

June 8, 1950

Mr. Frederic F. Mellen
118-1/2 W. Capitol Street
P. O. Box 2584, W. Jackson Station
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear F. F.:

I have read your manuscript with great interest; in fact I have read it twice. In this discussion I am a neutral bystander and, as a friend of yours, I would like to make some remarks. The paper, as I see it, is a plea for the recognition and practical use of cyclothems. Reading the paper that seemed to be its main theme and, I may add, a very worthwhile proposition. Assuming that my impression is correct, then I ask myself whether it is necessary to the good of the paper and its author to bring in the controversy with F. S. MacNeil. As I see it, it is not so necessary. Let me assure you as a friend of yours that you would do well to eradicate the strong discussion of the U. S. G. S. and of F. S. MacNeil. After all they don't tell us what we should do, so why should we tell them what they ought to do. Also, the subject of the Midway-Wilcox is a difficult one, and it is quite easy to make mistakes. Simply state that there is diversity of opinion as to the limits and placement of the Pearn Spring and that you do not consider it good practice to have a Wilcox group in one state and a Wilcox formation in the next.

My choice of a title for your paper would be "Recognition and practical use of Wilcox cyclothems" or something in that line. Also I would start with p. 2. "The objectives of this note are - - -", that seems to belong right in front. I have indicated the revisions that I believe would help the paper and am returning the copy.

I was very glad to hear from you again and it was a pleasure to read your paper.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

H. B. STENZEL
Geologist

HBS:ejd

P. S. I may be in Jackson in the next few days, on vacation with family.