Lamont Natural Radiocarbon Measurements, II¹

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THE INTEREST IN NATURAL RADIO-CARBON MEASUREMENTS has been constantly increasing, particularly among those formally concerned with historical science. This is evidenced in part by the growing number of significant samples that are being submitted for analysis. As each paper containing radiocarbon measurements (1-3) is published, new fields of application have been demonstrated and confirmatory evidence for the validity of the age method has been amassed. Although a few anomalous results remain unresolved, the agreement among the different laboratories, the self-consistency of the data, and the correlation of the ages measured with external checks provided by geology and archaeology assure the general applicability of the method. The measurements that do not seem in accord with other information are the most interesting to the experimentalist in this field and are the subject of intensive study.

The measurements presented below were made between November 1, 1951, and August 1, 1952. The techniques used are described elsewhere (4, 5). An advance in technique (5) permits dating back to 30,000 years—an extension of 5000 years over the period determinable with the techniques available when the first list of dates from this laboratory (3) was published. The dates given are based on the half-life of carbon 14 of 5568 ± 30 years (6). The error listed in years is calculated from the standard deviation of the counting data. Actually this error is not symmetrical, but since it is only used as an index of precision the procedure is adequate.

Table 1 shows the results of some samples of archaeological interest. The 122 Series from Peru was chosen to compare the age of shell and organic material. Although at a few other localities (e.g., Libby's

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Annis Mound samples 116 and 251 [1]) there is substantial agreement in the ages derived from these two types of material, at this locality the shells give ages that are too old. The shell sample from the 123 Series shows the same anomaly. Several possible explanations come to mind. If shells were used as ornaments, they could be older shells that had been reworked on local

TABLE 1
Archaeological and Paleontological Samples

Sample No.	Description	Age (yr)
L-126F*	Charcoal from hearth in Piney Creek alluvium NW¼NW¼ see 25, T 25, R 68 W, Denver area, Colo. Estimated age, 500-1000 yr. Submitted by C. B. Hunt.	1150 ± 150
L-133A	Charcoal from prehistoric site at Oued Djebbana, south of Tebessa, Algeria. This locality is near the Aterian site of Bu-el-ater. The sample was believed to be of Aterian (i.e., pre-Capsian) age. Comment: evidently not pre-Capsian.	3700 ± 200
L-133B	Charcoal from the basal portion of the deposits at Dra-Mta-el Ma el-Abiod, which on typological grounds is assigned to the Upper Capsian culture. 133A and 133B submitted by L. Balout, University of Algiers.	7000 ± 20 0
L-134	Charcoal from large shell heap of El Mekta, near Gafsa in Southern Tunisia. This is a site of the Upper Capsian culture. The Capsian is estimated to be not older than $10,000 \pm 1000$ yr. Submitted by E. Gobert, Department of Antiquities of Tunisia.	8400 ± 400
L-135	Charcoal from the site of Met- laoui in Southern Tunisia. Locality also known as the Gisement or Abri des Jaatcha. Metlaoui is a very typical site of the so-called Neolithic of Capsian tradition, a wide- spread post-mesolithic devel- opment in North Africa. Esti- mated age: probably not older than 4500 ± 500 yr. Submitted by R. Vaufrey, Institut de Paleontologie Humaine.	5000 ± 150

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from 1.75 to 4.0 m, Early Guañape, the first period in

which ceramics were utilized

in this section of Peru. As

the arbitrary excavation levels did not coincide with the

strata, some preceramic de-

bris was included with the

material removed above the

4-m level; hence, the age of

122G may apply to the upper portion of the preceramic

horizon. Because of the thick-

ness of the Early Guañape

deposit and the sufficiency of

materials therefrom, an arbitrary split, roughly in the

middle, has been made in the

Early Guañape materials at

2.75 m below the surface. In

the Middle Guañape samples, no materials from the surface

to a depth of 0.25 m have

been included in order to pre-

vent possible surface contam-

ination. Collected and sub-

mitted by W. D. Strong.

