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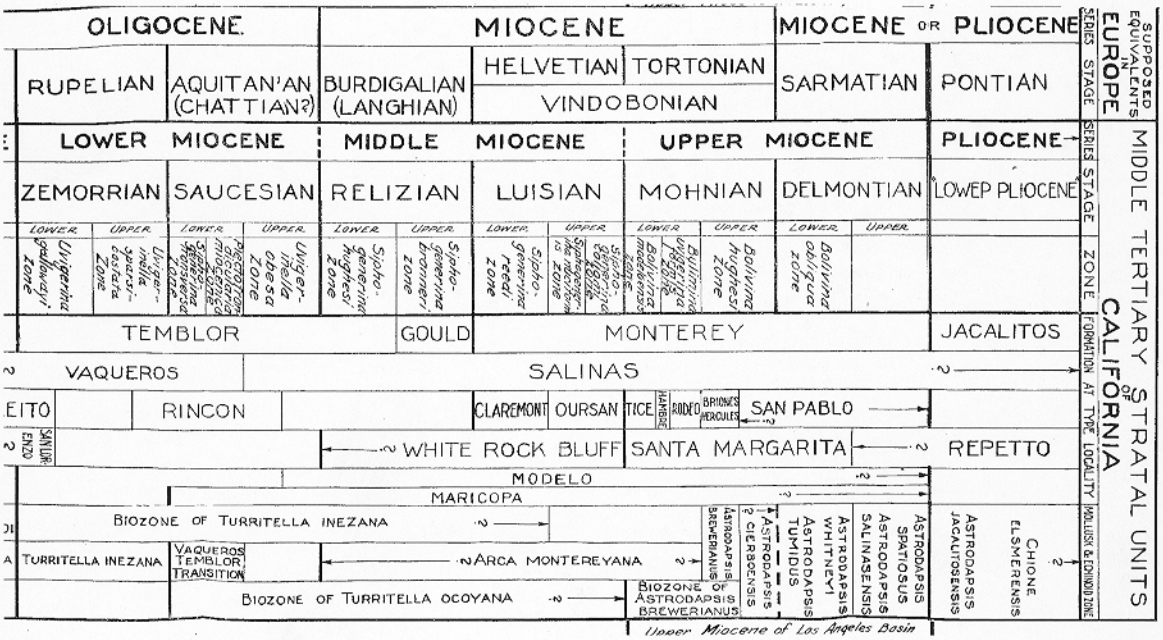

Robert M. Kleinpell's stages and zones for the California Miocene

EARTH SCIENCES HISTORY
Journal of the History of the Earth Sciences Society

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EDITORIAL
A WEALTH OF SCHOLARSHIP

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The three articles in this issue circle the globe. William B. N. Berry examines the role of Robert M. Kleinpell (1905–1986) in the application of biostratigraphic techniques in the exploration for petroleum in California. Kleinpell, at the urging of fellow California geologist Ralph Reed (1889–1960), familiarized himself with the work of Albert Oppel (1831–1865) on fossil zones in the Jura mountains. Berry's article provides a case study of a transfer of a European development to the United States, and also one of the utility of academic research in resource recovery.

The article by Alan Cohen portrays a vignette of the relations between scientists in a nineteenth-century colony and those at the center of the British empire. The well-known character at the center is Richard Owen (1804–1892), paleontologist at the British Museum, and the two characters on the periphery are South African amateurs Andrew Geddes Bain (1797–1864) and William Guybon Atherstone (1814–1898). Bain was an engineer and a builder of roads. Not unlike William Smith (1769–1839), he encountered fossils and strata in the course of his work and took careful note of them. Atherstone was a medical practitioner who became fascinated with Bain's fossils, joining him in digs and helping him promote his discoveries. The two discovered the first dinosaur skeletons of South Africa, sold many items to the British Museum, and Bain produced the first geological map of the area. Other British scientists besides Owen actively promoted the work and career of Bain in particular, including John Herschel (1792–1871) and Roderick Murchison (1792–1871).

Roy MacLeod takes us to Australia and the School of Mines at the University of Sydney. This school was founded in 1894 and dissolved in 1994. While MacLeod spotlights the Sydney school, he places it in two important contexts. Tensions between metropolis and province are, in this story, multi-dimensional. He examines the proliferation of numerous "miners' associations" and "miners' institutes" in the mineral districts of Australia from the 1850s on, and he also takes another, different look at the relation of colonial mining to an institution back in London, the Royal School of Mines. The Royal School of Mines was decidedly on the minds of some individuals involved in the Sydney school. Archibald Liversidge (1847–1927), a graduate of Cambridge and an associate of the Royal School of Mines, came to Sydney in 1872 to teach chemistry and mineralogy and soon set about re-creating a Royal School of Mines of the antipodes. MacLeod's nuanced and detailed article provides a combined history of both institutions. While providing perhaps the first exposure for readers to the history of the Sydney school, it also places the Royal School of Mines in a new, broader light. The tension between practical training and academic science also figures in this story.

This issue of **EARTH SCIENCES HISTORY** begins a series of rapidly appearing issues, five numbers in quick succession. This follows my transition into the editorship and an effort to place a larger than normal number of articles into print in each volume. Volumes 15 and 16, the last two volumes under previous

editor Mott Greene included seven articles (193 pages total) and five articles (178 pages total). Volume 18 was my first, with nine articles (380 pages), including the first two **Focus Books.** The current Volume 19 includes eleven articles (250 pages). The great number of quality submissions (some inherited, some submitted later) required larger volumes for a few years to begin to catch up with the rapid rate of submission. These volumes have worked their way through review and revision somewhat more slowly, partly because I was new to the job, and partly just because of their size.

The journal has now reached a new stage. The next two volumes—Volume 20 (2001) and Volume 21 (2002)—will be somewhat smaller: eight articles and six articles. This is partly because the backlog of publishable articles has been effectively cleared. Partly, also, the previous larger volumes cost more to print and some economy is now necessary. Moreover, these articles are all far along in the revision process and ready to move quickly into production. The most noticeable effect for readers of the journal will be that by the end of 2002, the journal will have caught up with its calendar schedule. A glance at the back cover of this issue also hints at the multi-national aspects of forthcoming articles: German, French, Japanese, and Russian. Other articles under revision for future volumes include more of these and add North and South American and British elements to the mix. Forthcoming articles consider disciplines ranging from paleobotany and geomagnetism to oceanography and climatology. Themes to be explored include the activities of women in earth science, metaphor and language, artistic perspective, and more. Exciting issues are on their way.

I should add a last note regarding dues and institutional subscription rates for **EARTH SCIENCES HISTORY.** Rates had not been increased in many years and the costs of both printing and postage were becoming unaffordable. The by-laws of the History of the Earth Sciences Society require that any dues increase above a nominal level (one dollar per year, not more than twice in three years) must be approved by the membership. An item was placed on a ballot mailed to the membership and was approved. Starting with the year 2002, dues for Members will be $40 to addresses in the United States and $45 outside. Institutional subscriptions will be $70/USA and $75/outside USA. Volumes 19 (2000) and 20 (2001) can still be obtained at the old rates of $30/USA and $35 outside the USA for individuals, and $50/USA and $55 outside the USA for institutions (plus postage). I hope you will agree that the journal continues to be a good bargain.