The field relationships suggest that the "gastroliths" were originally stream or pediment gravels and that the high polish was superimposed by the action of wind-blown dust upon surfaces already smoothed and rounded by other agencies. It should be noted that the Morrison shales are highly bentonitic and must have contained a high proportion of sharp, volcanic, glass shards which would have been very potent abrasives at the time of deposition. The stones probably accumulated by deflation in the same manner as modern "desert armor" and the bright coloration may be due to prolonged exposure to weathering. The lack of faceting, case hardening and pitting is by no means a fatal objection as these seem to result from local and specialized conditions and do not always accompany wind erosion.

Until a connection between the dinosaurs and these highly polished stones is proved it seems advisable to abandon the term "gastroliths" in favor of some non-committal designation. The term "Morrison stones" may be used in a sense analogous to the "Gobi stones" of the Asiatic Irdin Manha formation, the two occurrences being in many ways similar.

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THE SMYRNA FIG IN CALIFORNIA

IN SCIENCE (94: 339), it is stated that Dr. Gustav Eisen introduced the Smyrna fig into California. This is an error. Cuttings from Smyrna were brought into California at the instance of G. P. Rixford, in 1880, and also in much earlier years, perhaps in the 1850's, by other persons of whom there is no record. None of these trees matured fruit, which led Dr. Eisen to believe the failure was due to lack of pollination (caprification), a surmise confirmed by an experiment in artificial pollination first made by George C. Roeding at Fresno in 1890. Pollen from a caprifig tree was inserted with a goose quill in young figs of a Smyrna tree. The figs matured and became fully ripe. Eisen himself, in 1895, carried pollen from caprifigs, in a sealed glass container, to Smyrna fig trees two hundred miles distant in the upper San Joaquin Valley in Kern County and pollinated young figs. This experiment proved completely the need of caprification. In the course of time Eisen and his former associate, Mr. Roeding, interested the United States Department of Agriculture in the problem and through the department's agents a colony of the blastophaga wasp was sent from Algiers to California in 1898. The introduction of the wasp proved successful and the growing of Smyrna figs was soon established on a commercial basis. Blastophagae had been previously introduced by fig growers but apparently were a failure.

Eisen's monograph on the biology of the fig[1] may be considered classical and is still consulted by students and by horticulturists.

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AEDES AEGYPTI LINNAEUS, THE YELLOW FEVER MOSQUITO, IN CENTRAL MISSOURI

LATE in September mosquito larvae were found in a small aquarium in the office of the State Health Commissioner. These were taken to the Laboratory of the State Department of Health where, on October 4, 1941, an adult emerged that proved to be of this species.

This location, Jefferson City, is near the center of the state, about 38.6 degrees north latitude, and probably is the "fartherest north" for the species in Missouri.

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QUOTATIONS

THE WORK OF THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION IN BRAZIL

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of the beginning of the work of the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation in Brazil has been enthusiastically commemorated. Besides articles in newspapers and in medical magazines, some medical associations have held special meetings to honor that humanitarian institution. The most brilliant of these meetings was one promoted by the oldest medical association of Brazil, the National Academy of Medicine. Under the chairmanship of Professor Aloysio de Castro of the University of Rio de Janeiro Medical School the academy held a crowded meeting to honor the Rockefeller Foundation in the person of Dr. Fred L. Soper, its representative in Brazil. The principal speaker was Dr. Afranio Peixoto, professor of hygiene at the university, who reviewed the most salient facts in the services rendered by the foundation especially in the fields of medical education, public health nursing, instruction of sanitarians and the investigation and control of yellow fever, malaria and hookworm disease. Two medical commissions were sent to Brazil early in 1916, the first under Major

[1] Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences, ser. 2, 5: 897–1003, 1896.