	TABLE I—(Continued)		_	TABLE 1—(Continued)	
Sample No.	Description	Age (yr)	Sample No.	Description	Age (yr)
L-126C	Wood from fallen roof of cist inside early Pueblo rock shelter. The locality is on the W side of the Colorado River,		L-122A	Charcoal from 0.25-1.75 m (Middle Guañape).	$3050 \pm 200 3200 \pm 100 Av 3150 \pm 90$
	about 2 mi above the Moab Bridge. The cist is about 50' above the river and 150' S of the witness corner for the		L-122B	Shell from 0.25-1.75 m (Middle Guañape).	$5650 \pm 200 \\ 6000 \pm 400 \\ \text{Av } 5750 \pm 180$
	quarter corner between sec 25 and 26, T 25 S, R 21 E. Dated		L-122C	Charcoal from 1.75-225 m (Upper Early Guañape).	3100 ± 200
	with pottery as Pueblo II- III, i.e., 1050-650 yr ago.	ı	L-122D	Shell from 1.75-2.25 m (Upper Early Guañape).	4300 ± 200
L-129	Submitted by C. B. Hunt. Stomach contents of large moa		L-122F	Charcoal from 2.75-4.0 m (Lower Early Guañape).	3800 ± 150
	(Dinornis), Pyramid Valley Swamp, North Canterbury,	_	L-122G	Shell from 2.75-4.0 m.	5300 ± 200
	New Zealand. Approx 5' below present surface. Submitted by H. Shapiro.			Comment: The charcoal dates fit the calendar for the region established by other C14 dates	ւ ፤
L-130A	Pine cones from a thermal spring at Ciego Montero, Cuba, associated with extinct mammal forms including Edentes turtles, sloths, and rodents. Pine trees now unknown in this part of Cuba but may have been present at last Wisconsin maximum. Submitted by Ernest Williams via E. H. Colbert.	30,000	123 Series	(1, 2) and are self-consistent. Samples taken from midden formed against Temple of the Sun, Pachacamac, Peru excavated by W. D. Strong in 1941. The material is associated solely with Inca and Inca - contemporary pottery types, and must date from the period of Inca control. Known age, 444 ± 25 yr. (Per-	
L-130B	Wood from same spring as 130A but suspected younger.	$25,000 \pm 2000$		sonal communication from John Rowe via J. B. Bird.)	
122 Series	Guañape Culture materials from Strata Cut 1 at Site V-71,		L-123A	Marine shells, mainly Con- cholepa, with some Mytilus.	3800 ± 200
	Huaca Negra, Virú Valley,		L-123B	Rope and matting, largely sedge and cattail.	800 ± 100 900 ± 150
	Peru. In the cultural stratig- raphy of Strata Cut 1, the levels from the surface of the		L-123C	Mammalian remains. Fur and llama skin.	450 ± 150 500 ± 120
	site to a depth of 1.75 m have been shown to be Middle Guañape, more commonly known as the Cupisnique or Coastal Chavin culture; those		it has been their samp	er to avoid future ambiguity in c agreed among the carbon 14 labora le numbers with a letter indicating olved. Thus C = Chicago, L = Lamona tc.	atories to prefix which institu-

Y = Yale, etc.

beaches. That this hypothesis is unsatisfactory in the Virú Valley and at Pachacamac was pointed out by J. B. Bird, because it seems certain that the animals in these shells were used for food. In fact, some shells were stained with an organic dye secreted by the living organism when dislodged from its habitat. Another explanation might be that ancient carbon from a fresh or brackish water environment was utilized by the organism, but this does not apply here because the shells selected were all marine species. Carbonate exchange with ancient carbon in ground water derived from limestone strata is also a possibility, but can be ruled out in this case because the samples were found in dry deposits.

Several other factors must be considered before a satisfactory hypothesis can be constructed: (1) The same anomaly occurs off the Aleutian coast (Table 2-C, Samples L-112 D, E, and F), the California coast (Table 2-C, Sample L-144 D), and from one deposit in Japan (E. S. Deevey, personal communication). (2) Modern shells on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts seem to give proper values, although there are only a few measurements. (3) Deep ocean water seems to circulate very slowly (Table 3) and may have the radiocarbon content reduced by an age equivalent of several thousand years.

