

COLLECTIONS OF MEXICAN FOSSILS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

THE Museum of Paleontology of the University of Michigan has been the recipient of a valuable collection of slides of fossil foraminifera prepared and presented by Mr. R. Wright Barker, paleontologist of the *Compañía Mexicana de Petróleo "El Aguila,"* S. A., Tampico, Mexico. The collection contains 72 species, represented by several hundred specimens, from the Upper Cretaceous and Tertiary formations of the Tampico region, Mexico. For several years Mr. Barker has been engaged in studying the micro-faunas of the geologic formations in eastern Mexico, and recently he published a chart showing the stratigraphic range of 231 of the more characteristic foraminifera in the Tampico Embayment. The collection which he now presents to the University of Michigan contains the species on which the chart is in part based. It is the first installment of a complete set to be deposited at the university to assure the preservation of valuable material which might eventually become lost or unavailable to science. This unique gift has been accepted by the regents of the university and will be known as "The Barker Collection."

In July, 1936, Mr. John Muir, of Fort Worth, Texas, deposited his collection of core samples, well cuttings, outcrop samples and fossils from eastern Mexico in the Museum of Paleontology at Ann Arbor. This material was used by Mr. Muir in the preparation of his book, "Geology of the Tampico Region, Mexico," and is therefore, in a sense, considered as type material.

A large number of marine invertebrate fossils, collected in 1925 in northern Mexico by geologists of the East Coast Oil Company under the direction of Professor Charles Lawrence Baker, were turned over to the University of Michigan in 1928. They have been the basis for paleontological studies recently published by Dr. R. W. Imlay and supported by the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies.

Because of the intensive regional geologic studies which have been carried out in Mexico during the past eight years under the auspices of the university, and the large collections of fossils which the expeditions have brought to the Museum of Paleontology, this museum is regarded as a logical center and depository for research material on which stratigraphic and paleontologic studies of Mexico are based.

LEWIS B. KELLUM

EXPEDITIONS OF THE FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

A REPORT of the expeditionary work of the Field Museum of Natural History during 1937 has been

made public by Dr. Clifford C. Gregg, director of the Museum.

The Archeological Expedition to the Southwest, under the leadership of Dr. Paul S. Martin, chief curator of anthropology, has been charting and excavating prehistoric Indian sites in southwestern Colorado, not far from Mesa Verde National Park. A large collection of artifacts has been obtained, and the research conducted has yielded information which throws new light on the little-known history of the early aboriginals of the region.

The Botanical Expedition to Southeastern Mexico, led by Llewelyn Williams, curator of economic botany, recently completed its work in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and parts of the states of Oaxaca and Veracruz. About 600 specimens of woods, 8,000 herbarium specimens, a large amount of palm material and several hundred photographs were obtained.

Dr. Julian Steyermark, assistant curator of the herbarium, spent the summer in making a collection and study of the flora of Missouri.

Professor A. C. Noé, of the University of Chicago, research associate in paleobotany, spent the summer in a study of the flora of Panama, working at the Barro Colorado Island Biological Station in the Canal Zone.

J. Francis Macbride, associate curator of the herbarium, continued his work, begun in 1929, of making photographs of type specimens of plants in European herbaria.

Bryan Patterson, assistant curator of paleontology, led the Paleontological Expedition to Colorado, obtaining a collection of important fossil mammals. He was assisted by James H. Quinn. Elmer S. Riggs, curator of paleontology, joined the party for a few weeks.

An extensive collection of rock specimens, illustrating various phenomena relating to the structure of the earth, was obtained by Sharat K. Roy, curator of geology, on an expedition in mountainous regions of Colorado.

Dr. Wilfred H. Osgood, chief curator of zoology, spent several months in French Indo-China, during which he collected some 500 mammal, bird and reptile specimens, including material for several habitat groups.

A Zoological Expedition to South America, which left in January, under the leadership of Emmet R. Blake, assistant curator of birds, is still in the field. Material for a habitat group of the rare and unusually interesting bird known as hoactzin has been obtained, as well as a large general collection of birds, mammals, reptiles and other kinds of animals of British Guiana and Brazil.

C. J. Albrecht, staff taxidermist, conducted an ex-