy report.

Dr. Haji then continued, "This is a very aggressive and often rapid spreading type of cancer that generally has many foci where it can develop. It also has a tendency to spread to the lymph nodes in the nearby axilla and to the other breast. The pathology report indicate the lump was not well defined which is not a good sign. The report also indicates that cancer cells have begun infiltrating the tissue around the lump. Finally, the lump was 2.8 cm in diameter, much larger than I would like to have seen it."

"What do we do next?" I asked. I had to clear my throat as I spoke because I found it hard to speak. My mouth was cotton dry and my heart was pounding as the release of adrenalin caused by the shock of the doctor's words began reaching all parts of my body.

Dr. Haji spoke in compassionate tones as he continued with the bad news, "With this type of cancer we don't have much time to wait. We must deal with it in a very aggressive manner. First, I would recommend a modified radical mastectomy of the right breast and a number of random biopsy samples taken from the left breast for examination. This should be done as soon as possible, certainly within the next two weeks. Immediately upon return from surgery I would recommend aggressive chemotherapy with the maximum dosage possible. In addition, we should begin aggressive radiation therapy and possibly hormone therapy if appropriate, as soon as possible after surgery. I would continue all of this aggressive treatment

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for at least a year after surgery."

I paused as I sat down on the edge of the bed and felt a warming sensation as blood rushed to my face. I guess I must have blushed from the shock of his words. This is just a dream I thought, I'll wake up any minute now from this nightmare and everything will be as it was yesterday.

As I looked for words to respond during the silence after Dr. Haji spoke, I could hear some vocalist singling jingle bells in the background. I looked up and noticed it was coming from a speaker in the ceiling of the room. For now the sound of that happy Christmas song did not seem appropriate.

My focus lowered from the ceiling and I again starred at Dr. Haji as if I were in a trance while I groped for words to respond.

There was a knock on the door and outside was Carol on a gurney. She was awake but still had an IV in her arm. She smiled and said, "That was a breeze, they are doing wonders these days in surgery." The attendants wheeled her into the room and put her on to the bed, hung her IV bag of glucose from the hook over her bed, and then they left.

"What's the news?" Carol asked as she smiled. "Not good," Dr. Haji responded, "the lump was malignant."

"Come on...you are kidding me," Carol responded while still smiling.

"Carol, we don't kid about these kinds of things," Dr. Haji replied. He then went through the same discussion he had with me and explained everything to Carol. He then left and told her to return to his office the next day to get the bandage changed.

"They got the wrong lump in pathology, or they blew the analysis," Carol said with a smile. "It can't be cancer, everyone has said this lump was benign..."

After watching some TV and waiting another hour for the effects of the anesthesia to wear off, Carol called for the nurse and got her IV removed, got dressed, and then we were on our way home.

"I want to go home and finish decorating the tree and get things ready for Daniel's birthday party this evening. I'm just not going to think about this right now," Carol said with a smile as we walked down the hospital corridor to the tune of Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer coming from tiny ceiling speakers . It was good to leave the hospital and feel the chill of a December afternoon. "God, I hate hospitals..." I said, as I turned back to look one last time as we headed for our car in the parking lot.

We really didn`t discuss the matter very much that day and came home and got dinner and the cake ready for Daniel's 19th birthday party. Dinner and the party went well. After the party and the opening of gifts we sat down in the living room with our children and explained what we knew about the biopsy, but added that we hoped it was wrong. It was a short statement and there were few questions asked. Minutes later Bonnie got up and got ready to go work at Foley's and Daniel headed out on a date with one of his girl friends. Carol and I stood up and put our arms around each other and looked at the giant, decorated tree with rose nine feet from the floor into the vault of our cathedral ceiling. "It reminds me of the tree they used in the movie 'Christmas Vacation'..." I said. Carol grinned and then responded, "The tree is a bit larger than I though it would be when we bought, but you have to admit, it is impressive."

The next day we went Christmas shopping in the morning but had to go

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to the doctor's office to get Carol's bandage changed that afternoon. At the doctor's office he repeated and emphasized his recommendations offered the day before in the hospital. He was very nice and said that he would do whatever we wanted and that he did not mind if we wanted to get a second or even a third opinion. We thanked him, left his office, an then headed for the Texas A&M library to begin collecting research information for this new course we had enrolled in called CANCER 101.

We looked up CANCER and BREAST CANCER in the card catalog and used those initial references as a start. Soon we were roaming through rows of books selecting ones that looked like they would give us some useful information. We were also careful to select only books published during the last few years. Research in cancer is occurring so rapidly we thought only the most recent books would be accurate. Later that evening we began reading some of the many books we selected. Soon we were beginning to understand some of the jargon we had heard and also were beginning to gather statistics about recovery and reoccurrence of various types of cancers.

