

November 19, 1962

Dr. Frank H. McLearn
Geological Survey of Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada

Dear Dr. McLearn:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your Paper 47-14.

As you know, I am very much interested in Triassic oysters, especially the Gryphaea. Western European authors generally derive the Liassic Gryphaeas from Liostraea sublamellosa, Dunker, 1846, of the Rhaetian of western Europe or from other similar and closely related, contemporaneous species. However, your Triassic Gryphaea - to judge by the specimens from the Luning Formation (Karnian) of Nevada shown to me by Dr. Siemon Muller at Stanford - are very good, characteristic Gryphaeas, so that the conclusion is inevitable that Gryphaea arose before the Rhaetian, even before the Karnian. There are also Triassic Gryphaea in Spitzbergen.

As much as I have tried to find it, I have not been able to track down where you described Gryphaea chakii. Could you please send me that information? Anything you care to say about these oysters would be most welcome.

I had hoped to see you here at the Geological Society of America meeting and to have a long discussion with you.

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:cd

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