

definitely too luminous and not sufficiently dense to be considered true white dwarfs.⁶

DEAN B. McLAUGHLIN

THE OBSERVATORY, UNIVERSITY OF
MICHIGAN

SOUTHERNMOST GLACIATED PEAK IN THE UNITED STATES

SAN GORGONIO PEAK¹ (elevation 11,485 feet, Latitude 34° 6' N.) in southern California has been considered the southernmost glaciated peak in the United States.² It is not generally known that a more southerly glaciation occurred on Cerro Blanco (elevation 12,003, Latitude c. 33° 23' N.) in northern Otero County, New Mexico. Although Stone³ was unsuccessful in seeking evidences of glaciation in the Sierra Blanca range, Ellis⁴ later reported finding a cirque and hummocky morainic deposits on Cerro Blanco, highest peak in the range, and Antevs⁵ independently suggested the probability of glaciation on the basis of observations made with field glasses some distance from the peak.

Since the southern limit of glaciation has important climatic, geomorphic and ecological implications, the writers undertook to ascertain the status of glaciation on Cerro Blanco, and, in August, 1940, ascended the peak from both the southeastern and northeastern sides. A single well-developed cirque was found on the peak and occurs on the northeastern side. From the cirque a steeply sloping glaciated valley more than half a mile in length leads down toward the north fork of Rio Ruidoso. Well-defined moraines are present, and there is a pro-talus rampart within the cirque. These facts establish Cerro Blanco as the southern limit of mountain glaciation in the United States.

All the glacial features are fresh and essentially unmodified save by frost weathering, thus indicating Wisconsin age for the glaciation. The complexity of the Wisconsin Stage of glaciation, already reported for the Southern Rocky Mountains,⁶ is indicated also by the glacial deposits on Cerro Blanco.

H. T. U. SMITH

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

L. L. RAY

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE

⁶ Cf. Humason, *Astrophysical Journal*, 88: 228, 1938.

¹ H. W. Fairbanks and E. P. Carey, *SCIENCE*, 31: 32-33, 1910.

² N. M. Fenneman, "Physiography of Western United States," New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., pp. 498-499, 1931.

³ G. H. Stone, *SCIENCE*, 14: 798, 1901.

⁴ R. W. Ellis, *New Mex. Univ. Bull.*, Geol. ser., 5: 1, 24-25, 1935.

⁵ E. Antevs, *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia*, 87: 306-307, 1935.

⁶ L. L. Ray, *Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer.*, 51: 1851-1918, 1940.

A SUGGESTION FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SCIENTIFIC ILLUSTRATIONS

DURING the past year various technical publications have announced their inability to retain the blocks, electroplates, etc., used in illustrating their papers (in the case of two entomological journals this year). For the most part, these blocks were to be destroyed, not because of lost value but because the society sponsoring the publication was unable to afford the space necessary for storage of this material.

It has been my fortune to sort through the accumulated illustrations of one of these journals, and most of the material seen would be very difficult to duplicate; some of it could not be duplicated at all. A great many of these plates and blocks would be used again were they available to authors throughout the country. A number of the illustrations are not available in print; I had tried fruitlessly to secure an old copy of a certain paper for several months and had decided that there was no available copy to be had. When I sorted these blocks I discovered the perfect, original electroplates of this paper. It would certainly cost but little to have several copies of these plates printed. So there exists, I believe, a sound reason why these plates should be kept, even if the authors do not claim them.

It would be much to the credit of the country to preserve this expensive and valuable material rather than permit it to be melted for scrap. It is not impossible to collect all the valuable accumulated plates in some central library and make them available, on loan, to authors or to people who wish to reproduce them for study, etc. Could not the Library of Congress or some other responsible institution be persuaded to keep these plates resulting from the nation's private research?

ALBRO TILTON GAUL

401 WASHINGTON AVE.,
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

CATALOGUES OF CURRENT SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

IN his recent article, on "The Distribution of the Periodical Literature of Science,"¹ Dr. Atherton Seidell suggests, as a plan to acquaint research workers with the current literature, "the publication of current classified catalogues of the titles of papers appearing in scientific periodicals." For entomological literature, such a plan has been in operation in *Entomological News* (published by the American Entomological Society, at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia) since 1890 with few interruptions. The

¹ *SCIENCE*, 93: 2402, 38-39, January 10, 1941.