Our guests arrived for the holidays the next day and soon it became a frantic race to get everything finished and get things ready for Christmas dinner. Worst of all were those nagging words of the surgeon, "you don't have much time to wait." We really wanted to get more opinions but it was almost Christmas eve. What was worse, Christmas and New Year's Day both fell on Mondays so it meant that offices would be closed for each weekend and also on both of the next Mondays. We wondered how we were going to get appointments to see some of the top cancer specialists in Texas before our time ran out for surgery.

We (mainly Carol) spent all of the next two days either at the hospital getting more tests run or talking on the telephone. What a hassle! First we called all of our friends living in Texas and New York who we knew had experiences with cancer and asked them for names of other cancer patients they knew and for names of anyone in the medical field who is an expert on breast cancer. Next, we crossed checked each new reference with the names others had given us to find out which names kept being recommended. Since we wanted only the top specialists to see Carol, we were not content with any doctor's name that hadn't been recommended to us by at least three different sources. Also, we wanted to see specialists at the three biggest medical facilities in Texas; the world famous M.D. Anderson Cancer and Tumor center in Houston, Methodist Hospital in Houston, and the Baylor School of Medicine Cancer Center in Dallas.

By Christmas Eve we had gotten appointments to see top specialists at Methodist Hospital in Houston, a female specialist in breast cancer at M.D. Anderson in Houston, and a noted female doctor in Dallas at the Baylor Medical School who specializes only in women's diseases of the breast and chest. Two of the appointments were right after Christmas and the third was for the day after New Year's Day. We had to use all the connections we had and get some influential people to help us get appointments at these places where long waiting lists are the rule.

The week between Christmas and New Year's Eve was hectic and not much fun. We spent most of it in hospitals getting more tests or talking to doctors. One day was spent at Methodist Hospital and one day at M.D. Anderson, both in Houston. We saw top specialists at each hospital, but this was especially true at M.D. Anderson where we saw a battery of

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student doctors doing their resident work as well as noted specialists, each with long lists of credentials. Our journey through the myriad halls and floors of M.D. Anderson took us to see plastic surgeons who do breast reconstructions, to radiologists who treat post operative patients, and to surgeons who specialize in breast cancer. We were scheduled to see another specialist who was in charge of their chemotherapy but we ran out of time. We were told we could see him on January 2nd if we wished. But decided we had seen enough doctors.

By the end of the week Carol had had series of blood profiles drawn and run, liver scans, bone scans, more needle biopsy of the tissue surrounding the area where the lump had once been. She had been poked, prodded, stripped, dressed, examined and seen by so many people that she remarked, "... more people probably saw my breasts this week than the number of people in an average audience of a strip show on Bourbon Street in New Orleans!"

So where are we now? Like a hurricane being tracked and watched while still at sea in the Gulf, we now have accumulated quite a bit of data about our "storm" we are tracking. We have a pretty good idea of how dangerous this type of storm can be, we have had specialists chart and project our storm's probable course, and we have been told what we must do to prepare and protect ourselves from the storm's fury. Yet with all this information the only certainty we know is that the storm is coming. We don't know how long it will last, how powerful it will be, or even if we will be spared or will be swept away by its fury. All we know is that time is running out. We must take important steps very soon and we must prepare for it with every resource at our command or for certain be swept away by its fury.

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(814)863-3419

26 September, 1989

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

I looked into my files on the two projects I did several years ago for Pennwalt Corporation. I could, of course, produce a scientific report on the matter, but I suppose I would even yet require their permission. One project had to do with whether the bees whose leg-loads I analysed had just returned from foraging in Phaseolus (green bean = "snap bean") fields in New York State. I found no bean pollen in 122 samples, and Pennwalt seemed very pleased. I know it was some sort of legal question raised by the bee-keepers, but that's all I know. Later I did a bunch of similar samples from Wisconsin, and the question was to what extent the bees were foraging for pollen in Zea mays fields. The corn was being treated with parathion. Again, I deduced that the question was one of potential or actual legal liability, but I was told no more. This time I found that Zea pollen was present in many samples, but never very abundant. The bees were collecting mostly Brassica and other things.

Hope this is enough info.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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435 Deike Building
University Park, PA 16802

15 August, 1989

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Many thanks for the nice letter of 3 August. Good to have some positive feedback about the book. There <u>are</u> some unfortunate errors in it, and I am getting together a list of same so that a second printing, if there is one, can be corrected. However, I do believe the book is basically good for teaching a course, and the professor can warn the students about the errors. (For example, I just discovered that the Aalenian stage is unaccountably missing from the Jurassic on p. 243.) The only other really <u>serious</u> boo-boo I know of is the range of chitinozoans--that just slipped in from my older lecture notes. Naturally, three reviews have picked up that mistake. I have a student doing a thesis on chitinozoans, and I'm not ignorant of that field!

I look forward to getting your MS. I'd rather that you have time to be satisfied with it.

Incidentally, the paper by Valencia not only should have been mentioned in the previous book, but should be mentioned in the present one too! Thanks!