	the standard has an age	-	No.	Doscription	Bo (J-)
	bon content reduced by an age thousand years. TABLE 2	equivalent of	L-141A	Black mucky peat containing some <i>Helisoma</i> sp., a freshwater gastropod, from 0.0'-0.5' above bedrock, 5.5'-6.0'	4900 ± 200
	GEOLOGICAL SAMPLES			below land surface. Ever-	
	GEOLOGICAL SAMPLES			glades Experiment Station,	
Sample	Description	A ()		21/2 mi SE of Belle Glade on	
No.	Description	Age (yr)		South (pasture) line, Station	
A. Ber	rmuda		L-141B	8+00. Dark-brown fibrous peat (same	3800 ± 200
	nples in this set are listed in strati	graphic order)	11-1411	description as for 141A ex-	9000 <u>-</u> 200
•	Sample of Southampton eolian-	$17,600 \pm 800$		cept North [crop] line, Sta-	
11-1200	ite from Sayles (7) locality	11,000 _ 000		tion $8 + 00$). 141A and 141B,	
	4, taken 3'-4' from top of 12'			collected by J. C. Stephens; submitted by N. D. Hoy.	
	thickness of formation.		L-141C	Peat taken 0.0'-0.5' above Fort	5050 ± 200
L-120F	Sample of top of Somerset from	$21,000 \pm 1600$	11-1410	Thompson marl, 5.0'-5.5' be-	3030 ± 200
T 1000	Sayles (7) locality 6.	$21,300 \pm 1600$ Older than		low surface in 5.5' peat sec-	
L-120C	Sample near base of Somerset from Sayles (7) locality 2.	25,000		tion. Collected 10 mi S of	
L-120B	Signal Hill soil sample from	Older than		Lake Okeechobee, 100' W of	
1201	Sayles (7) locality 1. Com-	25,000		U. S. Highway 27, located in	
	ment: Unconsolidated and			NE¼SW¼ sec 25, T 45 S,	
	near surface, yet no contami-			R 36 E, Palm Beach Co., Fla. Submitted by N. D. Hoy.	
T 100 A	nation by meteoric CO ₂ .	Older then	L-138	Charcoal from Fall River for-	Older than
L-120A	Pembroke eolianite from Sayles (7) locality 1. Same comment	Older than 25,000		mation (Dakota) in road cut	30,000
	as for L-120B.	20,000		just north of Bear Butte	
R. Mis	ssissippi Delta			Lake, about 1½ mi SW of	
	three 125 Series samples were tak	en from cores		Bear Butte, 5 mi NE of Sturgis, S. D. Submitted by	
	ned by the Mississippi River Commi			P. M. Wright, Wheaton Col-	
	ine between Donaldsville and Fran			lege Science Station.	
	Submitted by H. N. Fisk)		L-109	Fossil wood from laminated	9000 ± 300
L-125A	Wood from depth of 25'.	2900 ± 300		band of clay and organic	
L-125G	Shell from depth of 73'.	8700 ± 200		matter about 125' below sur-	
T 105T	Wood from 979t on weathered	9000 ± 200 Older than		face of a canyon in valley fill in western Canadian Co.,	
L-125I	Wood from 273' on weathered surface, presumably produced	30,000		Okla., in sec 5, T 11 N, R 10	
	during last great sea level	00,000		W. Submitted by R. Dreyer.	
	lowering of the Wisconsin.		L-126A	Aragonite from West Reno well,	Older than
C. Gen	eral Geology			Steamboat Springs, Nev. Com-	30,0 00
L-140A	Fossil Aeropora omisornis from	Older than		ment: Carbon apparently de-	
	small patch reef near Fresh	25,000		rived from limestone, as expected. Less than 2% recent	
	Creek village (on shore east			meteoric carbon. Submitted	
	of Commissioner's residence),			by D. E. White.	
	Andros Island, Bahamas. This rock outcrops 4' above high		L-118	Fresh wood from tree stump	4150 ± 200
	tide. Collected by J. K.		1	3'-4' below mean high tide	
	Rigby; submitted by N. D.			level, near Sagadahoc Bay,	
	Newell.			Maine. Represents epoch of lowered sea level. Submitted	
L-140B	Loose drifting oolites 25° 15'	2750 ± 150		by W. H. Bradley.	
	N, 79° 0' W Great Bahama		L-150C	Lignite from Rapa Island, Aus-	Older than
	Bank. Depth, 3 fathoms. Collected by H. S. Smith; sub-			tral group, Polynesia, Central	30,000
	mitted by N. D. Newell.			South Pacific. Sample taken	
L-144A	Shell (Schizothaerus nuttallii),	Older than		from lump of lignite coal 4"	
	W side of Mesa St., 100' S	30,000		thick. Collected by 1934 Mangareva Expedition, Bishop	
	of 3rd St., San Pedro, Calif.,			Museum No. 1409. Submitted	
	alt, about 75'. Palos Verdes			by J. M. Schopf and H. Ladd.	
	sand (marine deposits on low- est terrace) assigned to late			Comment: Geologists sus-	
	Pleistocene. Collected by W.			pected it would be older than	
	P. Woodring.		T /7	30,000 years.	
L-144D	Recent shells, low tide, June 28,	1500 ± 200	$D.\ Ala$	aska	
	1952, from Portuguese Bend		L-127	Fragments of skin and dried	Older than
	on S (open sea) side of Palos			tissue of extinct superbison	28,000
	Verdes Hills, Los Angeles Co., Calif. Collected by M. N.			collected from frozen muck on Dome Creek near Fair-	
*	Bramlette.			banks. Comment: Suggests	

