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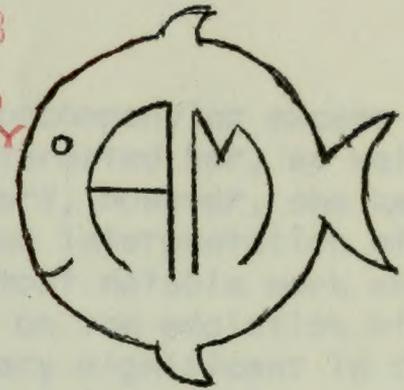
MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY

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JUN 14 1978

HARVARD
UNIVERSITY

NEWSLETTER



No. 9
November 1967

From the Director

A Center for Environmental and Behavioral Biology was founded during the summer, and approved by the Corporation on October 16. The purpose of the Center is to give better cohesion to the endeavors at Harvard to strengthen instruction and research in organismic biology. Members of the governing board of the Center are: the Directors of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Gray Herbarium and Harvard Forest, Chairman of the Department of Biology plus a number of other interested curators and professors. The main activities of the Center will be curriculum planning, making nominations for new appointments, and the sponsoring of applications for support of pertinent research. Dr. E. O. Wilson was elected first Chairman.

Financing of the proposed new wing continues to be a major concern. An application was made for a grant to the National Institute of Health, and subsequently a 5-man team visited the Museum (Sept. 28-29) to determine to what extent our research is health-oriented. The question is not easy to answer, although obviously much of our research is basic for medical science.

Dr. Tilly Edinger

On May 27, 1967, Dr. Tilly Edinger, Honorary Associate in Vertebrate Paleontology, died as a result of injuries from a street accident, which had occurred the day before. Because she was so much a part of the life of this museum (we still find ourselves expecting to see Tilly sitting in the corner of the outside steps, oblivious of the weather, smoking her cigarette), we want to dedicate this issue of the Newsletter to Miss Tilly Edinger, our friend and colleague.

A memorial fund has been established in Dr. Edinger's memory, and the money will be used to purchase books on vertebrate paleontology for the Museum library. Each of these will have a bookplate which is being designed by Margaret Colbert. Anyone wishing to contribute to this may send a check to "The Tilly Edinger Fund", M.C.Z., Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., 02138.

A silver basket with the inscription "Tilly Edinger, 'Agassiz Lebt'" is being given to the Museum to be used at the students teas.

--Ernst Mayr

Dr. Tilly Edinger

Dr. Edinger was born on November 13, 1897, in Frankfurt-am-Main, where her father was one of the founders of comparative neurology. In college she started to study geology, was told it was a poor field for women, switched to zoology, where she was given similar arguments, so finally changed to paleontology, which was the field of her major interest all the time. Her doctoral work was done on nothosaurs (Triassic, marine reptiles), but, because of her background in neurology, she turned to the study of endocasts, or "fossil brains". Her paper, Die fossilen Gehirne, published in 1929, was a landmark in its field.

After receiving her doctorate, Dr. Edinger became a curator at the Senckenberg Museum in Frankfurt, but, because of her Jewish ancestry, was eventually forced to flee her native country. Through a fund set up by Harvard to help European scholars, Miss Edinger came to the M.C.Z., after a year in England. She also taught comparative anatomy at Wellesley College for two years, but, with increasing deafness, found teaching difficult. So highly regarded was she at Wellesley, however, that the College later gave her an honorary doctorate.

In the October issue of the News Bulletin (No. 81) of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists, Dr. A. S. Romer has written of Dr. Edinger and her work, and we would like to quote from it:

"Enticing side-channels now and again drew Tilly away for a bit from her main interests in paleoneurology; she was interested, for example, in the probability that the 'pineal' eye was originally a double organ, and in recent years she investigated unusual bone growths in various animals, notably certain teleosts.

