

Mid-America Paleontology Society

January, 1984

RESPONSE TO OPEN LETTER TO MAPS

(See Digest November, 1983, Vol. 6 #8)

In the November, 1983, issue of the MAPS Digest, Tim Osborne derides the leasing of property for fossil collecting.

I agree that the fun of collecting fossils is the effort it takes to get them. But there is no greater effort and commitment than to place hard-earned money down to acquire land for fossil collecting. Follow that with all the hard labor to extract the fossils, and it's a risky investment at best. Selling fossils is no way to become wealthy. To those willing to take these risks go the rewards. There is nothing illegal, unethical, or unfair about it. It's called free enterprise.

Consider the benefits of a professional digging and selling. He has the time to go great distances and spend the time necessary to do it right. He will make available fossil material which I will probably never have a chance to collect. And because that person is more experienced, the quality of that material will be better than what most locals can provide.

I applaud those with enough enterprising courage to lease property for fossil collecting.

One does not have to be a professional. I have done it. Fortunately, I did not have to turn a profit since this is only a hobby for me. However, I have no qualms about selling to recoup my investment.

Why should anyone expect always to collect fossils for free, especially when one is digging a hole in someone's property? The property (continued page 2)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

7 Jan -- MAPS MEETING -- Augustana College
Rock Island, Illinois
1:00 p.m. Board Meeting
2:00 p.m. MAPS Meeting
Presentation of Sponge Slice
Program--MAPS third in a series.

(December Program was presentation of Brachiopod Slice Program--Editor blooper.)

4 Feb -- MAPS MEETING -- Augustana College Rock Island, Illinois

13 Apr -- EXPO VI -- Western Illinois Univer-

sity, Macomb, Illinois

15 AWESOME EVENT -- FOSSILS -- FRIENDS

16 apr -- Field Trip

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The December meeting of MAPS was called to order by President Doug Johnson at Augustana College on December 3, 1983.

Treasurer, Allyn Adams reported: November 1, 1983, Checking \$2,156.24; Savings \$105.37 Balance \$2,259.61.

November Receipts	
Dues	\$168.00
Trilobite Books	30.00
Advertisements	15
Total	\$223.00
Disbursements	
Gil Norris Slide Program	\$ 34.39
Madelynne Lillybeck Digest	680.90
Steve Tuftin Overpayment	5.00
Fred Farrar	2.50
The Copy ShopDigest	40.46
U.S. Post Master	16.56
Jim Konecny Postage	29.00
The "F" StopSlide Progrm	43.68
Canadian Check Discounted	.80
Total	\$844.29

Balance on hand December 1, 1983, Checking \$1,525.45, Savings \$103.37; Total \$1,628.82. The report was accepted.

Gil Norris read the following report from the nominating committee: President, Peggy Wallace, 1st Vice President (Program Chairman) Marvin Houg, 2nd Vice President (Field Trips) Don Good; Secretary, Mary Wells; Treasurer, Allyn Adams; Director (3-year term) Bob Durnal There were no further nominations, JoAnn Good moved the slate be accepted; Alberta Cray seconded the motion. It carried.

Alan Goldstein has offered to lead a MAPS field trip to Louisville, Kentucky in the spring. Members decided to ask about scheduling the trip for the Memorial Day weekend.

Don Good reported that he had received the forms for Midwest Federation affiliation. Gerry Norris moved we discontinue our membership with Midwest Federation. JoAnn Good seconded. The motion carried, (passed unanimously).

Doug Johnson reviewed plans for EXPO VI scheduled for April 13-15, 1984, at Macomb, Illinois. He also reported that he had secured the dates for EXPO VIII, 1986, with the University. 3 years. Many of us have felt that MAPS was

The business meeting was adjourned.

watched the slide production, "The Study of Brachiopods". After the slide program members showed fossils they had collected during the summer.

> Respectfully submitted Peggy Wallace ****

RESPONSE TO OPEN LETTER, Continued

One does not have to be a professional. I have done it. Fortunately, I did not have to turn a profit since this is only a hobby for me. However, I have no qualms about selling to recoup my investment.

> Why should anyone expect always to collect fossils for free, especially when one is digging a hole in someone's property? The property owner, even if the property is an abondoned quarry in Waldron, Indiana,

is not obligated to permit collecting. That owner is taking a liability risk just having someone there. In fact, he probably feels cheated since collectors are hauling off part of his property for fun and profit. It is only fitting that he receive some compensation for his risk, such as through a lease.