Sample

No.

TABLE 2—(Continued)

Age (yr)

Description

beginning of second (last) major phase of Wisconsin in this region. Submitted by 0. W. Geist, University of Alaska. L-1178* Spruce root 4.5' below surface of alluvial fan exposed in section 18.5' long above mean high water on N side of Kachemak Bay, 30 yards W of Miller's Landing, Homer toward the end of the depositing phase of one of the numerous extensive alluvial fans that spread over Homer Bench from the 1000' high Homer Bench from the present and is underlain by undated slit deposited at a time when the climate was warmer than at present and is underlain by undated slit deposited at a time when the climate probably was colder than at present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. L-117D Wod from the present. Collected by R. S. Sigaformed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Gelected by E. S. Sigafoos). L-118 Wod from end moraine within 1000' of the present from the most recent glacial advances in the Cook Inlet area, collowing a warmer period during which Tusturates, one of the most recent glacial and vances in the Cook Inlet area, following a warmer period during which Tusturates, one of the heat less extensive than at present. L-117E Wod from end moraine warmer flacial advances in the Cook Inlet area, following a warmer period during which Tusturates, one of the present of S' thick lake sits extention overlying outwash, near East Forcland, Kenal Peninsula. Lake deposition began before the latest major glaciation in t		TABLE 2—(Continued)			TABLE 2—(Continuea)	
beginning of second (last) major phase of Wisconsin in this region. Submitted by O. W. Geist, University of Alaska. L-117B* Spruee root 4.5' below surface of alluvial fan exposed in section 18.5' long above mean light water on Side of Of Miller's Londing. Homer. The spruce root was deposited toward the end of the deposit- ing phase of one of the nu- merous extensive alluvial fans that spread over Homer Bench from the 1000' high Homer Bluff. Collected by W. S. Benninghoff, 1950. L-117C Wood 10' beneath the surface in interbedded peat and muck at Office Creek, a tributary of Kougarok River, Seward Penisuala. The deposit was climate was warmer than at present and is underlain by undated slit deposited at a time when the climate prob- ably was collect than at pres- ent. Collected by R. S. Siga- foos. L-117D Wood and peat 2' beneath surface in muck at willbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was not perceptibly different from the present. Collected by R. S. Sigafose. L-117G Wood 'beneath the surface in muck at willbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000- 6000 yr for 117G and 1172I.) L-117H Wood from fossil beaver dam in nutwa at Fathpanks Creek, 1-112F Using deal form basal part of 8' thick lake silt section overlying outwash, near Esat Foreland, Kenal Peninsula. Lake deposition began before the latest major glaciation in the Cook Inlet area. Assum- ing that the log analyzed was not derived from a previous deposit, the outwash under played with muck at head of Coffee Creek, a tributary of Kougarok River, Seward Formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by R. S. Sigafose. L-117G Wood of beneath the surface in muck at Wilbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000- 6000 yr for 117G and 1172I.) L-117H Wood from fossil beaver dam in		Description	Age (yr)		Description	Age (yr)
L-117B* Spruce root 4.5' below surface of allivial fan exposed in section 18.5' long above mean high water on N side of Kachemak Bay, 50 yards W of Miller's Landing, Homer. The spruce root was deposited toward the end of the depositing phase of one of the numerous extensive alluvial fans that spread over Homer Bench from the 1000' high Homer Bluff. Collected by W. S. Benninghoff, 1950. L-117C Wood 10' beneath the surface in interbedded peat and muck at Coffee Creek, a tributary of Kougarok River, Seward Peninsula. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was warmer than at present and is underlain by undated silt deposited at a time when the climate was warmer than at present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. L-117D Wood and peat 3' beneath surface in a peat layer interbedded with muck at head of Coffee Creek, Deposit indicates a commence of the commence of t		beginning of second (last) major phase of Wisconsin in this region. Submitted by O. W. Geist, University of			1000' of the present front of Tustumena Glacier, Kenai Peninsula. Deposit represents	400 ± 150
