Note of the Secretary-general

In the last Newsletter N° 51 we reproduced many abstracts of past conferences. In this issue we have none, instead we have the announcements of many symposia and other meetings.

Also in the last issue we proposed a written ballot to elect the location of the next CIMP Symposium in 1998. There were two candidates: Pisa, Italy or Québec City, Canada. On 7 Jan 1997 I wrote the following report to the chairman and the two candidates: "... [after counting the votes received by now] ... First of all the response was rather low. Because I received mostly votes by Email and CIMP members from North and South America received their Newsletter only by 15-20 december I suspect some votes might still be in the post. 33 votes were received (26 by email, 2 by fax and 5 by letter). All are valid. Proposition 1 (full CIMP Symposium in Pisa): 18; Proposition 2 (full Cimp Symposium in Québec): 6 Proposition 3 (both): 9; Field trip Italy: 7; Field trip Quebec A: 3; Field trip Quebec B: 3. Written remarks on the ballots are the following: "*Pisa, because closeness to Gondwana 10. *Don't hold two meetings (the same year). I feel it is very harmful to palynology to hold separate meetings for acritarchs in an IFPS year. *Pisa, to honour the career of Marco Tongiorgi (soon retiring) and the work of his crew. *Difficult choice: Quebec: because they proposed first. *Difficult choice: first choice Québec, but Pisa easier to get funding: so it is Pisa. *Pisa: it will attract more CIMP members; build up of mediterranean interest; access from East-Europe and North Africa." Hence the results of this postal ballot (with only 33 votes) indicates a preference for one full CIMP Symposium in Pisa." We have waited another week and not one delayed answer arrived (neither later). The chairman and I have than decided that only Pisa should organize the Symposium. We want to thank both laboratories for all the work they put into the proposals and regret that the "équipe" of Québec is not chosen. I'm sure they would also have organized an excellent meeting and this is still possible in the near future. We also have received an invitation from the crew of León (Spain) that they are willing to organize a CIMP Symposium in 2000 or 2002. This can all be discussed in Pisa.

Meanwhile Prof. Marco Tongiorgi from Pisa has started the organization with much enthusiasm, and has sent a preliminary circular to all CIMP members (repeated in this Newsletter). If we have more than 100 participants, we can still keep the prices low. We are still missing the answers of members we are nearly sure they would participate. So please, if you have not reacted, do it please now. You have still time this month of june to show your interest.

With this Newsletter we also send out the Newsletter N°11 of the Acritarch Subcommission, prepared by Stewart Molyneux and Thomas Servais. It contains besides general information, the news and current research of the members, the list of publications and abstracts on Acritarchs in 1996, and an updated (and shorter) list of Acritarch workers.

Palynos from december 96 and the second edition (1996) of World Directory of Palynologists (IFPS) will be distributed to the CIMP members who asked for it, with a restriction of one book per institute, due to the few copies that we could pay for.

In the last newsletter we asked for candidates for the position of CIMP president and secretary-general, already holding their position for 7 years. No candidatures were received yet. We extend the period for candidatures until 15 november 1997.



Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paléozoique

NEWSLETTER 52 June 6, 1997

President:

Secretary-General:

Geoffrey Clayton Dept. of Geology Trinity College Dublin 2 Ireland

Jacques Verniers Lab. Paleontologie Universiteit Gent Krijgslaan 281 S8 B-9000 Gent, Belgium Phone: 32 (0)9 - 264 46 14 Fax.: 32 (0)9 - 264 49 97

Phone: 353 (0)1 6 7021235 Fax.: 353 (0)1 6 773072

E-mail: gclayton@tcd.ie

E-mail: jacques.verniers@rug.ac.be

Content Newsletter 52 (June 6, 1997)

page(s)

- Note of the Secretary-general.
- Obituary Gonzalo Vidal.
 - What is the EPA (European Palaeontological Association)?
- Agenda of future palynological conferences, symposia, meetings and workshops New CIMP members: Cahnges of address.
- 8th Plant Taphonomy Meeting, Cardiff, U.K., November 15-16 1997
- 5th European Palaeobotanical-Palynological Conference Kraków, Poland, June 26-30 1998.
- Presentation of a IUGS Publication N° 33, The Carboniferous of the World (part III).
- Preliminar Announcement CIMP Symposium and Workshops Pisa 1998.
- C.I.M.P. Working groups and subcommissions, Executive Committee. C.I.M.P. annual subscription 1997.
- Abstract of Ph.D. thesis 1996 of Dlear H. M. A. Baban. Announcement of the Palaeozoic Palynostratigraphy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Project start of Phase II.
- Grant Application Form CIMP Symposium and Workshops Pisa 1998.
- Response Form CIMP Symposium and Workshops Pisa 1998.