Almighty dollar? We should remember that this nation's success is built on free enterprise. It will be a dark day indeed when those who would be entrepeneurs are punished.

> Submitted by Don Bissett Hamilton, Ohio 45011 ****

EXPLAINING THE VOTE (AS I SEE IT)

At the regular December MAPS meeting a unanamous vote was cast by all members present to not continue affiliation with the Midwest and American Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies.

Each person present and voting had his/her own reason or reasons for his/her vote. Our continued affiliation has been discussed frequently and in depth for at least the last a special case, not better than other member clubs, but different. We had made formal

requests to the executive committee of the Mid West Federation to attempt a dialogue on our (MAPS) unique situation. The word we received back from the executive committee was that we were not so unusual, but what we must continue to adhere to the established guidlines.

At the December meeting it was necessary to decide whether to continue affiliation for 1984--a unanamous "NO" vote was the result.

As MAPS has continued to grow (514 families) an increasing number of members reside outside the geographical confines of the Mid West Federation and with an ever increasing number of foreign nation members, a good many are also outside the boundary of the American Federation. This situation, a case of taxation without representation, if you would, was one reason for my "NO" vote.

My second reason is MAPS' movement in the formation of affiliated chapters/regions, many of which are located outside the 14 state area comprising the Mid West Federation. There is value (at least potential value) in affiliating with the American Federation, but chapters would best be served by affiliating with the Regional Federation that serves the area where chapter members reside. It should be emphasized that another chapter's choice of affiliating or not is left up to them. After all, 20 (for example) chapters scattered across the U.S. would have 20 times the say (VOTE) as would the single, large MAPS membership entoto.

I feel that the correct course was taken as a result of the NO vote. As it pertained to the mega MAPS organization, I believe this vote says to our world wide membership: "We are glad to be a part of each other, but we of the Quad Cities (Mid West) area MAPS are not forcing Federation affiliation on you. Neither are we forbidding your chapter from affiliating regionally, should that be your desire."

What a relief! This matter has been resolved once and for all.

Submitted by Don Good Aledo, Illinois 61231

Many geologists have postulated that some critical geochemical change or some physical event on the Earth may have been responsible for the appearance of animals with hard parts

00PS

Information about Tom Witherspoon in the advertising section of the December issue of the Digest was intended for use in the nodule in the directory. Very Sorry!

JIM KONECNY -- SLIDE PROGRAMS

Four programs ready for mailing 1) Fossils And The Story They Tell; 2) Brachiopods (Advanced college level); 3) Sponges (College level); 4) Canadian Fossils, Betty Speirs.

Jim reports the Plant Program is being critiqued. When this program is ready a notice will appear in the Digest.

To place your orders for slide programs, Jim requests:

- 1. State when you need the program
- 2. Allow 2 weeks for delivery
- 3. All programs shipped UPS and returned UPS
- 4. Return program within 3 days after scheduled presentation date
- 5. Programs should not be out of Jim's hands more than 3 weeks in order that he can schedule next performanc
- First Study Guide FREE with program or one can be purchased for \$2.00 without the program. You may reproduce other Study Guides.
- 7. MAPS pays postage to ship to you, you pay postage to return to Jim.

Send orders to: James Konecny 3036 Geronimo Road Prescott, AZ 86301

ADVERTISING SECTION

Ads \$3.50 per inch (6 lines). Send information and checks payable to MAPS to: Mrs. Gerry Norris, 2623 - 34th Avenue Ct., Rock Island, IL 61201 Phone 309-786-6505

WANTED: Cambrian <u>Helicoplacus</u> and Mississippian <u>Discocystites</u> Edrioasteroids. Will trade <u>Isotelus gigas</u>.

Mr. Terry McDonald
5 Abinger Cres.
Islington, Ontario, CANADA M9B2Y4

at the base of the Cambrian.

SEDIMENTARY NOTES

ONSBY HAMMONS, Petersburg, TN wishes she could write an article for the <u>Digest</u>. She says all she can do is love everyone and share her home, life and fossils. And that she does ever so generously.

AL HARTMAN, Waterloo, IL 62298 - 0096 (those new 9 digit numbers begin to keep our computer expert hopping) Al friend of Harrell Strimple became a member of MAPS in the late 70's. Al finds and looks for fossil oddities. Love to see your collection and the oddities you have. How about a case at EXPO, Al.

GAIL PEARSON, Beloit, KS sent dues and a note. Says he had no idea that there were so many fossil collectors. Hope you can make the EXPO, Gail, you won't believe the fossils you will see.