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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(409) 845-5242/5260

August 3, 1989

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I am teaching a one-week short course on forensic palynology next week and am using your text as one of the readings for the course. As such, your sales should keep going up since I ordered a copy for each participant... I plan to discuss this course and other works in forensic palynology in a talk I am presenting at the AASP meeting in Tulsa.

The reason I am writing at this time is that I noted that you did not cite the enclosed (rather obscure) reference in your book. I helped Mark conduct this study long ago when I was a graduate student at Texas. At the time I thought his results were pretty interesting. Maybe you even knew Mark while you were there. Anyway, in case you didn't have the article, I thought you might like this copy.

By the way, in re-reading parts of your book I find things I missed the first time through. Your book really is packed with all sorts of useful information and best of all, it is written for both the new student and us, the workers who deal with this material daily. Most of all, your text convinced me to use your text for a while and forget about writing my own, which I had considered doing at one time. My biggest drawback is that as an administrator of a department with 18 faculty I find my ability to do things, other than administer to the direct needs of the department, are limited.

We are still working away on the paper. There have been lots of interruptions and that is why it is not yet finished.

See you in Tulsa.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

enclosure

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19 July, 1989

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Department of Anthropology
Palynology Labs
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for your note of 5 July. Good to know all is well with the MS. I look forward to getting it. In the meantime, be sure to send in the contract to Cambridge U.P.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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July 5, 1989

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

Richard Holloway and I are still working away on our paper for your book. We have not forgotton. Rick has been in Alaska much of the summer and I have been teaching and preparing for my short-course being offered in August on the subject of forensic palynology.

We hope to have the copy to you soon.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

cc: Richard Holloway

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

TO AT

DATE 10-11-89 TIME noon

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M. Vaughn Bryant

of

Phone

TELEPHONED	☒	PLEASE RETURN CALL	☐
CALLED TO SEE YOU	☐	WILL CALL AGAIN	☐
RETURNED YOUR CALL	☐	RUSH	☐

MESSAGE will call about 2 p.m.

BT

Signed

MOORE BUSINESS FORMS, INC., E

Wanted to know
when Fritz Jetsch
worked — Bern University
Switzerland — & had him!

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13 December, 1988

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for yours of 29 November, '88*. You don't specifically mention it, but I guess you got the copy of the book outline and weren't upset about it?

Happy holidays.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

*A day I won't soon forget--Betty's birthday and the day I came close to amputating my left thumb with an axe in a careless accident.

AT/et

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November 29, 1988

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I got your letter about the article and know what you need and want from Rick Holloway and me. My problem has been that this place has been a "three ring circus" since I got back from Australia. In addition to teaching two courses this semester, I was also chair of the Houston AASP meeting committee and until that was over I didn't have a spare minute for anything. Now I am trying to finish all of my lectures and read term papers for this semester. Also, I will be teaching a 300-student section of a new undergraduate anthropology course next semester and am already frantically trying to get lectures ready for that. However,.... I am looking towards the Xmas holidays as a time when I hope to catch up and have time to work on the article for your book.

Yes, the final chapter in written form will be somewhat different from the paper I presented in Brisbane. The written form will include more data and a section on experimental work on pollen degradation which we have been conducting in the laboratory.

Have a Merry Christmas.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

cc: Rick Holloway

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24 October, 1988

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Enjoyed yours of 4 October. I agree with you about the ridiculous Australian price of the textbook. Re royalties--I honestly never thought there'd be any. However, there have already been a few pounds, enough, I think, to cover most of my out-of-pocket expenses for drafting. I doubt we've got a best-seller, but they are already talking of a second printing, and I'll be able to correct boo-boos (such as Plate 1 following p. 416 instead of being where it was supposed to be). Who knows, maybe I'll even survive to do a second edition.

Before I openewd your letter, I thought it would be about the sedimentation book project. More about that later.

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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(409) 845-5242/5260

October 4, 1988

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I finally was able to get a copy of your textbook here in the United States and the cost was only $34.95. That was much better than the $87.00 they wanted in Brisbane for a copy. You will be happy to know that we adopted it as a text in the pollen course I am teaching. The book also generated so much added interest that we have just placed an order for 14 additional copies of the text. Looks like you will be able to retire sooner than you thought!!

Congratulations on a good and very usable text. Some of the little things you did were very useful; for example the annotated bibliography of previous text books, societies, and journals in palynology. The book was worth waiting for. Now all I hope is that it does not go out of print right away.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

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June 3, 1988

Dr. Alfred Traverse
The Pennsylvania State University
Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratory
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dear Al:

I hope the enclosed is what you need for the expanded abstract and title you requested. Please feel free to edit if you wish. We are still working on the talk and article so both might change somewhat before the final version is finished.