toward the end of the depositing phase of one of the numerous extensive alluvial fans that spread over Homer Bench from the 1000' high Homer Bluff. Collected by W. S. Benninghoff, 1950. L-117C Wood 10' beneath the surface in interbedded peat and muck at Coffee Creek, a tributary of Kongarok River, Seward Peninsula. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was warmer than at present. Collected by R. S. Siga-foos. L-117D Wood and peat 3' beneath surface in a peat layer interbedded with muck at head of Coffee Creek. Deposit indicates that accumulation of mucklike material has taken place during last few hundred years. The peat layer was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by R. S. Siga-foos. L-117G Wood form the surface in muck at Wilbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000-3000 yr for 117G and 117H.) Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 13,600±600	L-117B*	Spruce root 4.5' below surface of alluvial fan exposed in section 18.5' long above mean high water on N side of Kachemak Bay, 50 yards W of Miller's Landing, Homer.	3200 ±·150		advances in the Cook Inlet area, following a warmer period during which Tustumena Glacier was much less extensive than at present. Collected by T. N. V. Karl-	
in interbedded peat and muck at Coffee Creek, a tributary of Kougarok River, Seward Peninsula. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was warmer than at present and is underlain by undated silt deposited at a time when the climate probably was colder than at present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. L-117D Wood and peat 3' beneath surbedded with muck at head of Coffee Creek, Deposit indicates that accumulation of mucklike material has taken place during last few hundred years. The peat layer was formed at a time when the climate was not perceptibly different from the present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. L-117G Wood 6' beneath the surface in muck at Wilbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000-6000 yr for 117G and 117H.) Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000-6000 yr for 117G and 117H.) Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6 from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6 from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 10 mi w of Fairbanks Creek, 10 mi w of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. N. Versiles in outwash or possibly lateral moraine, of nearby Lemon Glacier. Submitted by Maynard Miller. L-112D Classells from Aleut midden on north part of sand pit enclosing Clam Lagoon. (Note: 165 and 174 and		toward the end of the depositing phase of one of the numerous extensive alluvial fans that spread over Homer Bench from the 1000' high Homer Bluff. Collected by W. S. Benninghoff, 1950.		L-117L	Lignitized log from basal part of 8' thick lake silt section overlying outwash, near East Foreland, Kenai Peninsula. Lake deposition began before the latest major glaciation in the Cook Inlet area. Assum-	19,200 ± 100 0
indated silt deposited at a time when the climate probably was colder than at present. Collected by R. S. Sigatoco in a peat layer interbedded with muck at head of Coffee Creek, Deposit indicates that accumulation of mucklike material has taken place during last few hundred years. The peat layer was formed at a time when the climate was not perceptibly different from the present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. L-117G Wood 6' beneath the surface in muck at Wilbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000–6000 yr for 117G and 117H.) Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was flightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 12 Mood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 13,600 ± 600	L-117C	in interbedded peat and muck at Coffee Creek, a tributary of Kougarok River, Seward Peninsula. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was warmer than at	8350 ± 200		not derived from a previous deposit, the outwash underlying the lake silts is correlative with a pre-Mankato glaciation of more than 18,000 years ago. Collected by	
face in a peat layer interbedded with muck at head of Coffee Creek. Deposit indicates that accumulation of mucklike material has taken place during last few hundred years. The peat layer was formed at a time when the climate was not perceptibly different from the present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. L-117G Wood 6' beneath the surface in muck at Wilbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000-6000 yr for 117G and 117H.) Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek,	T.,117D	undated silt deposited at a time when the climate probably was colder than at present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos.	450 + 100	L-117N	section overlying lake silts deposited on till, near Boulder Point, Kenai Peninsula. Dat- ing of the basal peat permits	3800 ± 400