2

Gonzalo VIDAL (1943-1997)

Sad news from Uppsala. Gonzalo Vidal, eminent professor of micropaleontology at Uppsala University, died on January 10th, at the age of 53. Although Gonzalo had a long-standing heart condition, his unexpected and premature demise came as a shock to all of us who had seen him happy and seemingly healthy only hours earlier.

Gonzalo Vidal was born in Spain and emigrated to Sweden in the 1960s. After graduate training at the University of Lund he spent a couple of years with the New Zealand Geological Survey. His subsequent professional career was based in Sweden - Lund and, from 1991, Uppsala - with interludes as a guest scientist at the University of California Los Angeles and Harvard University. Founding his work in late Proterozoic organic microfossils,

Gonzalo developed an ecumenical interest for all aspects of biological and geological evolution in the Proterozoic and Cambrian, from tectonics to biogeochemistry. His numerous publications and various international activities made him an acclaimed leader of a major research field.

We will all miss him, surely and sorely. Our thoughts go to Gonzalo's friends and colleagues at the Department of Geosciences in Uppsala and to his relatives and family, most particularly his wife and co-worker, Malgorzata Moczydlowska.

Stockholm, 13th January, 1997. Stefan Bengtson & Jan Bergstrom, Swedish Museum of Natural History

What is EPA (European Palaeontological Association)?

At a time when science is coming under increasing pressure from individual governments, it is important to form a united front. The European Palaeontological Association (EPA), which was founded in 1991, is designed to:

- 1. Promote communication between the earth and life sciences and act as a forum for palaeontologists from different European countries.
- 2. Define the future goals of palaeontology and further their realization.
- 3. Support the regional organization by disseminating information on their activities.
- 4. Emphasize the scientific and socio-political relevance of paleontology at the present day.
- 5. Safeguard the European palaeontological heritage.

The present activities of the Association include:

- 1. The twice-yearly publication of the newsletter Europal with information on palaeontological activities in Europe and abroad.
- 2. The organization of annual scientific meetings of an interdisciplinary nature.
- 3. Books on palaeontology for specialists and lay persons.
- 4. Participation as a non-governmental organization (NGO) in the Council of Europe.

If you are concerned for the future of palaeontology, join EPA.

Price of membership: 30 FF per year Annual subscription to Europal: 90 FF Combined membership and Europal: 120 FF (students and persons over 65 years of age: 90 FF).

EPA Executive Committee: President: David Ferguson (Austria)

- Vice-Presidents: Jean-Pierre Berger (Switzerland) and Jean-Claude Gall (France) - Secretary: Franz F¦rsich (Germany) - Vice-Secretary: Jean Vannier (France) - Treasurer: Lea Grauvogel-Stamm (France) - Administrators: Malcom Hart (United Kingdom), Luis Sanchez de Posada (Spain) and Fritz Steininger (Germany) - Councillors: Rogerio Bordalo da Rocha (Portugal), Andreas Galacz (Hungaria), Heinz Kollmann (Austria), Kasimierz Kowalski (Poland), Giovanni Pinna (Italy) and John de Vos (The Netherlands).