I will be out of the office for the next three weeks. I'll be in Mexico for a week and then teaching for two weeks at the Texas A&M campus in Galveston. If you need to reach me, call or write to my office address since I will be in periodic contact with my secretary and she can relay information if needed.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

cx: Richard G. Holloway

enclosure

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26 May, 1988

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

What good news! Now that I have a "yes" (and I have them for eight chapters already), what I need at your earliest convenience is an abstract--I suppose a somewhat expanded version of the one for Brisbane. I need the title and abstract to write the formal proposal for Columbia Univ. Press. The project as a whole is obviously going to go.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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9 May, 1988

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Dept. of Anthropology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

You will recall that when I was organizing Symposium 12 for IPC-Brisbane I mentioned that it would be a good idea to get the MS ready for publication in the Proceedings being edited by Elizabeth Truswell. That paper, of course, should be more or less the platform MS, plus a few illustrations.

However, I have been negotiating with Columbia University Press about publishing a volume based on longer versions of some of the papers from Brisbane, plus chapters by a few people (such as David Batten) who won't take part in Symp. 12.

Would you and Rich H. like to author such a chapter, based on your Brisbane paper but with freedom to expand it, including more material, ilustrations, etc.? I think such a chapter by you would "make" the volume. What I need urgently at the moment is just a yes/no, so that I can evaluate whether the project would fly.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

May 15
Al, Yes we would be interested in the longer work in person.
Vaughn

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October 1, 1987

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

Dear Al:

Thanks for all the reprints. I appreciated you thinking of me. By the way, how is your book coming? The last time I talked to you I thought you said that it was finished. Also, you had mentioned something about wanting someone to look over the Quaternary section. I am especially interested in your book since I could use it as a text for my palynology course when it becomes available.

Lauri Zimmerman is doing well. She is a bright student and works hard. This semester she is teaching an introductory course in cultural anthropology and is doing an excellent job. She hasn't selected a dissertation project as yet but is thinking of a project in Syria that is being conducted by Dr. Solecki of Columbia University.

I don't remember if I sent you a copies of the enclosed reprints or not. If I did, just give them to one of your students.

I'm leaving for Halifax next week. Maybe I will see you there.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head

Enclosures

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16 November, 1987

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

This is the "other letter"--I hadn't yet written it! Am reading at home and came again to yours of 1 October, for which thanks. I guess I told you that I have no immediate news about the textbook--finished long ago--I have yet to see proof. I understand that Unwin's rep at GSA-Phoenix was promising "March, 1988."

It was good to hear good news about Laurie Z., both in the letter and at Halifax.

Thanks for the reprints.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

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16 November, 1987

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

This is the "other letter"--I hadn't yet written it! Am reading at home and came again to yours of 1 October, for which thanks. I guess I told you that I have no immediate news about the textbook--finished long ago--I have yet to see proof. I understand that Unwin's rep at GSA-Phoenix was promising "March, 1988."

It was good to hear good news about Laurie Z., both in the letter and at Halifax.

Thanks for the reprints.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

9 December, 1985

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for yours of 3 December re the Anglican Rite. In the very long ago I knew and was a friend of Father Frazier in PECUSA. I wonder if this could possibly be the same guy (you say "Fraizer", but that could be en error?). Interesting.

As ever,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

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December 3, 1985

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

Dear Al:

I had not forgotten about my promise. However, my problem of finding Father Fraizer turned out to be more of a problem that I thought. First of all, he no longer comes to Bryan to conduct services as he had in the past. He quit doing that in October and has now been assigned to a teaching position in Austin. I have tried several times to reach him by telephone, but to no avail, although they say that he does exist....

I am still trying to reach him and when I do, I'll get him to call or write to you. In the meantime, should you wish, I am sure he would not mind you calling him. The telephone number I have for him is 512-476-1480 in Austin. If you talk to him, just mention that I put you up to it.

Sorry for the delay. However, with a million and one things going on around me, I sometimes let something slip through the cracks....

Have a joyous holiday season.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Head

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

2 April, 1984

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for the pre-print. Actually, I can't see that anything of "mine" got in, and that's fine by me--EXCEPT, I think you miss a really important bit of Clarkeiana that nearly everybody (?) comments on: that the parade of unusual US stamps on AASP mailings is his doing. Maybe you didn't think that appropriate.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Marriott Hotels®

March 21st

84

Dear Al,

Thanks for your letter. It did help me in my attempt to write a citation for Bob's award. I have enclosed a copy of what I wrote. Please feel free to comment on it and suggest any changes which might improve it.

Thanks again for your help.

Vaughn Bryant

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

14 March, 1984

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

I got yours of 14 February, re Bob Clarke. What I can recall probably won't help you very much. Bob, of course, was a founder, and I recall that when I was Secretary-Treasurer it was with a great feeling of relief that I was able to turn over that duty to one so competent as he--he was just great as a Sec.-Treas. At the executive sessions I chaired when he was 2nd in command he was always the guy who talked even then (late 60s!) of a quarter society he envisioned, not the tiny little nannosociety we really had before us. He always had a ready quip or a good word, but I can't remember any of them--which I think means something. It wasn't the content of the jokes but the upbeat way about him that helped us so much.

