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Cebu City, P.I.

June 10, 1953

Dr. H. B. Stenzel
The University of Texas
Bureau of Economic Geology
University Station, Box B
Austin 12, Texas

Dear Stenzel,

Your letter of May 23rd, with its notification of Baluchicardia, etc., (for which much thanks) has been forwarded to me in the Philippine Islands where I am now completing a year's leave from The Johns Hopkins while working with the Mutual Security Agency on Philippine coal deposits. I have the southern islands of the archipelago, while Marvin Weller takes care of the northern ones. Since I shall not return to Baltimore until the middle of ~~Sept~~ September I am afraid that I will not be able to welcome you if you do succeed in getting to the University during the summer.

I have been having a most enjoyable and valuable year, especially among the recent mollusca. The fossil mollusca in the areas where I have been working are too poorly preserved for even certain generic identification, although the corals and large forams are excellent. I have been making large collections of the Recent however, and would probably have over a thousand species by now - including a very large number of genotypespecies. While at this I have made the acquaintanceship of a number of Filipino and other collectors and dealers.

I have succeeded, with one young Philippine couple with whom I have become very close friends, in interesting them in the idea of securing alcoholic material for use of schools in the States. They can secure abundant specimens of Lingula anatina of quite large size - some as much as 2 inches long - that would be excellent for dissecting purposes in zoology and paleontology courses; also comatulid crinoids - I now have 4 genera of these, one represented by several specimens, the others by but one specimen each. And there is reason to hope that they can get Nautilus, too. I reached one fishing village in time to find the animal cut up in the cooking pot, so got only the shell. But they certainly do get them in their deep fishing traps. By spreading the word that they will command a price if placed in alcohol, which the people have abundantly for their fishing

lamps, we feel quite certain that some specimens can be secured.

With regard to all of this, I would like to have your advice on two matters:

(1) What do you feel would be a fair price for them to ask for these types of material, (plus postage)?

(2) What other types of materials than can be secured here would you suggest their collecting for such usage?

Finally, I would also appreciate it if you could let me have the names of any dealers, or collectors in your part of the world who might be interested in securing good to perfect specimens of Philippine mollusca. They can fill almost any order, and at prices which I am certain will be far less than those charged by most stateside dealers. (They can also furnish mounted and skeletal material of Philippine vertebrates, including Tarsius, monkeys, bats, etc. etc.)

Any suggestions and information that you can give me will be most helpful and very sincerely appreciated.

as ever yours

H. E. Hoke