Europal Managing Editor: Jean Vannier, Universite Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Centre des Sciences de la Terre; 43, bd du 11 Novembre 1918, 69622 VILLEURBANNE, France; tel: +33 4 72448000 or +33 4 72430032; fax: +33 4 72448436; e-mail: jean.vannier@univ-lyon1.fr

How to join EPA/Europal? Ask information to Dr. Lia Grauvogel-Stamm, Treasurer Laboratoire de Paleontologie et de Sedimentologie Universite Louis Pasteur 1, rue Blessig 67084 Strasbourg cedex (France) Fax 33 3 88.36.72.35; E-mail: Lstamm@illite.u-strasbg.fr

AGENDA OF FUTURE PALYNOLOGICAL CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS 1997-1999:

1997

July 20-27 1997: Subcommission on Devonian Stratigraphy Symposium and Field Meetings, "Devonian cyclicity and sequence stratigraphy", University of Rochester, USA and field excursions in the New York state and possibly Pennsylvania. Contact: Dr. Carlton E. Brett, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, 227 Hutchinson Hall, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627 USA; Tel.: +1 716 275 5713; Fax.: +1 716 244 5689; Email: cebh@db1.cc.rochester.edu.

August 10-16 1997: **WOGOGOB 97, St-Petersburg, Russia.** (Working group on the Ordovician Geology of Baltoscandia). Contact Tania Koren, All Russian Geological Research Institute (VSEGEI), Sredni Prospect 74, 199026 St-Petersburg, Russia. Tel.: +7 812 213 95 37; fax.: +7 812 213 57 38; Email: tkoren@dronov.usr.pu.ru.

September 2-4 1997: Palaeontology and Stratigraphy of South America, Symposium 18 of the 2nd European Meeting in conjunction with the 18th Regional Meeting on Sedimentology of the IAS (International Association of Sedimentology) in Heidelberg Germany (2-4/9/97). Contact: Peter Bengtson, Geologisch-Palaeontologisches Institut, Im Neuenheimer Feld 234, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany. Tel.: +49 6221 548293 Fax.: +49 6221 548640 (direct), 545503 (department); E-mail: Peter.Bengtson@urz.uni-heidelberg.de; http://ix.urz.uni-heidelberg.de/~dc8/circularx.html

September 7-13 1997: **Third Symposium of African Palynology**. (International Association for African Palynology). Univ. Witwatersrand Johannesburd, South Africa. Contact: Dr. Ann Cadman, BPI (Palaeontology), University of Witwatersrand, PO WITS 2050, South Africa. Fax.: +27 11 403 1423; Email: 106caa@cosmos.wits.ca.za

September 14-19 1997: **Evolution of the Marine Phytoplankton**, seminars as part of the AASP annual meeting. Marine Biological Laboratory, Swope Conference Centre, Woods Hole Massachusetts, USA. Contact: Dr. Paul K. Strother, Department of Geology and Geophysics, The Weston Observatory of Boston College, 381 Concord Road, Weston, Massachussets 02193, USA. Tel.: + 1 617 552 8395; Fax.: +1 617 552 8388; Email: strother@hermes.bc.edu

October 26-29 1997: Petroleum Geology of North-West Europe (5th Conference and Exhibition), London, UK. Contact: CASIL, 4 Cavendish Square, London, W1M0BX. Tel.: +44.171499 0900; fax.: +44 171 629 3233.

November 7-8 1997: Ordering the fossil Record - Challenges in Stratigraphy and Paleontology (Cor Drooger Symposium). Contact: Ank Pouw, Institute of Earth Sciences, Utrecht University, Budapestlaan 4, 3584 CD Utrecht, the Netherlands. Tel;: +31 30 253 5117; Fax.: +31 30 2535117; Email: apouw@omega.earth.ruu.nl.

November 15-16 1997: 8th Plant Taphonomy Meeting, Cardiff 1997 (U.K.). (see announcement).

1998

June 15-18 1998. Field Meeting of the Subcommission on Silurian Stratigraphy in SW Iberian Peninsula, Spain and Portugal. Contact: Juan Carlos Gutiérrez-Marco, VEI Paleontologie, Univ. Complutense 28040 Madrid, Spain, tel.: +34 1 244 5459; fax.: +34 1 394 4849; or José Manuel Piçarra d'Almeida, Instituto Geológico e Mineiro, Apartado 104, Beja 7800, Portugal, tel.: +351 84 32 40 19; fax.: +351 84 32 59 74.

June 26-30 1998: 5th European Palaeobotanical-Palynological Conference Kraków, Poland. (see announcement).