Right from the Beginning Bob's philatelic interests were obvious--we'd get mailings from the Sec.-Treas. with all sorts of stamps--back to the 40s some of them. I could scarcely believe m y eyes sometimes. He specializes in Swiss stamps, and I once offered to look out for bargains for him in Switzerland--but he rather haughtily declined, assuring me that he was certain to have everything one of those stamp dealers on Bahnhofstrasse in Zürich would be pushing for three prices. He maybe could help them.

Bob's experiences with LSU and payments to their School of Geosciences re our Geoscience and Man adventure had a lot to do with the growing sentiment that AASP should have its own journal. Details are dim in my memory.

Well, that's the best I can do without my files (I'm not working at the office as I write.)

Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

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Feb 14, 1984

Dear Al:

I would appreciate some help in working up the citation for Bob (see attached). Although I have known Bob fairly well during the past ten years, I do not have much insight into his AASP activities during the early years of formation up through about 1975. Any information or anecdotes you might recall about those early years in reference to Bob would be a help to me.

Thanks a million.

Vaughn

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Union Science & Technology Division

Union Oil Company of California
376 S. Valencia Avenue
P. O. Box 76, Brea, California 92621
Telephone (714) 528-7201

UNION 76

February 7, 1984

Prof. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Anthropology Department
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thank you very much for accepting the obligation to write the AASP Distinguished Service Award citation for Bob Clarke for publication in Palynology. I would appreciate if you could write one of similar length of previous citations, about 250 words.

The abbreviated citation which will be placed on parchment will read:

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGISTS

BESTOWS ITS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD UPON

ROBERT T. CLARKE

FOR HIS UNINTERRUPTED RECORD OF LEADERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION, HIS VITAL ROLE IN ESTABLISHING THE AASP FOUNDATION, AND HIS SKILLFUL MANAGEMENT OF THE FOUNDATION FOR PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN PALYNOLOGICAL PUBLICATION.

Again, your willingness to honor Bob is very much appreciated.

Best regards,

Harry

Harry A. Leffingwell
Chairman, Awards Committee

HAL:dj

cc: Dr. John Clendening

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EARTH AND MINERAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratories

Area Code 814
865-2342

1 June, 1981

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Anthropology Dept.
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

A friend recently passed along a clipping from some paper, with an interview (?) with you about palynology as a profession. In it you are quoted as saying that palynologists start at about $35,000 per annum. Academic salaries must be conspicuously less!--this practitioner-of-the-art for 34 years now earns $29,500, his highest-ever remuneration!

Just got back from sabbatical in Switzerland--got a lot of research done.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

I regret to inform you that starting salaries in industry are not as far from the $35,000 figure as you may have heard, especially if the person has had some previous experience! In general, you are correct, most do not enjoy that type of salary. As a member of the academic community, I can assure

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

1 June, 1981

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Anthropology Dept.
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

A friend recently passed along a clipping from some papdr, with an interview (?) with you about palynology as a profession. In it you are quoted as saying that palynologists start at about $35,000 per annum. Academic salaries must be conspicuously less!--this practitioner-of-the-art for 34 years now earns $29,500, his highest-ever remuneration!

Just got back from sabbatical in Switzerland--got a lot of research done.

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Aug 29, 1980

FROM THE DESK OF

VAUGHN M. BRYANT JR.



Al,

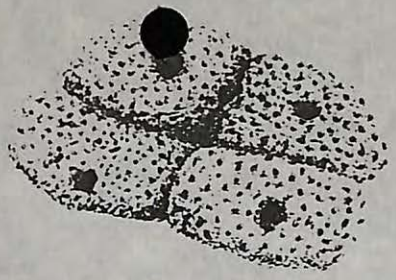
Thanks for responding. I shall send you a retyped version of all the information before it is make available upon request for distribution.

Thanks again

Vaughn

Bryant

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



from the desk of

Vaughn M. Bryant

Nov 178

Al,

Would you please write a short item for the December newsletter concerning the untimely death of Jim Schopf (1911-1978).

I know you said you were at his funeral and that you knew him fairly well.

Could you get this to me in a couple of weeks?

Many thanks. Vaughn

Missouri Institute for Botanical Documentation

26 August, 1980

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Just came across your note on p. 4 of AASP Newsletter for July--I am trying to get caught up on reading, post-5IPC! I am not sure I understand what it is that you want, but I naturally do wish to be included in your statement of university programs in palynology--naturally, I think ours is (one of) the best!

