

(*Motacilla*), *cirrhatu*s (*Pelecanus*), *australis* (*Sterna*), all of Gmelin, 1789 [suppression]; (6) *phaeus* (*Turdus*), *elegans* (*Motacilla*), *chlorotis* (*Muscicapa*), all of Forster, 1794, and *novae-hollandiae* Latham, 1790, *Muscicapa* [suppression]; (7) *Pyrhocorax* Tunstall, 1771 [validation, for the chough]; (8) *philomelos* Brehm, 1831, *Turdus* [validation, for the song thrush]; (9) generic name *Vermivora* and trivial name *lutea* (*Muscicapa*), *pennsylvanica* [sic] (*Passer*), *americ.* [sic] (*Vermivora*), all of Linnaeus, 1776 [suppression]; (10) *migratoria* Linnaeus, 1776 *Columba* [validation, for the passenger pigeon]; (11) *Bubo* Duméril, 1806, *Coturnix* Bonnaterre, 1790, *Egretta* Forster, 1817, *Oriolus* Linnaeus, 1766, [validation, by suppression of senior homonyms published by Brisson in 1760]; (12) *Capella* Frenzel, 1801 [validation, by suppression of *Gallinago* Brisson, 1760]; (13) *Myiobius* Darwin, 1839 [validation and designation of type species]; (14) *cyanea* Hume, 1877, *Muscitrea* [validation, by suppression of *cyanea* Vieillot, 1818, *Muscicapa*]; (15) *ferruginea* Hodgson, 1845, *Hemichelidon* [validation, by suppression of *ferruginea* Merrem, 1784, *Muscicapa*].

Comments on the above cases should be sent as soon as possible to the undersigned.

FRANCIS HEMMING

International Commission on
Zoological Nomenclature
28 Park Village East, Regent's Park,
London, N.W. 1, England

Color in Trilobites of Trenton Age

IN 1949, a slab of Trenton limestone was picked up from an outcrop beside Route 12, southeast of Watertown, N. Y. It appeared to be a typical, fossiliferous fragment. Recently, however, its dusty surface was cleaned under cold tap water with a nylon bristle brush, without any other cleansing agent, and the monotone mass of fossils suddenly showed bright shrimp-pink spots. Not only did the two recognizable fragments of carapaces develop this color, but numerous fragments, unrecognizable when dry, were identified as carapaces by the color change. Upon drying, a faint tinge of color was retained by the two larger fragments as long as the air remained humid, but the rest faded again into the gray background, to regain color only upon rewetting.

The rock is a somewhat argillaceous limestone with a brownish-gray ground mass. It appears to represent a strand phase of deposition, as the fragments are small and well sorted as to size. The trilobites appear to be *Calymene senaria* and are represented by shed and broken carapaces. The brachiopods show well-preserved but separated valves, mainly of *Plectambonites sericeus* and less abundant *Dalmanella testudinaria*. The crinoid stems have been recrystallized and appear white at the ends of the broken segments. Four varieties are present, but no crinoid heads were found except one too fragmentary for identification. The stems are broken into single disks to lengths

of 8-10 segments. The bryozoa are also broken, but none of the fragments is markedly worn, and detail is excellent.

There has been some infiltration of iron-bearing water between the close-packed layers and along joint planes, but the color is the normal red of iron oxide and not the same as that in the wet trilobites. Traces of the iron oxide remain when dry, especially about the joint cracks, but none was noted on the surface of the slab.

In discussing the matter with H. N. Coryell, it was learned that some trilobites in the Cincinnati area, from the Upper Ordovician or Lower Silurian, are pinkish in color, but no mention of color in any trilobites has been found in the literature.

The presence of color presents several possibilities. First, the chitinous carapaces may have absorbed selectively dissolved material in the ground water, which calcareous fossils let pass without change. The color of the absorbed material may have been modified in the process of addition to the chitin. Second, the pink may be the residual, natural color of a shed, sun-baked carapace, such as is seen in crab carapaces on modern beaches. Third, this may be the residual color of living trilobites, in seas as colorful as those of today.

The second possibility would indicate a crustacean characteristic of long standing. The third possibility might indicate that the browns, greens, grays, and mottlings of modern crustaceans are an overlay upon the primitive pink. It may be that the pink in modern forms is now restored only by boiling or sun-baking after death.

No study has been made of this matter beyond the observations and description reported here. This note is presented as a suggestion for further study by paleontologists and, perhaps, biologists.

M. W. GARRETSON

84 Carthage Road, Scarsdale, New York

On Certain Problems of Taxonomists

IN a recent communication (SCIENCE, 116, 152 [1952]) R. I. Smith has discussed one of the problems of the use of names for experimental animals. This suggests to us another problem, which is frequently not recognized by physiologists and ecologists when trying to obtain identification of their experimental material.

The great majority of systematists (especially in marine groups) are not working at this discipline for a living but practice it on their own time. Only the museum specialists belong to the happy, fortunate band of those chosen to practice systematics for a living, and they are too often snared in red tape. In some groups, which may be favorite experimental or critical ecological material, identifications are exceedingly difficult and the number of competent specialists is very small. Furthermore, almost every specialist is loaded up with collections he has obligingly agreed to identify for some ecologist or research institution.