Gigantism and accompanying excess pituitary growth interested her, as well. For the most part, however, she kept to the study and interpretation of endocasts. Her most notable work was her 1948 monograph on the evolution of the horse brain, very significant in that it demonstrated that the highly developed condition of the cerebrum found in modern members of a number of mammalian groups was not due to inheritance from a common ancestor, but to parallel evolution in each case from a primitive condition. She for a time planned to publish an extensive work on 'fossil brains', as an elaboration of her earlier volume; however, the continually expanding amount of new material to be covered, as well as the amount of time taken up in giving information and advice to a long series of fellow-workers, made her decide, instead, to publish an annotated bibliography of published work on endocasts. This bibliography was well advanced but unfortunately not completed at the time of her death.

"Tilly was a major addition to the M.C.Z. group, both as a scientist and as a person. She was a charming friend--enthusiastic, warm-hearted, and outgoing. To be sure her warmth of emotion would, on occasion, rouse her violently against things or persons which she disliked--notably editing and editors!. But in general this emotional warmth erupted in friendship and affection, and won her hosts of friends...."

A memorial service for Dr. Edinger was held at the Museum on June 9, and the speakers were Dr. Romer, Dr. Mayr and Dr. Elisabeth Deichmann from the M.C.Z., and Dr. Lucie Jessner, psychiatrist, and Dr. Jacob Fine, both long-time friends of Dr. Edinger.

In the Field

Dr. Bernhard Kummel has recently returned, just ahead of fourteen crates of fossils, from east Greenland. Dr. Kummel, his research assistant, Vickie Kohler, Dr. Curt Teichert and his assistant from the University of Kansas, and Dr. Rudolf Trumphy from Zurich, joined four Danish paleontologists in Copenhagen for a month of digging on Kap Stosch. They took a Danish ice-breaker from Copenhagen directly to Kap Stosch-- "seven days of good food and excitement in the ice." Once in Greenland, the group split up, with the Danes on one side of the Cape studying fish and early Triassic communities, and the Americans and Swiss on the other mapping and studying the nature of the boundary between the Permian and Triassic levels (and pondering in particular the problem of extinction there).

Dr. Howard Evans and his family spent the summer at the Jackson Hole Research Station in Moran, Wyoming. Dr. Evans continued his ethological studies of the many wasps concentrated in the few sandy spaces along the Snake River, and he and his family continued to make back-pack trips into the back country of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks (where the tourists aren't!), when weather and time permitted.

Dr. W. J. Clench spent September and October at the Ohio State University Museum checking type material in three old collections of North American land and fresh water mollusks. Also, he and Dr. David Stansbery, of OSU Museum, made a field trip to several rivers in Kentucky, Tennessee and northern Alabama. Because of new dams, four major shoal localities on these rivers will soon be inundated, and the shoal fauna destroyed.

Professor Bryan Patterson and a crew from the MCZ (Mr. Arnold Lewis from the Preparation Department and four graduate students: Vince Maglio, Bill Sill, John Wahlert, and Roger Wood) spent another summer collecting fossils in northwestern Kenya. Due to unusually excessive rains, work was often slowed nearly to a standstill during the first month of the expedition, but the discovery of a new Lower Pleistocene locality near the southern tip of Lake Rudolf made up for earlier disappointments. The new locality consists of nearly 2000 feet of fossiliferous sediment, and fossils collected include two skulls of the three-toed horse, Stylohipparion, and are the first skulls of this genus to be discovered. Also found is a nearly complete skeleton of the very poorly known order Tubulidentata (aardvark), and numerous specimens of hippopotami, rhinoceroses, elephants, turtles and other vertebrates.

Roger Wood remained in East Africa after the regular field season, and is now heading a turtle collecting expedition in connection with his thesis project. He was last reported wandering around the shores of Lake Victoria and the Rift Valley Lakes, meeting with great success, and due back in Cambridge in February.

Bill Sill spent a month in Brazil and Argentina studying rhynchosaurs and the continental Triassic basins for deposition of sedimentary rocks in western Argentina.