We have a broad program in paleopalynology. I have a joint appointment in Biology and Geosciences, though I am housed in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. Thus, my courses are all co-listed, and graduate students can enroll in either department. (In fact, almost all have come to me through Geosciences.) We have an excellent palynological processing lab and all other facilities, including a fine palynological library and reference collections; under the same roof, elsewhere in the college, SEM-TEM facilities are available. I have supervised research i n projects ranging in stratigraphic position from Silurian to Post-glacial. My own research has been primarily on fossil embryophytic spores and pollen, but several projects have dealt with fungal spores, acritarchs and/or dinoflagellates. Formal course work includes introductory palynology and problems in palynology. Penn State has the largest earth science program of any university in the world, so it is a good place for both undergraduates and graduate students in paleopalynology to be, from the point of view of inter-disciplinary cross-fertilization. At the moment we have two full-time and two part-time palynological graduate students. We expect to be joined soon for two years by Jiang Dexin, Head, Laboratory of Palynology, Lanzhou Institute of Geology, People's Republic of China. She will be representative of a fairly steady stream of foreign visiting palynologists we have had working in our laboratory in recent years. Our current Ph.D. research projects are on the Late Cretaceous to Early Cenozoic of the Canadian Arctic (Duck Choi); paleoecology and palynostratigraphy of the Triassic Danville-Dan River Basin (E.I. Robbins); palynostratigraphy of Triassic rocks of the Capitol Reefs area, Utah, and other southwestern localities (Ronald Litwin). My own research at the momsnt centers especially on Neogene of the Black Sea Basin (DSDP cores) and on spores (?) of primitive land plants of Lower Silurian rocks in Pennsylvania and adjoining areas.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

I hope this is what you wanted. There wasn't a great deal of lead time--especially ~~ahhs~~ summer!

All the best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

P.S. I would not want this printed in the Newsletter or wherever, as it was written too hurriedly--your current request seemed urgent. If a fuller statement is called for for inclusion in a printed blurb, ~~-our~~whatever, I will revise and smooth out the above--just let me know.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

5 February, 1980

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Managing Editor, AASP
Texas A & M University
Division of Biological Sciences
Palynology Labs
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for yours of 29 January. I realize that I didn't state my case in my original letter to Ray Christopher. What I wanted to point out is that the bibliographic citation is missing in Palynology on the one page where it is the most important--the first page. An argument could be made that if you put the complete citation including the inclusive page numbers on the first page, you could omit the other stuff at the top of each page. However, that probably doesn't cost much, and it is nice to have it on each page, so that if a xerox copy is made of just one page it includes the essential information. However, if a xerox copy is made of just the title page, the data are not available. Furthermore, it is nice to be able to make a bibliographic citation merely by looking at the title page without having to have available or even having to look for the last page of an article. I am not strongly disposed to favor the "fifty million Frenchmen can't be wrong" theory, but I would call to your attention that most paleontological journals include the complete bibliographic citation on the title page of each article.

All the best to you. You certainly are doing a marvelous job.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGISTS, INC.

Editorial Staff

January 29, 1980

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

Dear Al:

In reference to your letter of January 15th to Ray, I appreciate your concern and agree that every journal should provide a means whereby a reprint can be identified with its printed source. In volume 1 of Palynology (reference to May's article) Rick Pierce overlooked this aspect before it went to press. However, in volumes 2 and 3 at the top of each page of text we indicate the name and volume of the journal, year of publication, page number and a running head about the article.

If you feel that we also need a full biobliographic citation on the first page of each article, then Ray should be the one to contact for a discussion on that subject. I felt that we had covered ourselves by using the method we now employ. However, I have no objectives to including your method in addition. The only problem is that it means one more detail to check on each article and more items to set in type.

Ray and I both appreciate your concern and hopefully we can resolve the problem in an adequate manner. Thank you also for the kind remarks about the journal in general. We have all worked very hard on it.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Managing Editor

VMB/glb
cc Ray Christopher

MANAGING EDITOR
Vaughn M. Bryant Jr.
Anthropology Research Lab.
Texas A & M University
College Station, Texas 77843

JOURNAL EDITOR
Raymond A. Christopher
U. S. Geological Survey
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Reston, Virginia 22092

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Douglas J. Nichols
U. S. Geological Survey
Mail Stop 919, Box 25046
Denver, Colorado 80225

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGISTS, INC.

Editorial Staff

November 5, 1979

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

Dear Al:

When looking over your article in volume 3 of Palynology I noticed a typo. The running head says "Pennsylvanian" on pages 3-13 but says "Pennsylvania on pages 15-21. I had requested the latter and missed the added "n" on the other pages. I guess in retrospect I should have used Silurian, but it is more appropriate to actually use a shortened version of the actual title with no new words added for the typical running head. That is why I used "Pennsylvania".

I'm sorry about the error on these few pages. They don't add the running heads until the very last Warren proofs and I just missed it. We will try to do better next time. Other than that, I think the rest of your article came out very well.

I enjoyed seeing you at the annual meeting and hope you will continue to send us more manuscripts.

