



TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

October 27, 1948

Dr. H. B. Stenzel
Bureau of Economic Geology
University of Texas
Austin, Texas

Dear Dr. Stenzel:

This letter is about a week late, but we have been giving our six weeks' exams and so many other things have come up that I am just now getting around to writing.

Dr. Hendricks told you of the success of my first trip and I think I am off to a pretty good start now. It certainly is an interesting problem and has marvelous possibilities. It seems to be almost a virgin field, as I have been able to find very little in the literature on the fauna. Stanton has a few similar forms in his Comanche Pelecypod and Gastropod paper, and there is some information in the paper by Ikins and Clabaugh written there at the University. Do you have any suggestions other than these? I am still searching the literature.

Dr. Hendricks relayed your very excellent ideas on recording statistical data and I am working up a form to be used to record such data. The fragment problem will be great though, as the rudistids are broken up all throughout the mass. I was amazed at the great abundance and variety of gastropods, and also at the lack of corals and echinoids. Have found only about eight pieces of a small branching coral*, some bryozoans, four Pectens and a wonderful variety of gastropods. Pileolus sp. is particularly abundant and very well preserved. Do you know much about this form?

I plan to go back in about two weeks prepared for more careful and selective collecting now that I know what to expect. That is much rougher country than I had anticipated.

I am very grateful to Dr. Blank at Southwestern. He was most cooperative, and, in fact, I could never have found

* Cladophyllia sp. (?)

the place without his excellent directions. I never did get a reply from Chelf or the Museum in Austin as to its location.

Will keep you posted on my work, and when I make a trip to Austin will bring along some of the material for you to see. Unfortunately some of the best material is in chert and almost impossible to work with.

Incidentally, I am interested in joining one of the Paleontological societies that I might be eligible to belong to. I would like to get the bulletins and other benefits of the society and Dr. Hendricks said you could tell me more about those than he could. Would appreciate any information you can give me.

Sincerely,

Bill

W. H. Matthews
Geology Department

WHM:db