JOHN HEARTY, Lanarkshire, SCOTLAND John likes the <u>Digest</u>. Thank you very much. He sent a note of a Scotch man collecting fossils in Belgium. You'll read it one month soon in From The Matrix. Love your enthusiasm, John.

LLOYD & METTA GUNTHER, Brigham City, UT
The last trip we made to get our trailer (in
the desert) we did a bit of exploring in some
Ordovician rocks. Found lots of trilobites
of many species but all were fragmentary.
Did come up with one complete 3-dimensional
sponge. (BC you better plan a trip West).

We stopped to see one of MAPS members in Eureka, Utah, on our return home from the desert the last trip. He showed us a specimen he had found of a huge trilobite Olenoides superbus. It is the best one of this species I have ever seen-just perfect and glossy black on a huge limestone slab.

Lloyd has another article in mind for the Digest. Thanks for sharing your experiences and your knowledge.

BETTY SPEIRS, Red Deer, Alberta CANADA is having trouble with postage on the <u>Digest</u>. Many trips to the P.O. to see that that does NOT happen. Thanks for telling me. If it's happening to anyone else, please let me know. We work hard to see that you do not pay extra.

TOM & HILDA MALONEY, Willows, CA back from Alaska and hunting and fishing now. Hildas museum is ready for visitors. New phone number 916-934-2000

FROM THE MATRIX

NEW PHYLUM: CONODONTA

Submitted by Franklin E. Hadley Indianapolis, Indiana

As their name (cone tooth) implies, conodonts are tiny tooth shaped structures of phosphatic composition. Conodonts range in size from microscopic dimensions to about 3 mm in length and are restricted to the Paleozoic era. This means the animal producing conodonts emerged in the Cambrian, 580 million years ago and continued to evolve till the end of the Permian, 200 million years ago, when it ceased to live on this earth.

Conodonts represent many species of many genera. They are found in clays or shales particularly at the top or bottom of sedimentary rock members. Black fissil shales are also a source as are dirty thin bedded limestones. Conodonts are found singly and as so-called assemblages—articulated elements joined together in definite and invariant patterns, suggesting that they represent structures for food gathering and mastication.

Conodonts are among the most important of fossils. They are found in abundance and evolved quickly thus enhancing their value in correlating strata. Yet no one has known what kind of animal produced these interesting and important fossils. At least, not until recently.

Stephen Jay Gould who teaches biology, geology, and the history of science at Harvard University reports the illusive animal has now been found, and tells about it in the July, 1983, issue of NATURAL HISTORY magazine published by American Museum of Natural History.

Euan N. K. Clarkson was rummaging through some rock material of Carboniferous age (340 million years old) in a museum in Scotland when he noticed the impression of a worm shaped creature with conodonts at the front end right where the mouth should be. The material was collected in the 1920's by D. Tait from the so-called shrimp

band within the Granton Sand stones found east of Edinburgh. The Granton Sandstones are a sequence of lake and lagoonal sediments deposited in fresh or slightly salty water. This lagoon was occasionally flooded by the sea, and the shrimp band represents one invasion. Soft bodied animals were preserved after death because of lack of oxygen. This is evidenced by the continuous, fine layered sedimentations indicating no creatures burrowed through the bottom muck. The basin was also stagnant indicated by the lack of ripple marks. Thus the fragile soft bodied creatures were buried whole and undisturbed.

The conodont animal as shown by its fossilized remains was worm like in appearance, some 40.5mm long (approx. 1½ in.) and no more than 2mm wide. Its head end is cleft with two broad lobes surrounding a central depression. Just behind the head, conodonts are affixed along one edge in a sensible position for the mouth. Clarkson included this creature in genus CLYDAGNATHUS, established in 1969 on the basis of the conodont assemblages alone. He and his colleagues established a new phylum CONODONTA for this unique animal.

A few faint lines run along the interior of the animal parallel to its sides. Whether these represent a gut, nerve tube or the chordate notochord is not known. About two-thirds of the way back and extending nearly to the posterior end, is found a sequence of repeated segments, 33 in number, sloping at an angle to the middle of the body. One edge of the posterior end has a series of projections interpreted as fin rays.

That is all that is known.

At least it confirms what has been assumed for years: conodonts represent the only hard parts of a soft bodied creature.