Best regards,

Vaughn M. Bryant
Managing Editor

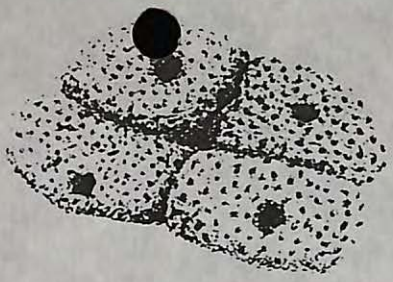
VMB/glb
cc Paul Strother
Ray Christopher

MANAGING EDITOR
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Mail Stop 919, Box 25046
Denver, Colorado 80225

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



Sept 13
'79

from the desk of
Vaughn M. Bryant

Al,

Many thanks for the reprints. I've sent you a few in return. You may already have them and if so, give them to someone else who can use them.

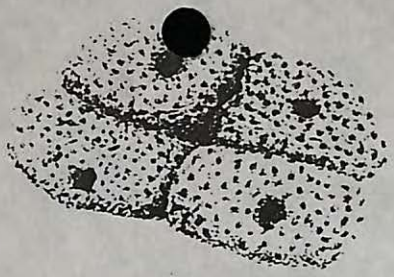
Thanks again.

Vaughn

Bryant

P.S. What in the world are they doing to our Episcopal Church?

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



June 5
79

from the desk of
Vaughn M. Bryant

Al,

I hope the last AASP Newsletter will finally put the ICP issue to rest. I was glad the Board decided to support ICP as they did at the April meeting.

As for the reprints, call or write to Bob Clarke. Remember it is the AASP Foundation that pays the printing bills!

VB

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

XXXX

1 June, 1979

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Editor Palynology
Texas A& M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Here are the proofs of Strother-Traverse. Paul mailed them to me, and I have got at them as soon as possible after they arrived.

There is the usual scattering of typos, etc.

However, there is one big problem--somewhere along the line, since the last MS I saw (+final?), somebody took it upon himself to add "text" to all "figure" citations, no matter where they occur in the paper. This is horrible! Plate-figures are not text-figures! Especially is this bad because we do have three text-figures, and this yields several citations such as "text-figure 2" which are correct! Furthermore, the "text" additions were even made to citations of figures from the literature (such as Cramer, and others)! Those figures must be cited the way they were used in the original paper! The Strother-Traverse paper will be seriously flawed if this goes through, and yet it will be a lot of doing to redo it--in fact, it means that we must see another proof because other errors may be introduced in the correction process.

I am also unhappy about the literature-cited section, as it is inconsistent as to style of author-citation. Whether initials-only, or whole names, are cited seems just random. I prefer initials-only. It is certainly easier to be consistent! Please take a look and see if you don't agree it is a bad mess.

As you doubtless perceive, the dual authorship has made it difficult for me to stay on top of this. For example, this galley proof contains sections that are considerably different from what I last saw--I suppose a result of the review process, etc.

I do hope you can do something about the "texts", and about the "literature-cited" boo-boos. All the best. Sympathy and apologies.

Yours very truly,

cc:R. Christopher,P.Strother
encl: galley proof

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

XXXX

28 May, 1979

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Just had a call from Paul Strother, who is working on the galley proofs for our joint paper on the Tuscarora material. He told me over the phone that the material with the galley proofs implies that one can only order 100 reprints. Surely this is not right, is it? Usually the first 100 cost x dollars and the extra hundreds cost much less. Could you let me khow--a postcard would do fine--what the story is on this?

Needless to say, I was delighted to hear the good news from the Houston mid-term meeting. I attended the paleo fungal spore workshop at Kent State put on (largely) by Bill Elsik, and managed for three whole days never to bring the subject of ICP and/or AASP into the conversation <u>even</u> <u>once</u>!

Best wishes to you, old friend.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

24-X-78

In the last newsletter the last paragraph of Satish's letter was accidently left out. It apologized to you for any ill feelings that may have been caused by earlier "letters to the editor"

V. Bryant

DEL WEBB HOTELS

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

19 June, 1978

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thank you very much for your kind statement of personal support on page 3 of Vol. 11, #3 of the AASP Newsletter, just arrived. I'm sure you realize how much I appreciate your thoughtfulness in saying such nice things, and I value your support very much.

Best wishes for a good summer.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology
President, ICP

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EARTH AND MINERAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

Department of Geosciences

Palynological Laboratories

Area Code 814
865-2342

Remove other copy & put this in.

23 May, 1978

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynolog. Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Has AASP established any policy about the possibility of publishing book reviews in Palynology? Siwert Nilsson recently sent me a copy of "Atlas of Airborne Pollen Grains and Spores in Northern Europe" which just came out from his laboratory. He has asked me to write a review of it, and upon reading it I discover that I would indeed like to make an important point or two based on that book. If Palynology would publish such a thing (very short--about 450 words or less) it would be helpful to me, and it is the sort of place I would like to see such a review. If not, I will look else where and understand.