June 28- 5 july 1998: **Gondwana 10, Cape Town, South Africa**. Contact: Organizing Committee Gondwana 10, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa. Tel.: +27 21650 3171; Fax.: +27 21650 3167.

July 28 - 2 august 1998: **The Upper Permian Stratotypes of the Volga Region, Kazan, Russia.** Contact: Dr. Natalia K. Esaulova, Kazanian State University, 18 Kremlyovskaya str., Kazan 420008, Tatarstan, Russia. Tel.: +7 843 2315 425; Fax.: +7 843 2364 704.

September 11-15 1998: CIMP Symposium and Workshops Pisa 1998 (see announcement)

1999

August 14-25 1999: XIV International Congress on the Carboniferous-Permian, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Contact: Dr. Charles Henderson, Associate Professor, Department of geology and Geophysics, The University of Calgary, N-W Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4. Tel.: +1 403 220 6170; fax.: +1 403 285 0074; email: henderson@geo.ucalgary.ca.

1999 (announced) 8th International Symposium on the Ordovician System, organized by **Ordovician Stratigraphic Subcommission**, Prague, Czech Republic. Contact: see next CIMP Newsletter.

New CIMP Members:

(Chitinozoa)
Dra. Antonia Andrade Olalla
Universitad de Alcata
Dpto de Geologie
Ctra. N. II, Km 33,600
28871 Alcalá de Henares, Madrid
Email: GLDEP@alcala.es

(Acritachs + Chitinozoa) Mr. Gustavo Holfeltz Facultad Cs. Exactas & Naturales Depto. Ciencias Geologicos Ciudad Universitaria, Pab. № 2 C.P. 1428 Buenos Aires Argentina

Can anyone inform me on the new address of the following CIMP Members Dr. H. A. Tayyar, Dahran, Saudi Arabia.

Dr. J.D. Shane previously at 6600 Jollipan Court, Anchorage AK 99516 USA

Changes of address or new

New Email: M. Al-ruwaili@sheffield.ac.be

Dr. Yngve Grahn
Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro - UERJ
Faculdade de Geologie, Sala 4029 - Bloco A
Rua S~ao Fransisco Xavier 524 (Maracana)
20559-900 Rio de Janeiro, R.J. Brazil
Email.: grahn@ueri.br

Dr. Gary Mullins
Department of Geology
University of Portsmouth
Burnaby Building, Burnaby Road,
Portsmouth PO1 3QL United Kingdom.
Email: Gary,Mullins@port.ac.uk

Dr. Syed M. Rasul 32 Waltham Avenue Kingsbury London NW9 9SJ England

Department of Earth Sciences. University of Wales Cardiff, PO Box 914, CF1 3YE, Wales, U.K.

Tel: (01222) 874830 Fax: (01222) 874326 E-mail: jonestp@cardiff.ac.uk

8th Plant Taphonomy Meeting, Cardiff, 1997

The 1997 International Workshop on Plant Taphonomy will be held on the weekend of the 15-16th of November in the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Wales Cardiff. It will be an open meeting with no formal theme, and covering all aspects of research on plant taphonomy. The meeting will be structured once we know more details of presentations to be offered and will including keynote lectures and special research topics. All queries regarding the meeting should be directed to either Dianne Edwards or Tim Jones at the address above.

Cardiff is the capital city of Wales and has good train and bus links with other major British cities. It is situated 120 miles from London by motorway and has a small international airport with scheduled flights from European locations including Paris, Amsterdam and Brussels. Accommodation will be arranged in moderately priced hotels (cost c. £30.00 per night) in easy reach of the University and city centre.

To let us know about attendance please complete and return the tear off slip below. Please return by 01-05-97 to: Tim Jones, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Wales Cardiff, PO box 914, Cardiff, CF1 3YE, Wales, UK.