Jim Sprinkle (Invert. Paleontology) was in the field for eleven weeks this past summer. He took a grand tour of the United States, starting in Pennsylvania, continuing south and then across the country to dig in the west and the Canadian Rockies. Jim collected mainly Cambrian and Ordovician echinoderms and reports that his trip was a tremendous success.

More Field Notes

Bob Jenkins (Ornithology) is in Costa Rica studying some of the ecological and behavioral aspects of the biology of a couple of species of Saltators (grosbeaks).

Dr. Francois Vulleumier, one of our new doctors from Ornithology, is now in La Paz, Bolivia, waiting to go on an expedition into the altiplano. "This and the following trips will probably be like nothing I have experienced in the Andes before. We have to be entirely self-dependent for the whole period of each altiplano trip. Food, gasoline, water, presents for the Aymara Indians, and many other things have to be taken along. We are going into places where even the churches are abandoned..."

Jim Clark (Marine Invertebrates) recently took part in a plankton-sampling cruise in the Gulf of Maine, sponsored by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

Amy Schoener (Marine Invertebrates) spent the summer in the Bahamas studying the biology of shallow-water brittle-stars. She is attempting to compare these with deep-water brittle-stars.

Dr. Richard H. Chesher, Associate in Marine Zoology, participated in June in the world's deepest, open ocean dive. "Near the off-shore oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico, we spent five days in a large pressure chamber on the deck of a barge. We descended, two divers at a time, to a depth of 100 fathoms (or 600 feet) using a special, pressurized 'elevator'. When we reached the bottom, a hatch in the lower part of the diving bell opened up and we swam out--becoming the first men to work at the outer edge of the continental shelf." In August, Dr. Chesher was in Colombia, South America, conducting a survey of the

marine fauna of a new, underwater park near Santa Marta, and in September he was in the Canal Zone diving in both the Atlantic and Pacific surveying the distribution and ecology of sea urchins.

Roger Thomas (Invert. Paleontology), along with Mahlon Kelley from the Biol. Labs. and a student from M.I.T., spent ten days last April in Bimini working for NASA. They were working on ground control for a pilot study in the interpretation of shallow water types of animals from aerial color photographs. During the past summer, Roger also spent two months in Atlantic and Pacific coastal plains collecting fossil mollusks for the Museum as well as his thesis.

Stewart Peck (Entomology) returned blinking from a summer spent crawling about in some fifty caves in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, where he collected certain cavernicolous beetles.

Craig Wood (Vert. Paleontology), assisted by Bryan Henrie from the Preparation Department, made a trip to New Mexico and Wyoming during the summer. They prospected for an upper Eocene mammal fauna in exposures of the Galisteo formation between Santa Fe and Albuquerque. A full month's search turned up only a badly preserved titanotherium jaw and four isolated teeth, so they moved north to Wyoming to collect at the Twin Buttes Paleocene locality near Riverton. This is on Indian land, and it was necessary to have a fascinating meeting with reservation and tribal officials in order to gain permission to collect. The Twin Buttes site is especially rich in mammalian fossils, and the two weeks the two men spent digging there has provided Craig with much material for his thesis. Incidentally, he hopes to extend the study beyond description and to begin a synthesis, especially with regard to the zoogeography, paleo-ecology, and stratigraphy of North American Paleocene mammals.