Best wishes to you in your difficult job.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Ah, it is a great idea but about 2 weeks too late. I received it for the AASP Newsletter and thus doubt it should be in Palynology also. I would suggest to review it for some other journal. How I know Nilsson, I would have asked you to do it for the Newsletter, but it is already done (however it is printed for June. VMB

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EARTH AND MINERAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA 16802

Department of Geosciences
Palynological Laboratories

Area Code 814
865-2342

7 April, 1978

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

The problems seems to be piling up lately!

I have just received a copy of the paper by Strother, of which I am listed as co-author (I conceived the project, and I guess it's appropriate enough). Unfortunately, Paul did not get a copy of the final version to me for comment and correction before sending it in. I have just spent several hours with the MS and am quite embarrassed by the state of the thing--to mention just one item--the names are not handled correctly--an embarrassment for the Secretary of the IAPT Committee for Fossil Plant Nomenclature, nicht wahr? The misspellings are legion, etc.

What to do? I am writing Paul immediately with my corrections. In the meantime could you somehow avoid sending it out for review? If you have already done so, could you get it back--I will put pressure on Paul to get you a revised MS as soon as possible.

Thanks for your help, old friend.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

April 11

I called Ray Christopher and asked him to hold the ms until it is revised. Please check with Ray pr more details. He is our Asst. Editor

WB

AT/et
cc: E. S. Barghoorn, P. K. Strother

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY
PALEOBOTANICAL LABORATORIES OF THE BOTANICAL MUSEUM
22 DIVINITY AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

31 March, 1977

Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Laboratory
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Dear Vaughn;

Inclosed is a manuscript which Al and myself would like to submit for publication in volume 3 of "Palynology". I realize that by the time you read this it will be past the due date of April, 1 and may, therefore be unacceptable on these grounds. I apologize for this and hope that by having mailed the manuscript by April, 1, I have in some peverse way actually complied with the deadline.

All the figures and plates are designed to be reduced by 2/3. In addition, the plates have an extra half inch in either dimension. There is no page 18.

Thank you very much for your patience,

Yours truly,

Paul K. Strother

Paul K. Strother

ph. (617) 495-3200

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

from the desk of

Vaughn M Bryant

Sept 20

Al,

Thanks for the suggestions concerning our new journal. I agree with your ideas and will try to incorporate them into Vol #2.

See you in Tulsa

Vaughn

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

xxxxx
865-2342

14 September, 1977

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Just a suggestion regarding reprints from "Palynology". They should contain at a minimum the date of publication somewhere on the front cover. The date of the meeting at which the paper was originally given is interesting but not as important for bibliographic reasons. Really, I think, the best way to handle it is to have the information printed at the bottom of page one of each article as is done by most journals now.

Aside from this small gremlin, I was very pleased with the first number of "Palynology". Congratulations!

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

21 June, 1977

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

I enclose herewith a slightly corrected abstract of the Streel-Traverse paper from last October's Halifax meeting. Dr. Streel wants this abstract to be substituted for the one used at the meeting as part of the publication of the meeting proceedings. Dr. Streel mailed this to me on 26 May, but it took several weeks to reach me. I do hope we're not in trouble as far as timing is concerned.

Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et
encl: modified abstract of Streel-Traverse contribution

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

28 April, 1977

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

Thanks for yours of April 8. I have read the manuscript by Utting and have the following comments: as far as I can tell, Utting's treatment of the samples he studied is adequate and interesting. You will realize, of course, that I am not an expert on the Karroo. Of course, as far as I know, the only North American expert on these matters is George Hart and I presume you will have already asked for his opinion. It could be that Utting should have emphasized more the very limited extent of his sampling and probably should have much more emphasized the biofacies character of what he has done. It is very likely that much of what he has found is a product of the environments of deposition, and that could have been a very interesting aspect of the paper if emphasized more. I presume though that that would have required additional sampling for verification. The only really major caveat which I find is one that occurs to me because I am interested in biosystematics. Utting should have provided more complete nomenclatural reference to his taxa. The author for each species should be given each time that it occurs unless it previously has been mentioned on the same page. I would say that just the author citation alone would be sufficient in the text, but in table 3 where the taxa are recorded I would require in addition to the name of the author also the date of publication. This is very helpful to persons who want to verify the taxa. I feel very strongly that the AASP should set a good example in these matters and I would insist that Utting provide this additional information before publication. I would also suggest that the entities which are new, even though not named, should be described if they are

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

worth the putting in at all.

Hoping that you get information from one of the karroo experts on the validity of the work from their point of view, and in the hope that what I have provided is at least somewhat useful, I am

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

P.S. I am returning the manuscript under separate cover.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

29 October, 1976

Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Palynology Labs.
Division of Biological Sciences
Texas A & M University
College Station, TX 77843

Dear Vaughn:

After the Halifax meeting, on the way home (?), I lost my trusty little black notebook in which I always take down requests for information, reprints, etc. Could you put a little note in the Newsletter asking people who made requests (that they saw me write in my "leatherette memory") to drop me a postcard repeating the information? Thanks.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse
Professor of Palynology

AT/et

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation