November 20, 1963

Dr. B. Hubendick
Naturhistoriska Museet
Göteborg 11, Sweden

Dear Dr. Hubendick:

For the last several years, my task has been to write a book on the Ostreidae from the point of view of the paleontologist. In this work both the living and the fossil oysters shall be reviewed so that modern biological results will shed light on the paleontologic problems and vice versa. While there are several excellent books on the biology of modern oysters, no such integration of paleontology and neontology has been attempted for many years.

Right now I am trying to assemble all the data on the distribution of "Ostrea" cochlear Poli. This species is obviously of worldwide distribution. Being an euhaline deep-water species it can spread from one ocean to the other. The two species, O. thaanumi and O. laysana described by Dall, Bartsch, and Rehder (1938, Bishop Mus. Bull. 153) are clearly the same as O. cochlear. The same applies to O. musashiana Yokoyama, 1920, of the Japanese zoologists. For the purpose of assembling a map of the distribution of this species, could you have the kindness to look through your collections and list all specimens of this species including exact localities, depths, and bottom-water temperatures, if these are available?

Similarly data on Ostrea hyotis Linne and O. sinensis Gmelin and O. imbricata Lamarck and O. fisheri Dall are needed. These names refer all to the same complex of O. hyotis Linné, 1758. Professor Nils Odhner wrote me that you collected O. hyotis from Galera in the Philippines.

Your help in these matters would be appreciated very much and I hope I am not burdening you with too much work.

Very truly yours,

H. B. Stenzel

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