More Field Notes

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And More Field Notes

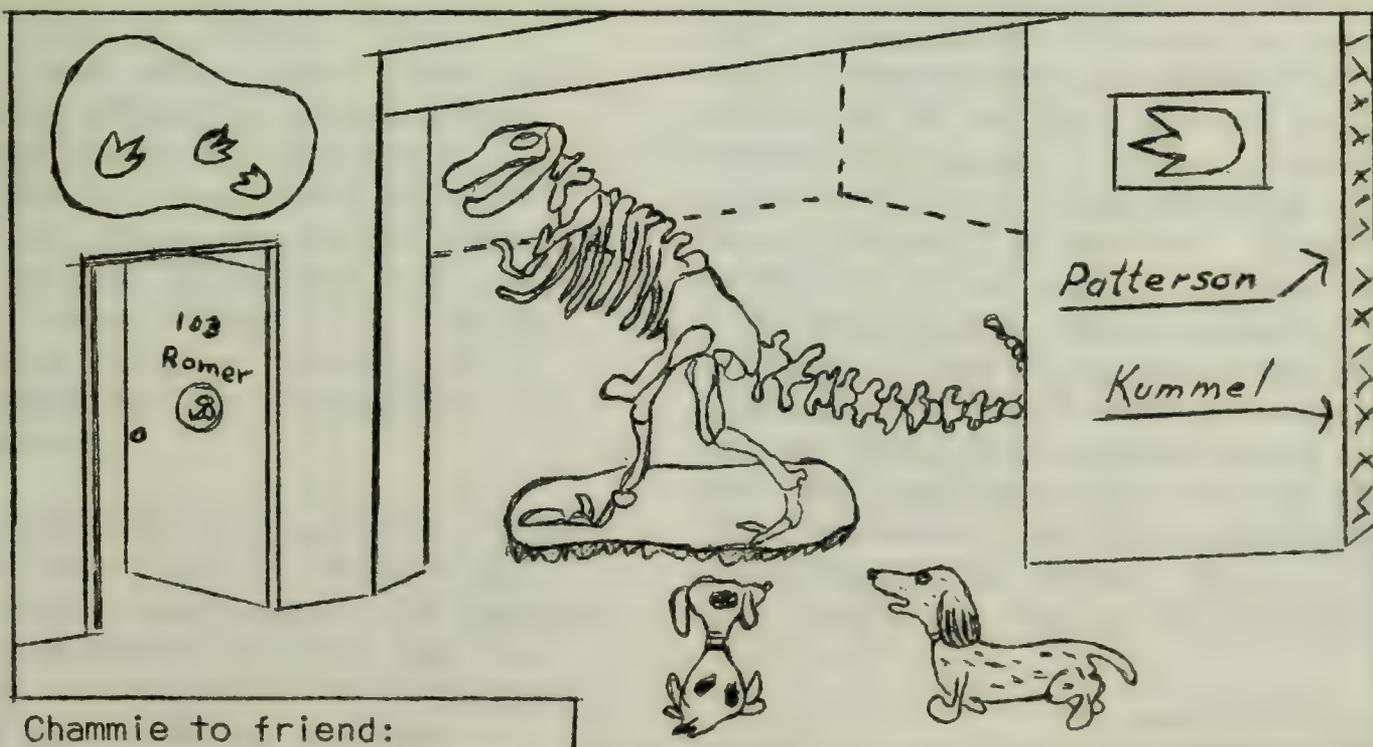
Dr. Charles C. Porter, formerly student and now research associate in entomology, has recently gone to Argentina to continue his studies of South American Ichneumonid wasps at the Fundación Miguel Lillo. He writes:

"How strange and wonderful to be in this beautiful, remote, and yet familiar Argentina--what a transition that night of Sept. 30-- the hiss of jet engines, the stars above, beside, and below, the towering white clouds of morning, the blind and wind-swept descent and, finally, Ezeiza Airport with its green and flooded fields and stately Eucalyptus beyond. And, even more thrilling, that October 5th when the little prop-jet rushed aloft from Aeroparque--stopping at somber Córdoba, scorched Santiago del Estero, and, at last, lovely, ancient Tucumán.

"I have a nice large table to work on in a cool, quiet part of the Lillo... and have been given a new Nikon stereozoom scope which seems very adequate. It appears I will have little difficulty writing large parts of my paper here. The people are kind as ever...."

In mid-September, Dr. Ernst Mayr gave a number of lectures at the University of Kentucky, and then had the treat of being taken to Mammoth Cave on a tour personally conducted by such a knowledgeable cave specialist as Dr. Thomas C. Barr, Jr. Dr. Barry Moore from Australia was also in the party. "There is no better way to understand the problems of cave evolution than to visit caves and study their distribution on a geological map."