	>	<		***		
Name:			Address:	***************************************		
E-mail address:		••••••	Fax Number:			
Please tick:	I provisionally intend to come to the 8th Taphonomy meeting					
	No, I am unal	ble to at	tend the taphonomy meeting			
If you wish to make a presentation please indicate below:						
20 minute oral presen	itation		Title:	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
Poster presentation						
***************************************			***************************************	***************************************		

A4 sized camera ready abstracts to be received by Tim Jones by the end of September 1997

Bibliography of European Palaeobotany and Palynology 1994-1995

The Bibliography of European Palaeobotany and Palynology 1994- 1995, compiled by B.A.Thomas, C.J.Cleal, H.S.Pardoe and H.F.Fraser, is now available. The report consists of a list of publications produced by palaeobotanists and palynologists throughout Europe in 1994 and 1995, together with a list of publications in press and current research interests. The 163 page Bibliography is divided into sections according to geological periods.

If you would like to purchase a copy of the Bibliography please send a sterling cheque or Eurocheque for £5 (inc. p & p) to Miss H.E. Fraser, Department of Botany, National Museums and Galleries of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 3NP, U.K., making your cheque payable to the National Museum of Wales. Europeans in countries outside the British Isles can obtain a copy of the Bibliography from their regional representative.

If you wish to pay by Credit Card please use the form available on the IOP home page (http://ibs.uel.ac.uk/ibs/palaeo/pfi2/cleal.htm) or write to us at the address above. The cost of the Bibliography, if purchased using a credit card, is £6.75.

The following three titles are still available:

Report on British Palaeobotany and Palynology 1988-1989

Bibliography of European Palaeobotany and Palynology 1990-1991

Bibliography of European Palaeobotany and Palynolgy 1992-1993

Each can be purchased individually at the same price as the latest Bibliography, or a complete set can be purchased for £25.





and a Happy New Year 1997

Mailing address

Please mail all correspondence to: Mgr Grzegorz WOROBIEC Secretary of the 5th European Palaeobotanical-Palynological Сопference

W W. Szafer Institute of Botany Polish Academy of Sciences, Lubicz 46, 31-512 Kraków, Poland fax: (48 12) 21 97 90 E-mail: worobiec@ib-pan.krakow.pl

Sponsors

State Committee for Scientific Research, Polish Academy of Sciences

KRAKÓW is the former capital of Poland and has a rich cultural and scientific tradition. It is the second largest university center in Poland, seat of one of the oldest European universities the Jagiellonian University - founded in 1364.

With its medieval lay-out and priceless monuments Kraków has been included in UNESCO Registers as one of the twelve most outstanding ancient cities in the world. The nearby Wieliczka Salt Mine, known world wide, has also been entered on the same list. Visitors can admire the old shafts, the huge expanses in that mysterious underworld, the fine statues and ornaments all carved in rock salt. The Wieliczka Salt Mine Museum provides the possibility to trace the complete history of Polish salt mining and to see palaeobotanical collections extracted from the Miocene salt sediments.

Organizing Committee

- President Leon STUCHLIK
- General Secretary Ewa ZASTAWNIAK
- Secretary Grzegorz WOROBIEC
- · Conveners of the Palaeo-Mesozoic Section
- Elżbicta Turnau, Danuta ZDEBSKA
- · Conveners of the Tertiary Section
 - Anna Sadowska, Barbara Slodkowska

- · Conveners of the Pleistocene Section
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 - Krystyna WASYLIKOWA, Maria ZIEMBIŃSKA-TWORZYDŁO
- · Conveners of the Poster Session
- Maria LESIAK, Sławomir FLORIAN
- Field Trips Coordinator
 - Wojciech GRANOSZEWSKI
- Treasurers
 - Dorota Nalepka-Paperz, Urszula Karaś

Scientific programme

- n The conference will have simultaneous paper sessions on different topics, and also poster session.
- □ Time for presentation of each paper is 15 minutes and 5 minutes for discussion.
- □ The official language of the Conference is English.
- a All lecture rooms are equiped with slide projectors (slides 5×5) and overhead projectors.
- □ Poster size max. 90 × 110 cm
- u Intra-Conference Excursion to the Salt Mine Wieliczka for all participants (1/2 day).

