

August 3, 1962

Dr. Myra Keen
Department of Geology
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Miss Keen:

Thank you very much for your letter of July 30, and the enclosed photostats. It is very good of you to help me out with the oyster literature. It would have taken a long time to get the pertinent literature on library exchange.

I can't help regretting that Ray wrote an ultimatum to Chavan, although Ray may be justified. It is a very difficult situation. However, I am glad to know the details of the situation, because I may run into Chavan in September. I am leaving August 15 to go to Mulhouse, Alsace, for a pre-convention field trip through Alsace, Mainz Basin, Belgium, northern France, ending up in Paris. Then there will be a "Colloque sur le Paleogene" at the University of Bordeaux. After the convention, there are three more days of field trips. The remainder, to the end of September, I hope to spend in Paris at the various museums and libraries checking on oysters. Shell, as usual, is very generous to let me take a 6-weeks vacation; but the trip will be financed by me personally. The main question is not money or time, but health.

Speaking about difficult correspondence, I used to receive hot answer letters from Ranson, when we were on opposite sides of the fence in the question of the type species of *Gryphaea*. Now he is very friendly and polite. I sent him my latest manuscript on classification methods as applied to oysters. He disagreed completely, but did it very politely. I hope to see him in Paris and discuss oysters with him in my best broken French. According to advance information, Vyalov, the Russian oyster expert, is going to be there too, and that will take all the temper control I can muster myself. Vyalov is Academician at Lubin, where a cousin of my father was Professor Physiology at the Medical School of the then Polish University. He must have been an outstanding man because the American Medical Association gave him a gold medal. All this was before Hitler's war. Sic transit gloria mundi.

Thanks again,

Sincerely,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:cd

Shell Development Company
Exploration & Production Research Division