mucklike material has taken place during last few hundred years. The peat layer was formed at a time when the climate was not perceptibly different from the present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. L-117G Wood 6' beneath the surface in muck at Wilbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000-6000 yr for 117G and 117H.) Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-119 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-119 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-119 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-118 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-119 Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 1-112 B. Wood from bottom of nearby Lemon Glacier. Submitted by Maynard Miller. 1-112D Modern shells to be used as a 1950 control on 112E. 1-112E Clamshells from Aleut midden on north part of sand pit enclosing Clam Lagoon. (Note: 4530 and part of sand pit enclosing Clam Lagoon. (Note: 4530 and part of sand pit enclosing Clam Lagoon. (Note: 4530 and part of sand part of sand part of neart of sand part of neart of sand part of neart	11111	face in a peat layer inter- bedded with muck at head of Coffee Creek. Deposit indi-	450 ± 100		lation during the past 4000 yr in the Cook Inlet area. Collected by T. N. V. Karlstrom, 1951.	
different from the present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. L-117G Wood 6' beneath the surface in muck at Wilbur Creek near Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000-6000 yr for 117G and 117H.) Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, L-117D Modern shells to be used as a control on 112E. Av 1900 Av 1900 L-112E Clamshells from Aleut midden on north part of sand pit enclosing Clam Lagoon. (Note: 151 this is corrected by using the result of 112D, the apparent age is 2700±150 yr.) Av 458 L-112F Buried peat horizon in section of north spit on east shore of Clam Lagoon. Oldest Aleut artifacts found on surface equivalent to, or perhaps slightly younger than, peat accumulation. This is stratigraphically older than 112E.		mucklike material has taken place during last few hundred years. The peat layer was formed at a time when the		L-106B	in outwash, or possibly lateral moraine, of nearby Lemon Glacier. Submitted by May-	3500 ± 250
Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000-6000 yr for 117G and 117H.) Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117H Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, L-117E Clamshells from Aleut midden on north part of sand pit enclosing Clam Lagoon. (Note: If this is corrected by using the result of 112D, the apparent age is 2700 ± 150 yr.) Av 458 L-112F Buried peat horizon in section of north spit on east shore of Clam Lagoon. Oldest Aleut artifacts found on surface equivalent to, or perhaps slightly younger than, peat accumulation. This is stratigraphically older than 112E.	L -117G	different from the present. Collected by R. S. Sigafoos. Wood 6' beneath the surface in	4200 ± 200	L-112D		$1950 \pm 250 \\ 1650 \pm 400 \\ \text{Av } 1900 \pm 300$
L-117H Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek, 10 mi W of Fairbanks. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek,		Livengood. The deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Geologic estimate of age was 3000-6000 yr for 117G and 117H.)		L-112E	on north part of sand pit en- closing Clam Lagoon. (Note: If this is corrected by using the result of 112D, the appar-	4620 ± 100 4610 ± 160 4530 ± 150
deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. L-117I Wood from fossil beaver dam in muck at Fairbanks Creek, deposit was formed at a time Clam Lagoon. Oldest Aleut artifacts found on surface equivalent to, or perhaps slightly younger than, peat accumulation. This is stratigraphically older than 112E.	L-117H	Wood 6' beneath the surface in an organic layer at Eva Creek,	3750 ± 200	L-112F	Buried peat horizon in section	$Av \overline{4580 \pm 90}$ 3300 ± 200
in muck at Fairbanks Creek, graphically older than 112E.	T 1-6T	deposit was formed at a time when the climate was slightly warmer than at present. Col- lected by T. L. Péwé, 1951.	10.000		Clam Lagoon. Oldest Aleut artifacts found on surface equivalent to, or perhaps slightly younger than, peat	
Deposit formed when climate beach at Earle Cave. Latest was slightly warmer than at shift of base level here must present. (Libby reported 12,- be younger than age of drift-	L -117I	in muck at Fairbanks Creek, 20 miles NE of Fairbanks. Deposit formed when climate was slightly warmer than at present. (Libby reported 12,-	13,600 ± 600	L-112H	graphically older than 112E. Drift wood embedded in storm beach at Earle Cave. Latest shift of base level here must	650 ± 150
600 ± 750 yr for his Sample wood log. 301 from similar locality.) L-117A Wood from buried peat over- 19,10 Collected by T. L. Péwé, 1951. lying glacial outwash deposits		301 from similar locality.)		L-117A	Wood from buried peat over-	19,100 ± 900