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FROM THE MATRIX, Continued

MORE ABOUT CONODONTS

SUBMITTED BY Jim Garrison Kansas City, Kansas

Of potential interest to all MAPS members should be the monthly column written by Stephen Jay Gould. Dr. Gould is a distinguished paleontologist/evolutionary biologist from Harvard who publishes an outstanding column in the magazine NATURAL HISTORY. . . The july column, titled "This View of Life", concerned the large number

of highly unusual organisms (at the level of Order and higher) found during the Paleozoic which have since become extinct. The animals displayed unusual, often bizarre, body forms during a time period when all body plans were being 'tested' (so to speak) evolutionarily. Most of these unusual forms never became very abundant or long-ranging over geologic time and are thus not well known. An exception to this generality is found among the long-ranging conodonts. Superb guide fossils which are well recognized and described (at least as far as the hard parts). These creatures have been extensively studied for the past century, and yet their biological affinities remain in doubt since their soft parts are not fossilized and their hard parts, curious spine-like structures, tell nothing about the animal which bore them. Much of this taxonomic confusion may soon change. Dr. Gould notes that recent museum research has uncovered the soft-bodied remains of the conodont animal Clydagnathus which had been collected several years previous. Although this find will undoubtedly raise new questions about what a conodont is or is not, we are getting closer to being able to properly classify this unique organism. An excellent color photograph of the specimen demonstrates that the animal was small and worm-like, with what are interpreted as fins, chevron-shaped muscle bards and perhaps even a nerve chord, notochord or gut. The conodont elements that we are familiar with are found in the anterior region of the animal just behind a bilobed head structure. Although nothing living today fits this description, there are 2 groups which are prime candidates for consideration. This includes the chaetograths, also known as arrowworms, which are a group of planktonic, marine organisms that make up a small phylum which today is mainly restricted to the tropics. The other possibility to be considered is that the conodonts were members of, or close relatives to the chordates. Although my impression from the specimen illustrated in the article was that the animal was an almost unmistakable chaetograths and chordates are both members of a larger group known as the deuterstomes (a grouping based upon embryological similarities). There is strong liklihood that the conodont animal also belonged to this group (even if not strictly a chaetograth or chordate).

Regardless whether you agree or disagree with Dr. Gould's views, his columns are always interesting and informative, often with a distinct paleontological and/or evolutionary biological approach. I would urge you all to become acquainted with this excellent monthly column.

CORNER -- H. L. Strimple -- Copyright, 1984 THE PROFESSIONAL'S

I recently noted in the Digest (Summer, 1983, page 9) that the conodont animal had been found. The published description of the conodont animal has now appeared; Briggs, Clarkson and Aldridge, 1983, The Conodont Animal, Lethaia, vol. 16, no. 1, p. 1-14, fig. 1-6. It is an "eellike" creature 40.5 mm long and mostly less than 1.8 mm wide. There are no skeletonized structures other than the conodont elements which are near the anterior end (mouth). Conodont elements from a recognizable conodont apparatus and the animal is referred to the Phylum Conodonta as the species Clydagnathus?cf. cavusformis Rhodes, Austin and Druce, (the question mark indicates some hesitation in assignment to the genus and cf. means "most like" cavusformis). Conodont elements never show wear which would be expected if they were teeth and it is postulated they might represent supports for tentacles.

The matrix is thought to have been collected in the early 1900's and is from the shrimp-band in the Granton Sandstone, Lower Oil Shale Group, Calciferous Sandstone Measures, Lower Carboni= ferous (Mississippian) at Granton, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Conodont elements are phosphatic microcrinoids first discovered by Pander in 1856 (hence the large informal Pander Society of modern times). Conodonts are widely distributed throughout the Paleozoic and because of their phosphatic composition are easily recovered by disolving calciferous matrix in weak acid solutions. They are excellent biostratigraphic "markers" and have received considerable attention for the past half century or so. The late A. K. Miller, who was primarily a cephalopod specialist, incorporated them into research study at The University of Iowa where many conodont specialists of today learned the "conodont business", and they continue to be developed at Iowa.

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THE PROFESSIONAL'S CORNER, CONTINUED -- Dr. Merrill Foster