Bob Matthews (Entomology) and his wife spent fifteen weeks during this past summer at the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve in Rensselaerville, New York, where Bob was a summer fellow. Bob had two major projects; one, a study of seasonal changes in insect populations as shown in his Malaise trap collections; two, a study of the insect parasites of the different bark beetles found in the area. The Preserve, which consists of 500 acres, including two small lakes, provides a large laboratory, a furnished house (with 3 bedrooms), and \$2000. Summer fellows are expected to do ecologically oriented research on the preserve and its environs.



Chammie to friend:

"See, this is the place I was telling you about."

Research Notes

From July through September, Dr. Elisabeth Deichmann was at the Institute of Marine Science in Miami, Florida, where the last stray specimens of the holothurians from the Gulf of Guinea were rounded up for her finishing touches on the "Pillsbury" report. Most of her time there, however, was spent on a revision of the holothurians of the Caribbean region on the basis of the various Pillsbury trips, especially to the Colombia-Panama region, which hitherto seems to have been shunned by most expeditions.

Dr. Alfred S. Romer reports that work is progressing on their fabulous collection of Triassic vertebrates from the Chanares Formation of Argentina. It was decided not to attempt to describe further individuals genera and species immediately, but rather to attempt to prepare the whole collection in a preliminary way, to give some idea of the general nature of the total "spoils". The majority of the skulls and skeletons of these mammal-like reptiles are those of gomphodont cynodonts--perhaps five or six different types. Also, there are carnivorous cynodonts, dicynodonts and thecodonts. "It is curious," says Dr. Romer, "that although these come from a stage of the Triassic where representatives of the rhynchosaurs, with their peculiar parrot-like beaks and odd toothplates, should be found, there has not, as yet, been seen the slightest trace of one." Dr. Barry Cox of Kings College, London, is here to describe the dicynodonts in the collection.

A new postdoctoral student, Dr. Robert Henderson from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, is here in Invertebrate Paleontology. Bob is completing a manuscript on Cretaceous ammonites and studying the New Zealand Tertiary sea urchins.

Audubon Lithograph

Although the Museum of Comparative Zoology is not usually listed with the art museums, one of its prints was the subject of an article in a recent issue of The Art Quarterly (XXIX, No. 2, 1966, pp. 147-153). The article, entitled "Audubon's Lithograph of the Clapper Rail", was written by Richard S. Field. Mr. Field said that this only surviving Audubon lithograph with such "beauty and size mark it as a major American work on stone, but unaccountably there are only three impressions known to the writer."

John Eliot Thayer bought two copies from Goodspeeds in 1910, and one was exhibited at the MCZ. It is now in the student room on the fifth floor. Why Audubon did so few lithographs is not known, but the drawing for this one was later recast into the engraving familiar in his Birds of America.

Editorial

For those of you who are settling down for a long, cold winter, may we cheer you up with a quotation from our favorite author, Dr. William Morton Wheeler:

"We might regard it as a great handicap that we academic biologists, unlike our native woodchucks and muskrats, are compelled to be most active pedagogically during the annual glacial period, but our superior intelligence enables us to cope with that situation. Every autumn we lay in a few cans of soused dogfish and pickled sea-cucumbers, coop up some guinea-pigs, earth-worms, cockroaches, and fruit-flies, throw in a bag of beans and several bales of hay for the botanists--and we are prepared for the worse. We can now proceed to disentangle and unreel the infinite and ineffable complexity of organic reality."

--Mary Alice Evans

Publication Notes

Dr. George G. Simpson reports that he now has the final proofs of his large memoir on Riochican, Casamayoran, and Mustersan faunas (Tertiary fossil mammals) of Patagonia, and that this will soon be published by the American Museum. His extensively revised and updated version of The Meaning of Evolution (Yale) has now appeared also, and he has nearly completed the shortened and revised edition of Life (Simpson and Beck, Harcourt, Brace and World).

