

May 26, 1943

Mr. W. E. Humphrey
The Texas Company
Box 546
Pearsall, Texas

Dear Mr. Humphrey :

The fossils which you left at the Bureau contain the following species :

Ostrea sp.
Venericardia planicosta Lamarck
Ampullina dumblei (Heilprin) ("Natica dumblei" of literature)
Cornulina armigera (Conrad)

Of these species the *Ostrea* sp. has, as far as I know, not been described specifically. It seems to range at least into the lower Yegua of the Rio Grande section. Presumably it is Cook Mountain in age in most of the occurrences. The *Venericardia* is a long ranging lower and middle Eocene fossil. The *Ampullina dumblei* is a well known Rio Grande embayment fossil which has been considered to be restricted to the zone in the Cook Mountain. Whether this information is correct, I cannot say at present. The *Ampullina* occurs on the Rio Grande and possibly you can check with other field geologists where they have found the so-called *Natica dumblei* on the Rio Grande. This should give you a clue as to the age of the beds. The *Cornulina armigera* is known from the Stone City to the upper Claiborne and is a wide ranging fossil. As is to be anticipated, these fossils are mostly of wide stratigraphic range. This is indicated by the lack of species in great number of specimens, indicating extreme physical conditions of life. I would appreciate having an exact locality description furnished as I would like to keep the material for further reference.

Most of the ranges of the fossils in the Rio Grande embayment have yet to be established on the basis of exact stratigraphy. It is unfortunate that people who were able to do exact stratigraphic mapping were not prepared to handle the fossils at the same time, and vice versa, so that our information is not as complete as should be desired.

Very truly yours,

H. B. Stenzel, Geologist

HBS:MC