Sample No.	Description	Age (yr)
	and underlying till, near Goose Bay, north shore, Knik Arm.	
E. Mis	scellaneous Samples	
L-126E	Uranium ore (carbonized wood) from the Triassic Shinarump formation at the Oyler Mine, Fruita, Utah. Comment: Chemical purification procedure is apparently adequate. Submitted by C. B. Hunt.	Older than 30,000
L-45	Country air, Lamont Observatory, July 18-25, 1951.	$(\text{Net cpm}) \\ 6.32 \pm 0.20$
L-46	City air, Amsterdam Ave. and 117th St., New York, Aug. 10–20, 1951.	5.92 ± 0.20 5.92 ± 0.15
L-48	Laboratory air, Lamont Observatory, May 9-11, 1951.	4.67 ± 0.10
Stand- ard	Modern wood.	6.07 ± 0.05

^{*} Descriptions of 117 Series supplied by T. L. Péwé, U. S. Geological Survey.

An attractive hypothesis, therefore, might be that, in areas where the deep water moves up along a coast, the surface water would have a lower radiocarbon content. Despite the paucity of data, it appears that the lower radiocarbon content of the shells on some coastlines can be correlated with abrupt, deep troughs offshore—e.g., Japan, California, Aleutian arc, and Peru. Direct measurements on the radiocarbon content of the ocean carbonate taken from many locations and depths are being made.

Another problem arises in connection with the 123 Series. It is noted that only the mammalian remains give the correct age. Although wood appears generally above suspicion, it has been suggested by E. S. Deevey that plants which derive their carbon in part from fresh-water lakes rather than directly from the air may show erroneously old ages. It is at least interesting that sedge and cattail are botanical types that presumably fall into this suspect group. Studies on the radiocarbon content of such plants, as well as of fresh lake water, are being undertaken by the Yale laboratory.

A list of the results on samples of geological interest is given in Table 2. The Bermuda samples show that (a) the ages are in correct sequence, (b) meteoric water does not contaminate loose limestone even when it occurs at the surface, and (c) the upper layers are sufficiently young so that a detailed analysis with more samples might shed considerable light on the worldwide climatic fluctuations during the last half of the Wisconsin glacial period. The samples from the Mississippi Delta show the progressive rise in sea level after the Wisconsin maximum. It is particularly significant that L-125G gives approximately the same age as the drowned forest on Greater Bermuda (3), which is now 60'-90' below sea level. Any exchange

with meteoric water prior to burial would have increased rather than decreased the age.

Florida peat samples in the General Geology section demonstrate that peat formation began over this wide area about 6000 years ago.

The anomalous values for some modern shells have been referred to above. In the samples from Clam Lagoon (112D, E, and F), however, both modern and ancient shells are available. If 112E is corrected by using the modern shell count on the same coast, the age is then consistent with the stratigraphic relationships. It appears that more study will be required before the exact conditions are known under which quantitative ages from shell may be ascertained. The present data suggest that exchange is relatively unimportant; therefore, if the original radiocarbon content for a given location is known, a reliable age determination may be made.

L-126E was run to give the chemical purification system the most severe test. It is evident that contamination of the sample by uranium-thorium series elements is negligible.

TABLE 3

Age (vr)

Description

No.		Description	on	Age (yr)
A. Oce	ean Sample	8		
L-121A	Core C-10-	5, 22–32 cr	n, 33° 37.4′N	$20,600 \pm 900$
			of water,	$20,400 \pm 900$
	2670 m.			
L-121B	Core C-10	-5, 70–80	em.	$28,000 \pm 2000$
L-121C	Atlantic	W of I	5 cm. North Mid-Atlantic 44°40'W.	$5,000 \pm 200$
	Depth 4			
L-131A	Core A-17 depth, 3	72-2, 29–35 3070 m. Ca	o cm. Water aribbean, on	$14,250 \pm 500$
			eata Ridge,	
		72°19'	W. Sample Globorotalia	
	menard		a to o o i o tatta	
L-131B			27 cm. Carib-	Older than
	bean,	top of	Globorotalia	30,000
	menard	ii var. fle	exuosa zone.	,
L-153	Core A-1	64-14, 75	-88 ½ cm,	Older than
	36°06'3		9'W. Depth,	27,000
B. De	ep Ocean, W	$^{7}ater*$		
54°35′N	41°W	Surface	(1) $6.82 \pm 0.$	09 Recent
			(2) 7.74 ± 0.	.07
			Av 6.77 ± 0.0	06
	Av, mod	ern shells	6.72 ± 0	.10
			.	
58°19'N	32°56.8′W	$1829 \mathrm{\ m}$	5.38 ± 0	
			5.60 ± 0	
			Av 5.45 ± 0	$0.06 1600 \pm 130$
53°52.6′	N 21°06′W	$2743 \mathrm{m}$	5.31 ± 0	.12
		· · · · ·	5.36 ± 0.6	
			Av 5.34 ± 0	$\overline{10}$ 1750 ± 150
# T01	-4	Differen	man in anno af	anufoco comolo