IN PURSUIT OF THE ICY BRACHIOPOD Research Cruises

Bradley University Geology Department Peoria, Illinois 61614

My research vessel was the U.S.N.S. "Eltanin:. The "Eltanin: was a small tanker that had been refitted for scientific research in the ice-filled polar seas. In refitting this boat, they had strengthened the hull, put in machinery for raising and lowering devices into the ocean, and added various sophisticated electronic gear for satellite navigation and bottom determinations. For some reason the government also built a large platform for helicopters on it at one end at great expense. This platform was never used because helicopter operations proved too expensive and unimportant. So this monstrosity just took up space that could have been much better used for some other purpose. On the bright side, the deck did serve as a nice platform for viewing and photographing sea birds such as the albatross on otherwise boring sunny days in the open sea. The "Eltanin", to my knowledge, is the only U.S. research boat to ever make relatively comprehensive oceanographic studies of one region over an extended period of time. The Russians do this regularly! Unfortunately this boat's activities were influenced over much by what types of scientific parties were on board. They were also unusually restrictive in who could go on the boat. As a result, on some cruises, many important studies such as those on bottom animals were neglected. Finally, before it had even finished three-quarters of its studies circumscribing Antarctica, the U.S. government loaned the boat to Argentina. We now have the "Eltanin" back, but it seems doubtful that it will ever go back into service again. It grieves me that the government made so little of what was a golden opportunity to advance all sorts of scientific areas of re search.

The "Eltanin" was staffed by the U.S. Military Transport Service. They rotated the captain regularly which greatly hampered operations on some into and operating in ice-filled areas. Since cruises if the new captain lacked polar experience. For example, on my second cruise we had a captain whose experience consisted of warm water areas such as the U.S. to Saigon run. He had apparently never seen ice before. As a re-

sult, he would undergo nervous shock whenever we got in or around ice and would avoid going these areas make up most of the sea around Antarctica, his behaviour really hampered our dredging operations. I must admit that I did have a bit of sympathy for his attitude. On my first Antarctic cruise, the sound of ice scraping against the ship's hull a few inches (continued page 9)

NATIONAL FOSSIL EXPOSITION VI -- 1984

LOCATION AND TIME EXPO VI will be held at the Student Union, in the Grand Ballroom, on the campus of Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois. The simplest way to the site is to turn off IL 67 west on University Drive, then south to the Union. Set-up is permitted on Friday, April 13, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

EXPO HOURS: Friday 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION There are 2 highways leading into Macomb -- IL 136, an east-west route, and IL 67, a north-south route.

There is no plane service going to Macomb at this time, but we will provide free transportation from Moline, Illinois, Airport if you will make ADVANCE arrangements with Mrs. Gerry Norris, 2623 - 34th Ave. Ct., Rock Island, IL 61201, 309-786-6505. Other cities close by include Galesburg, Illinois for Amtrak, Peoria, Illinois, and Burlington, Iowa.

LODGING Persons traveling in self-contained camping units may park on the parking lot. See Public Safety in the Union. Designated parking across the street from the Union will be given.

There are four motels nearby. Macomb area code -- 309 Macomb zip -- 61455

Star Motel -- 1507 E. Jackson Rd. - 837-4817 Time Out Motel -- 311 University Dr. - 837-4838 \$18.90 & IL67 North Single 2 (one bed) 23.10 Single \$22.00 2 (two beds) 26.25 2 (one bed) 25.00 2 (two beds) 3 (three beds) 29.40 26.00 Prices are tax included 3 (three beds) 34.00 4 (four beds) 37.00 Prices plus 5% tax

The above two motels are under the same ownership. If the one you contact is full, they can reserve a room for you in the other.

Holiday Inn -- 1400 N. Lafayette --833-5511 or 1-800-HOLIDAY Single \$35.50 3 people \$47.50 Double 42.50 4 people 52.50

Prices plus 5% tax. May be some variance in price by April, 1984.

Travel Lodge -- 1414 West Jackson -- 833-4521 or 1-800-255-3050
Single \$29.50 3 (three beds) \$38.00
2 (one bed) 32.00 4 (four beds) 40.00
2 (two beds) 36.00
Prices plus 5% tax. These are special prices for MAPS. Please identify with MAPS.

Union

-- A few rooms paid in advance must be rented for both Friday and Saturday
Prices below are for two days -- please include 5% tax plus room price.
Single \$48.00 3 people \$74.00
2 people 66.00 4 people 84.00
Union rooms will be spoken for very early. You may wish to be on standby.
Contact Bob Durnal, Box 536, Reynolds, IL 61279--phone 309-372-8237

DON'T FORGET -- IDENTIFY WITH MAPS. Not all motels give special rates, but take advantage if it is offered.

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PARKING For those living in the Union, parking will be east of the Union with room permits. For others get visitor permits from Public Safety. Parking in specified lots. After 5:00 p.m. Friday ample parking will be available. Patience until 5:00 p.m.

MEALS Meals are available in the Union. Fast food stands in the lower level and don't forget the excellent ice cream stand. There are restaurants in town and at least one grocery with a deli bar and chairs.