The completed manuscript of the text of the completely revised edition of Mayr, Linsley, and Usinger's Methods and Principles of Systematic Zoology was mailed to the publisher on the first of November. Dr. Mayr says there is still some work with the bibliography and illustrations, but "the worst is over."

Dr. A. S. Romer has two books currently in press. The University of Chicago Press will publish in the spring a small volume entitled Notes and Comments on Vertebrate Paleontology. It is intended as a supplement (more or less) to his recently published text, and will contain critical comments, both pro and con, on the work and conclusions of a number of men in various paleontological fields. With an English publisher, Dr. Romer is putting out The Procession of Life, a book on a popular level dealing with the general evolution of animals, from protozoans to vertebrates. German and French editions are currently underway.

Dr. A. M. Chickering, Associate in Arachnology, says that since his return last fall from his collecting trip in the West Indies, not only has he been busy working over the large number of specimens, but he has had five manuscripts accepted for publication, and two or three more "germinating". What Dr. Chickering did not

say, but we happen to know, is that last March 23rd, Dr. Chickering had his eightieth birthday. How about that!

Dr. Edward O. Wilson, Associate in Entomology, is co-author with Dr. R. H. MacArthur from Princeton, of a new book entitled The Theory of Island Zoogeography, just published by Princeton University Press, as one in its series of Monographs in Population Biology.

Dr. Ernst Mayr is busy serving on the National Academy's Committee on the Life Sciences. This committee is to prepare a two volume report on the state of the life sciences in the United States, and Dr. Mayr is specifically involved in the preparation of a report on that part of biology dealing with the Diversity of Life.

"Arduous though such committee duties are, they are unavoidable in order to present the case for the support of systematics. It is necessary that the meaning of each part of biology is made clear to the Congress as well as to the science administrators in various federal agencies, in order to assure an equitable distribution of federal funds."

The first volume of Alfred Kaestner's Invertebrate Zoology, translated and "Americanized" by Dr. Herbert and Mrs. Lorna Levi, is now out and after a quick perusal of the library copy, we find it attractive and well-illustrated. Some of the changes that the Levis made from the original are: incorporation of new research, additional information on American animals, more complete chapter bibliographies and new illustrations.

United Fund Appeal

As of November 15, 1967, the MCZ contribution to the United Fund drive was \$890.00--thus making it clear that we have greatly surpassed contributions of previous years.

Introduction

The first part of the book discusses the importance of the study and the objectives of the research.

The second part of the book discusses the methodology used in the study and the data collection process.

The third part of the book discusses the results of the study and the conclusions drawn from the data.

The fourth part of the book discusses the implications of the study and the recommendations for future research.

The fifth part of the book discusses the limitations of the study and the scope of the research.

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Meetings and Conferences

An International Conference on Systematic Biology, organized by the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council, was held at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, on June 14 through 16, 1967. The purpose of the conference was to consider some of the problems facing systematics today, such as a shortage of professional manpower, a need for reform in the educational curriculum, and a lack of financial support. Dr. Ernst Mayr gave an address at the banquet session entitled, "The Role of Systematics in Biology", and Dr. E. O. Wilson summarized the findings of the 3-day session. Dr. John Lawrence and Dr. Michael Ghiselin (former post-doctoral) also took part in the conference.

In June, Dr. Giles Mead, Mrs. Mead and Mrs. Myvanwy Dick attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in San Francisco. Preceding the meeting, the Meads entertained at their ranch in Napa--"a truly beautiful place which was greatly enjoyed by their guests," says Mrs. Dick.

In late August, Dr. and Mrs. A. S. Romer went to Alaska, where Dr. Romer officiated at a meeting of the Alaskan Section of the AAAS. While they were there, the Romers took the opportunity to visit Mt. McKinley National Park, as well as the Point Barrow Biological Research Station ("where they put on a special show for the Romers, with an August snowstorm and a howling gale plus a premature inward movement of the pack ice"). After touching base in Cambridge, the Romers almost immediately set off for five weeks in Argentina and Brazil, where they and Bill Sill attended a conference on excursions--one of the excursions being specifically to the areas in which the Museum party had collected fossil vertebrates in 1958 and 1964.

