

The top surface of the bench would, under these conditions, represent the surface of the sand plain lowered to its present position by the subsurface flowage of the underlying clay bed. Any evidence of the clay bulge in the river channel could long since have been ruined by the river.

The fact that slides of this type have occurred in the past in the valley of the Bouquet River was substantiated by a talk with Dr. Stafford, a physician at Essex, who said that a similar one had occurred near Whallonsburg about seventy-five or eighty years ago.

It is therefore suggested that people working in regions of unconsolidated sediments where the same type of subsurface conditions exist, give careful consideration to this alternative before they described occasional benches as river terraces.

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HATCHING OF THE EGGS OF THE "FAIRY SHRIMP"

BECAUSE of their occurrence always in temporary pools which are dry during the summer months the belief has arisen that the eggs of the "fairy shrimp" *Eubbranchipus vernalis* will hatch only after a more or less prolonged period of desiccation and possibly only after they have been frozen. To my knowledge there is for any of the American species of this genus no record of their hatching having been observed under laboratory conditions. Although others have recorded the hatching of the eggs of related European forms without their having been dried,¹ it is of some interest to record the hatching of *Eubbranchipus* eggs under laboratory conditions which have precluded the possibility of drying or freezing, even if the instance was entirely accidental and only one specimen was observed which attained a size which made it clearly recognizable as this form.

In March, 1937, mature *Eubbranchipus*, the females bearing eggs, were placed in an aquarium used for the "conditioning" of tap water for use in other cultures. About three fourths of the water had been withdrawn from this aquarium at intervals of approximately two weeks for use in other cultures. These animals died within ten days, releasing eggs before or at the time of death. In late January of this year a single specimen fully a centimeter in length was discovered in this aquarium. It was observed daily over a period of about three weeks until it died, no apparent growth having taken place in that interval. It is not surprising that more individuals were not found, if more were hatched, as no care is taken in siphoning off water to see that small swimming forms are not removed. It is rather surprising that this individual remained and found sufficient food for growth to the size observed. The development of this form is known to be through a nauplius stage,² and to attain the size and degree of development observed hatching must have taken place a number of weeks previously, near to the time believed to occur for individuals in nature in this latitude.

Factors which induce the hatching of Phyllopod "resting" eggs are obscure. It is known for some Cladocera³ that changing the culture medium sometimes induces resting eggs to hatch without the expected period of dormancy found in nature. It may be that the periodic changing of water was of importance in this instance. There is no evidence in this case of any factor which might induce hatching prior to the normal resting period of some eight months that occurs in nature. It seems clear, however, that drying or freezing are not indispensable factors, as the possibility of either is precluded in this instance.

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SOCIETIES AND MEETINGS

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ANATOMISTS 1888-1938

ON the 17th of September, 1888, in response to the invitation of Dr. Alex. H. P. Leuf, of Brooklyn, who had lately moved to Philadelphia, fourteen gentlemen attending the Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons in Washington, met at Georgetown University and organized the American Association of Anatomists. "Eminent professors declared that this new society was not needed; while others were convinced that it would be a difficult matter to fill the necessary offices." Fifty years have passed; and on April 14 to

¹ Mathias, *Bull. Soc. Zool. France*, 54: 342-344, 1929.

16, the association, now the largest of the national anatomical societies, with a membership exceeding 600, celebrated its jubilee, at the University of Pittsburgh.

At the opening session, the large auditorium of the Mellon Institute was filled to capacity as six former presidents reported their current investigations, indicating something of the range of interests now comprised under "anatomy." First, Dr. Harrison, experimenting on *Amblystoma*, analyzed four factors concerned in the normal development of the ear—epidermis, mesoderm, hind-brain and position of the rudiment—assigning to each its relative importance.

² Dawydoff, "Embryologie des Invertebres," 1928.

³ Wood and Banta, *Intern. Rev. d. gesamten Hydrobiologie und Hydrographie*, 35: 229-242, 1937.