

6 Rolla Gardens,
Rolla, Missouri,
November 23, 1957.

Dr. H. B. Stenzel,
3726 Colquitt,
Houston 6, Texas.

Dear Henryk:

Your card of September 6 arrived in due course, and I am glad to have the reference on American otoliths. And, speaking of references, I am returning (via express) the reprints of papers by Bauzá Rullán (and again, thanks very much for the loan of them). I have had photostats made of the three that deal with otoliths.

I certainly enjoyed the visit with you this past summer, and the excellent dinner that Sonya prepared (a very talented young lady you have!). Certainly wish that these visits were not such seldom things! (Harriet and I are discussing the strong probability of a trip to Corpus Christi and way stations this coming summer. It seems likely that my samples from Bryan were lost, as they have not been delivered here. So it likely will be necessary to make another collecting trip -- those beds have a lot of otoliths. Of course, if we make the trip, we shall go via Houston.)

After leaving Houston, on my southern expedition, I had a very pleasant visit with Paul and Esther Applin. Jackson, Miss., has built up greatly, but I found an excellent exposure at the type locality of the Oligocene "Byram marl." I have worked a small amount of it (from the 130 pounds or so that I collected!), and find sparse but very interesting otoliths -- and of course a wealth of other things.

The next stop was at Jackson, Ala., where I collected at the St. Stephens Quarry and at Claiborne Bluff. The quarry sample contains otoliths, but I have not yet started to work over it. I did not see otoliths at Claiborne Bluff, but think that it at least should contain them. That is one of the most ~~of~~ extravagantly fossiliferous outcrops that I have ever seen! I certainly can understand your enthusiasm for the Eocene mollusks of Alabama.

At Tuscaloosa, I had two hours of conversation with Miss McGlamery and a chance to renew acquaintance with Col. Jones. Very pleasant and interesting. (But I found it hard to discuss stratigraphy with Miss McG., as she seems to identify formations by contained fossils rather than lithology -- and I had trouble establishing the position of some of my samples. However, she was able to show me a published section that pretty well satisfies me as to the f place where they belong.)

Since returning to Rolla, I have been very busy, although not too effectually so. Our new department chairman, by the way, is a very fine person and, so far at least, very easy to work with. But he does have a habit of farming-out work to his staff ~~staff~~ members, and I have drawn the chairmanship of a purely departmental committee on consideration of curriculum revision. Which takes time from more interesting and productive pursuits!

Harriet and I had the flu weeks ago (I am entirely convinced that it was Asian; Harriet is not so sure). Harriet had it lightly and I not too heavily, but recuperation has been slow, and we both have retained a nasty respiratory allergy (nasal and bronchial) that is most annoying. But otherwise we are in relatively good shape.

Harriet ~~and~~ joins me in all regards and best wishes to you, Sonya, and Yetta. We surely hope that you are feeling better now.

Sincerely,


Don L. Frizzell