Post-Conference Field Trips

Carboniferous and Permian of Upper Silesian Coal Basin (3 days). Leaders: Sonia Dybova-Jachowicz, Ireneusz Lipiar-

5th European Palaeobotanical-Palynological Conference

June 26-30, 1998

Kraków, Poland



FIRST CIRCULAR

Organizer:

WLADYSLAW SZAFER INSTITUTE OF BOTANY, POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES IN KRAKÓW

under the auspices of the International Organisation of Palaeobotany, International Federation of Palynological Societies, Polish Botanical Society.

- 2. Tertiary Quaternary Iloras of Belchatów, Konin (Central Poland) and several localities in South-Western Poland (5-6 days).
 - Leaders: Anna Sadowska, Maria Ziembińska-Tworzydło, Zofia Balwierz, Małgorzata Nita
- Tertiary Quaternary floras and recent vegetation of sub-Tatra and Tatra Mts region (3 days). Leaders: Andrzej Obidowicz, Maria Lesiak, Zbigniew Mirck
- 4. Holocene Palaeobotany of the Neolithic settlement in the vicinity of Cracow (1 day). Leaders: Krystyna Wasylikowa, Maria Lityńska-

Zając, Dorota Nalepka-Paperz



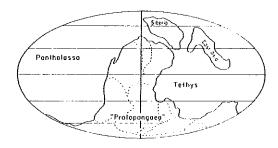


HIGS Publication no 33

THE CARBONIFEROUS OF THE WORLD

III

THE FORMER USSR, MONGOLIA, MIDDLE EASTERN PLATFORM, AFGHANISTAN, & IRAN







The Carboniferous of the World is a compendium of stratigraphic and palaeogeographic information on the Carboniferous undertaken by the IUGS Subcommission on Carboniferous Stratigraphy, with the aid of its Titular and Corresponding Members, and by the Spanish National Commission of Geology (Comisión Nacional de Geología), Subcommission on Stratigraphy.

The International Union of Geological Sciences is one of the largest and most active non-governmental scientific organisations in the world. Founded in 1961, its principal objectives are to promote and encourage the study of geological problems, especially those of worldwide significance, and to facilitate international cooperation in geological research.

The Comisión Nacional de Geología was founded in 1957, its main objectives being the relation and cooperation with the International Union of Geological Sciences and other international scientific organisations which relate to geological studies and research in Spain, including those of foreign colleagues.

The present volume, dealing with the former USSR, Mongolia, the Middle Eastern Platform, Afghanistan and Iran, is No. 33 in the list of publications issued through the efforts of IUGS organisations. Like the previous two volumes, it is a publication of the Spanish Geological Survey (Instituto Tecnológico Geominero de España), although the present volume is co-sponsored by the National Museum of Natural History (Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum) in Leiden, The Netherlands.

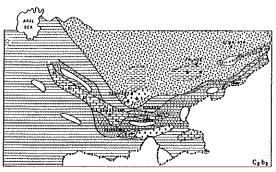


Fig. 47. Palaeogeographic and facies map for the late Bashkirian in the Tianshan and Pamirs.

PREAMBLE	Page 5
DEDICATIONS	8
THE FORMER USSR	13
MONGOLIA	409
MIDDLE EASTERN PLATFORM	443
AFGHANISTAN	461
IRAN	491

526 pages, with 99 text figures and 80 plates

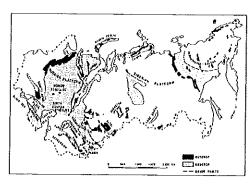


Fig. 1. Map showing the main areas of occurrence of Carboniferous strata in the USSR. General outline of the figure is the international frontier of the former USSR.

Volume III of The Carboniferous of the World can be obtained from:

INSTITUTO TECNOLOGICO GEOMINERO DE ESPAÑA

Ríos Rosas, 23

28003 Madrid, SPAIN

Phone: 34(9).1.3495750.- Fax: 34.1.3495762

at the price of 10.000 Pesetas (equivalent to c. \$ 85) plus postage and packing; surface mail will be used unless airmail is specifically requested.

Payment only by cheque (Eurocheque is acceptable), to be made out to the Instituto Tecnológico Geominero de España.

