

April 3, 1963

AIR MAIL

Dr. G. M. Philip
The University of New England
Armidale, N.S.W.
Australia

Dear Dr. Philip:

Thank you very much for your promptness and kindness in replying to my letter. Your paper on "The Evolution of Gryphaea" is much appreciated.

Thanks to the generosity of Dr. McLearn there is on my desk a plaster cast of the holotype of Gryphaea chakii McLearn from the late Triassic of British Columbia. This specimen, at least, matches Gryphaea arcuata of the same size in every respect. Unless this is a case of perfect homeomorphy in every detail including the internal features of the shell, one can only conclude that Gryphaea of the arcuata lineage existed already in the late Triassic of the boreal seas. The G. chakii has a neatly developed posterior radial sulcus on the left valve just like arcuata has. These factual observations will take considerable thinking.

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:jr

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