^{*} Direct comparison: Difference in cpm of surface sample vs 58° 19′ N was, from averages, $1.32\pm0.10\,;$ from direct measurement, $1.15\pm0.12.$

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Sample

Table 3 gives additional measurements of some deepsea core samples and ocean carbonate. Samples from Cores C-10-5 and A-152-118 were previously measured (3). Core A-172-2 shows the normal, slow depositional rate. From lithologic evidence, it was suspected that this depth may have been quite recent. The fact that it is not emphasizes the complex character of these sediments. Not only are they frequently redistributed, but lithologically and paleontologically similar sections

TABLE 4 COUNT RATE AS A FUNCTION OF SAMPLE SIZE FOR MODERN WOOD

Wt of carbon (g)	Net cpm	No. of samples
10.00	6.10 ± 0.08	1
8.00	6.07 ± 0.05	7
6.00	5.88 ± 0.09	2
4.00	5.71 ± 0.08	1
1.85	4.10 ± 0.10	2
0.95	3.07 ± 0.07	2
0.79	2.80 ± 0.09	1
0.63	2.40 ± 0.06	1

may be unrelated on the short time span over which radiocarbon dating can be applied.

The deep-ocean-water results will be described in more detail elsewhere (8). It seems from the meager data that deep water has measurably less radiocarbon than surface water and that the rate of turnover of the ocean must take place on a scale of thousands of vears.

Table 4 shows the count rate as related to carbon sample weight. It is now possible to measure as little as 0.5 g of carbon instead of the usual 8.0 g. The precision is lower, however, and considerably more effort is required.

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News and Notes

Scientists in the News

Norman H. Beamer, of the USGS, has been designated district chemist in charge of quality-of-water investigations in Pennsylvania, with headquarters at Philadelphia. He has been acting district chemist since July 1951, when he replaced Walter F. White, Jr. Mr. Beamer has been assigned to the Pennsylvania investigations since 1946.

Herbert Blumer is now chairman of the Department of Sociology and Social Institutions on the Berkeley campus of the University of California. He had been a member of the University of Chicago faculty since 1928. He is the first vice president-elect of the American Sociological Society. For 11 years, from 1941 to 1952, he was editor of the American Journal of Sociology.

Henry B. Bull, formerly professor of chemistry in the Medical School at Northwestern University, is now professor and head of the Department of Biochemistry at the State University of Iowa.

Homer D. Chapman, chairman of the Department of Soils and Plant Nutrition at the University of California Citrus Experiment Station, will address horticultural scientists at the 13th International Horticultural Congress in London. After the conferences in London, Dr. Chapman will visit all the important citrus-producing areas of the Mediterranean region to study soils and plant nutritional relationships. He will return to California by way of the citrus-growing areas of Pakistan, India, and Japan. During his leave of absence, extending until Jan. 15, Daniel G. Aldrich, Jr., will serve as acting chairman of the department.

John Chipman, head, MIT Department of Metallurgy, is the 1952 recipient of Sauveur Achievement Award, presented by the American Society for Metals. The award was established by ASM in 1934 in honor of Albert Sauveur, late Harvard University professor, to recognize pioneering metallurgical achievements. Dr. Chipman has also been chosen by the Italian Metallurgical Society as the winner of the 1952 Losana Gold Medal for making the greatest contribution to international research and cooperation in the field of metallurgical engineering.

Alfred L. Copley, formerly of New York Medical College and New York University, has been appointed chargé de recherches de laboratoire at the new research laboratories of the Centre International de l'Enfance, Paris, a United Nations organization. Dr. Copley recently completed, at Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory, projects on bleeding and clotting, which he directed for the Atomic Energy Commission and the Office of Naval Research. He will continue his researches on blood and blood vessels in Paris.

Walton H. Durum has been transferred from Lin-