Stocks permitting, volumes I and II of The Carboniferous of the World can be purchased from the Instituto Tecnológico Geominero de España at the moderate prices of 4,000 and 6,000 pts,

Volume III (only) can also be ordered from:

Backhuys Publishers Warmonderweg 80

2341 KZ Oegstgeest. The Netherlands

Fax: +3171 5171856

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CIMP Symposium and Workshops Pisa 1998



Preliminary Circular

Date and place

The next general Symposium of the Commission Internationale de Microflore Paléozoique (CIMP) will be held in Pisa, Italy, from September 11 to September 15, 1998.

Historical remarks

Pisa (Latin name, Pisae) was a pre-Roman town probably of Ligurian origin. Etruscan remains date back to the 6th century B.C., and in Roman times the town was a Municipium and Colony. Traces of its ties with the Islamic and Byzantine worlds may be found, dating from the end of the 10th century. Beginning in the 11th century, despite its position 10 km from the sea, Pisa became one of the most powerful of the Italian maritime republics, taking part in the Crusades, and expanding rapidly as a trade center until it was defeated by the naval fleet of Genoa in the battle of Meloria in 1284. It was during this period of prosperity that the most important buildings of Pisa were erected, such as the Leaning Tower, the Baptistery and the Cathedral, the latter of which contain important works by the sculptors Giovanni and Nicola Pisano. From 1343 Pisa became the seat of one of the oldest universities in Europe.

Thereafter, under Florence's domination, Pisa became an important center of studies. During the centuries which followed, outstanding scientists were born in Pisa, including Leonardo Fibonacci, Galileo Galilei, and Antonio Pacinotti.

Partially destroyed during the Second World War, today Pisa survives as a calm city of about 100,000 inhabitants, its economy being based chiefly upon the service sector. It is also the seat of the "Scuola Normale Superiore", which counts among its alumni two Nobel Laureates in physics: Enrico Fermi and Carlo Rubbia.

Pisa Airport is one of the most important in Italy, and the road and rail networks converging on the city provide vital links with the entire nation and with the rest of Europe.

Scientific programme

The provisional programme includes plenary lectures, two Subcommission symposia (running in parallel), short workshops of CIMP working groups and a microscope session. Contributed oral and poster communications will be accepted, and no parallel scientific activities will take place during the poster session. Businnes Meetings also are foreseen.

Exhibitions of scientific equipment and books will be possibly arranged. Potential exhibitors should contact the Organizing Committee.

Publications

7

All registered participants will receive a copy of the book of abstracts at the Symposium. A proceeding volume will be published, probably as a special volume of the Bollettino della Società Paleontologica Italiana (SPI).

Language

The official language of the CIMP Symposium will be English.

Social program

Social events will include guided visits to the medieval towns of Pisa and Lucca and a gala dinner. Special guided visits to archaeological and medieval sites and/or museums will be possibly organized for accompanying persons.

Field excursion

The Palaeozoic sequence and palynology of Southern and Central Sardinia. More information well be given in the First Circular.

Deadlines (provisional)

The First Circular will be distributed not later than June 1997. It will be sent only to those returning the form enclosed herein.

Estimated costs

Costs will depend on the number of participants as well as on the possible sponsors. Our major objectif is to bring most CIMP members together, by keeping the accomodation costs down. The provisionally estimated registration fee does not exceeds 100 US\$. Cheep accomodation (full day board for one person: about 38 to 48 US\$) is possible, together with more expensive options in hotels. Campings also are available not far from the Symposium seat. More precise information about costs (comprising excursion) will be given in the First Circular.

Address for correspondence

Organizing Committee CIMP '98 Università di Pisa Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra Via S. Maria 53 - I 56126 - Pisa (Italy) Email: albani@dst.unipi.it - Fax: +39 50 500932

Organizing Committee

General Chairman: Marco Tongiorgi Field excursion Chairman: Paola Pittau Secretary: Roberto Albani

The Symposium is sponsorized by the University of Pisa (Rector Prof. L. Modica) and by the Earth Sciences Department of the same University (Head Prof. M. Franzini). Further sponsors will be listed in next circulars.

C.I.M.P. WORKING GROUPS AND SUBCOMMISSIONS

Vallatisporites Working Group

Contact person: Bernard Owens, British Geological Survey,

Keyworth, Nottinghamshire, NG12 5GG, U.K.