BANQUET

Saturday night at 6:00 p.m. we will have a sit down roast beef banquet. New this year is the price, \$10.00, which MUST be paid in full two weeks in advance. The price includes tax and gratuity. It's a good dinner, a chance to have some relaxed conversation with people we see only once a year, and an opportunity to say thanks to Western University for providing excellent facilities to meet old friends and exchange those gorgeous treasures from Ancient seas. That's what Ernie says and he's right!

EXPO REGULATIONS

Everyone is requested to make advanced registration by MARCH 25, 1984.

Mark your calendars now! Send the registration form found in the Digest with your table, banquet fees, and Union housing reservations to: Bob Durnal, Box 536, Reynolds, IL 61279 Phone 309-372-8237.

ALL TABLES WILL BE ASSIGNED. If you want a table next to someone, SAY SO WHEN YOU SEND YOUR MONEY. Cost of tables is \$8.00 each for a 6' table for the weekend. Half tables may be rented for \$5.00.

DISPLAYS

We encourage displays. What a special addition they make for EXPO!

Tables will be provided at no charge—no limit. Each person is responsible for his/her lights, extension cords, prong adapters, table covers. If you need a chair near your display indicate this on the registration form. Please give approximate dimensions of table space needed for your display. EXPO is special because of displays.

ALL RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED

THE COMMITTEE INSISTS THAT ALL MATERIALS BE FOSSIL OR FOSSIL RELATED. Mountings, gemstones, minerals, Indian relics, etc., are not permitted.

OTHER ACTIVITIES There will be a social hour from 9:00 - 10:00 p.m. Friday after the show closes. This will be outside the Grand Ballroom in the lounge area. Come say "hello", and have some punch and cookies.

There will be a special slide program review from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Saturday.

Everyone is requested to provide at least one nice specimen for the live auction. The specimen, with full data and name of fossil doner, can be left at the information desk up until 3:00 p.m. Saturday.

If you wish to mail your specimen, send it to Paul Rechten, 7405 Shields, Harvard, IL 60035. We will send a postal acknowledgement on receipt of the mailed specimen.

The Banquet will be held at 6:00 p.m., Saturday night, and will be followed by a short business meeting and then the "Live Auction". The "Live Auction" is one of the highlights of EXPO. Come one! Come all!

THE ICY BRACHIOPOD -- from my bunk made me a bit uneasy as I realized that if the boat sunk due to ice, I wouldn't live more than a few minutes in the subzero water.

Elevator -- Friday: 9-10, 10-11, 11-12, 12-1, 1-2, 2-3.

Sunday: 11-12, 12-1, 1-2.

Make EXPO signs for highway exits to Union.

Thanks and see you at EXPO!!

I made two different cruises on the "Eltanin" to the seas between New Zealand and Australia, and Antarctica. Off Antarctica, most of my direct study was in the Ross Sea. Each of the cruises took place in the Antarctic Summer (December to March) and lasted approximately three and one half months.

Continued in February.

The Mid-America Paleontology Society (MAPS) was formed to promote popular interest in the subject of paleontology, to encourage the proper collecting, study, preparation, and display of fossil material; and to assist other individuals, groups and institutions interested in the various aspects of paleontology. It is a non-profit society incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa.

Membership in MAPS is open to anyone, anywhere who is sincerely interested in fossils and the aims of the Society.

Membership fee: January 1 through December 31 is \$7.00 per household.

MAPS meetings are held on the 1st Saturday of each month (2nd Saturday if inclement weather). September, October, May, June and July meetings are scheduled field trips. The August meeting is in conjunction with the Bedford, Indiana Swap. November through April meetings are scheduled for 2 p.m. in the Science Building, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. One annual Internation Fossil Exposition is held in the Spring.

MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 9 months of the year--October through June.

President: Peggy Wallace, 590 So. Grandview, Dubuque, IA 52001 1st Vice President: Marvin Houg, 3330 44th St. N.E., Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

2nd Vice President: Don Good, 410 N.W. 3rd Street, Aledo, IL 61231

Secretary: Mary Wells 2033 Lillie Avenue, Davenport, IA 52804 Treasurer: Allyn Adams, 612 W. 51st Street, Davenport, IA 52806



FIRST CLASS MAIL

MID-AMERICA PALEONTOLOGY SOCIETY

Mrs. Madelynne M. Lillybeck MAPS DIGEST Editor 1039 - 33rd St. Ct. Moline, IL 61265

Dated Material - Meeting Notice