Drs. W. J. Clench, Ruth Turner and Kenneth Boss attended the American Malacological Union meeting in Ottawa, Canada, during early August. Each presented a paper (and incidently managed to get in a little collecting in the St. Lawrence River and Lake Champlain).

The AAAS meetings in New York during the Christmas holidays will have a spider symposium on behavior and silk. Four Cambridge people will give talks there; John Relskind, who just finished his Ph.D. and is now at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Bill Eberhard, who is still working on his degree under Dr. Levi, Victor Friedrichs, a former undergraduate here, who with Bill has taken electromicrographs of silk, and Dr. R. M. Langer, research physicist, who also works with Bill. It is also interesting to note, in passing, that there is also a spider symposium scheduled during the New York meetings of the American Entomological Society in late November.

Museum Shop

This is an advertisement, not paid, but may we remind you that Christmas is coming, and the Museum Shop has a most interesting and unusual selection of gift items. May we point out in particular the framed antique prints. They are mainly lithographs, hand-colored, and date from the late 1700's and 1800's. There are a few of Alexander Wilson's, Audubon's Quadrapeds, and shells (Ferrusac-Bishayes and Martini and Chemnitz). Just the gift for that certain someone!

Additions and Subtractions

The latest addition to the MCZ staff is Dr. Stephen J. Gould, Assistant Curator in Invertebrate Paleontology. He is also Assistant Professor of Geological Sciences, and will assist Dr. Kummel in Geology 151, as well as teach a section of Natural Science 10. Dr. Gould received his doctorate from Columbia University this past spring, and is now making ready for publication his thesis; "Evolution of Bermudan Land Snails."

Dr. Alan Erickson is temporarily filling the vacancy of librarian--a vacancy left by the resignation of Mr. Tomislav Munetic. Dr. Erickson is on loan, part time, from Widener, as also is Mrs. Ruth Hill. Mrs. Hill is a specialist in cataloguing (before leaving Yale's Sterling Library, she was head of the subject catalogue in the division for science), and she and Dr. Erickson are a delightful addition to our library.

Professor Bryan Patterson expects to be back in the Museum soon, as he is recovering rapidly after his expedition to a hospital in London.

Dr. George G. Simpson reports from his new home in Tucson, Arizona, that he has fully recovered from his recent illness, feels fine, and expects to make a brief visit to the MCZ about December 10th, or shortly thereafter.

Mr. Benjamin Shreve, Research Associate in Herpetology, was married on September 12th to Mrs. Minerva C. Turner. Congratulations and best wishes Mr. and Mrs. Shreve.

Under Dr. Raymond A. Paynter, Jr., and Mr. Joe O'Leary, work continues on the improvement of the public exhibits, and the Arctic Room is now completed, including new paint and new lighting.

George Gorman (Herpetology) has just finished his doctorate and is enroute to Berkeley.

Dr. Ian Efford is here on his sabbatical from the University of British Columbia for six months. He is helping rearrange the crustaceans and to "clean up" some ancient collections. Every day some new old types or valuable missing specimens are found--including several hundred holotypes of phytoplankton algae (among the crustaceans.)

Alice Bliss is a welcome addition in Arachnology and such. She formerly taught biology in a Cambridge private school, and last year got her M.A. at the American University in Beirut. She is now reorganizing the spiders, myriapods, crustaceans and worms.

Dr. Vojislav Jovanovic, from the Department of Zoology, University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, is spending his post-doctoral period with Dr. Mayr working on speciation as well as on the study of avian chromosomes.

The Fish Department now has a "library" for its books and reprints. The space was gained by moving five "coffins" (very large containers) to the new site in Bedford.

Museum Courses and Students

Biology of the Invertebrates (Biol. 10a) has four times the enrollment of last year with approximately fifty students in the course.

There are again 35 graduate students "residing" in the Museum, plus two non-resident students. Ichthyology and Vertebrate Paleontology have the largest number of residents.