"Lycospora" First Occurrence Working Group

Contact person: Elzbieta Turneau, Instytut Nauk Geologicznych, Polska Akademia Nauk, Ul. Senacka 1/3, 31-002 Krakow, Poland.

Upper Devonian "Grandispora" Working Group

Contact person: Ken Higgs, Department of Geology,

University College Cork, Cork, Ireland.

Acritarch Subcommission

Chairman: Stuart Molyneux, British Geological Survey,

Keyworth, Nottinghamshire, NG12 5GG, U.K.

Secretary: Thomas Servais, Lab. ass. de Paléontologie.

Université de Liège, 7 Place du Vingt-Aout, B-4000 Liège, Belgium

Chitinozoa Subcommission

Chairman: Florentin Paris, CNRS - URA 1364, Universite de Rennes 1,

Campus de Beaulieu F35042 RENNES Cedex France.

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Student name: Dlear H. M. A. Baban : Thamer K. Al-Ameri Supervisor Signature: Thamer K. Al-Ameri

Graduation date: 20-11-1996

Thesis title

: Palynostratigraphy and Maturation of Lower Paleozoic Strata in Western Iraqi desert.

ABSTRACT

One handred sixty two (162) rock samples have been subjected to palynological and organic geochemical analysis from the lower paleozoic strata of sections in (Akkas-1) and (Khlaesia-1) western Iraq.

The analysis of the sedimentary organic matter revealed the existance of (134) species of acritarch belong to (54) genera, (43) species of chitinozoa belong to (12) genera and (21) species of spores belong to (16) genera and they were studied systematically.

Nine assemblage palynozones have been also identified in this study for stratigraphic interval of Tremadoc-Tournaisian with unconformties of Gedinian-Frasnian for (Akkas-1) section and Llandoverian-Wenlockian for (Khlaesia-1) section.

These palynozones were correlated with their equivalance in a regional and interregional extend.

The studied stratigraphic sections were subdivided into six primary palynofacies based on the sedimentary organic matter types of Bujack et.al. (1977) while secondary palynofacies were subsequently done on the basis of palenomorphs of environmental significance. Accordingly, the lower paleozoic was deposited in a marine environments extending from outer in to inner neritic with subitdal swampy environments.

It is evident in this study, that the studied area was cold during the silurian time based on the contineous existance of the acritarch species Neovervhachium carminae except the time interval of U. Wenlockian-L. Ludlovian with occurance of the two genera Deunffia, Domasia,

Maturation and hydrocarbon generation are studied here on the basis of Thermal Alteration Indices of the palynomorphs and Flourescence microscopy as well as the analysis of the Amorphous Organic matters (A. O. M) and Total Organic Carbon (T. O. C)

The Palynofacies of this study were distributed on the diagram of Bujack et. al., (1977) from which it appear that the section of (Khlaesia-1) indicate different maturation levels but with no hydrocarbon generation, while the section of (Akkas-1) is consist of two zones of hydrocarbon generation of uneconomic quantity in depths (1794m) and (2149m) as well as two zones for wet gas and condensates generation in depths (2799m) and (2860m). Dry gas generation is from depths (3620m) and (4172m).

Announcement of the Palaeozoic Palynostratigraphy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Project - Phase II:

Agreement was reached in Ghent, Belgium in late January 1997 to initiate Phase 2 of this project jointly managed by the Saudi Arabian Oil Company and the CIMP. A Project Team was established which will undertake a detailed study of the Cambrian -Permian sequence in the Kingdom with a view to refining the palynozonation of the Palaeozoic established during Phase I and published in the Review of Palaeobotany & Palynology Volume 89(1/2) in 1995. It is proposed to hold a project meeting during the 1998 CIMP Symposium in Pisa, Italy. The study will be managed by a small Executive Team comprising Dr. S. Al-Hairi (Saudi Aramco), Dr. G. Clayton (Dublin), Dr. F. Paris (Rennes), Dr. B. Owens (Nottingham) with Mrs. J Lines (BGS, Nottingham) as the Project Secretary. Opportunities may exist as the project develops to invite additional CIMP members to participate.



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