

INTERNATIONAL SUBCOMMISSION ON JURASSIC STRATIGRAPHY

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February 1979

N E W S L E T T E R No. 2

We apologize it has taken so long time to prepare this newsletter. However, it takes time to get answers from the members and from the proposed new members, convenors etc. In the future we hope to be able to publish newsletters in shorter time interval. Therefore, it is important to have your response as fast as possible and to have the addresses corrected if they are wrong. Furthermore, please inform us about your telephone number.

The present newsletter primarily comprises a summary of letters we have received and the information of the working groups. Few information are missing, but not to delay the coming work further we have decided to publish this newsletter in February 1979.

Report of the answers to Newsletter No. 1

The first newsletter of the newly established Subcommittee on Jurassic stratigraphy has been distributed during July 1978. By the beginning of January 79 all members had answered, finally. All members agreed to the Programme proposed by us. There were only some additional remarks by the members.

G. KRIMHOLZ wrote us that in his opinion one of the problems of ourstanding importance is the correlation between Volgian and Tithonian (and we might add Kimmeridgian sensu anglico/Portlandian). This is one of the crucial points in Jurassic correlation, still, despite of the success already reached during the last years. We think this will be one of the most important problems to work on by the Upper Jurassic working group.

R. du DRESNAY noted in his letter "correlations based on as many different fossil groups as possible are sometimes difficult, because there is a lack of specialists in macropaleontology in some groups Perhaps the first thing to do is a call for a new interest in such studies, and that is necessary even for the needs of applied geology and mapping geology, stratigraphy prior to tectonics." This is certainly true, but we hope that in the working groups specialists of different countries will

cooperate to solve the problems. It seems unrealistic to hope that one single country will have specialists for each major group in the Jurassic. Only international cooperation may help to fill out such gaps. - Perhaps it would be useful to have a list with specialists working on Jurassic fossil groups for the old world (and who are inclined to assist our work). G. WESTERMAN prepared such a list for the new world and the circum pacific region.

Further R. du DRESNAY made valuable comments on the "Aalenian Question" (I). The question of the position of the Aalenian stage is open since the colloquia Luxembourg I and II. There was the curious situation that Aalenian was placed in the "Jurassique inferieur" as well as in the "Dogger" (=Mittlerer Jura). Luxembourg II brought the confirmation of Luxembourg I decisions, but a majority voted for the position in the Middle Jurassic. -In the meantime it seems that the latter placement is preferred by many authors. We think this interesting question should be considered from the theoretical and practical points of view within the working groups, after the necessary researches on the faunas of the boundary beds have been undertaken.

A second part of additional remarks are concerned with the individual composition of the Subcommittee on the working groups. The proposals for correspondent membership are: 1. G. PAVIA (Torino, Italy) to represent the middle mediterranean Europe (by ENAY). 2. R.W. IMLAY (Washington, D.C.). A. RICCARDI regrets that R.W. IMLAY is not the representative of the U.S. - We propose to have R.W. IMLAY as consulting colleague within our corresponding members. 3. B. GECZY (Budapest) is proposed by us to represent Hungary, where a very active staff is working on the Jurassic.

We hope you will agree with these proposals for correspondent membership. The proposals by the members referring to membership in the working groups we have already included in enclosure of this newsletter, which has been already sent to the convenors to give them a possibility to begin with the organization of work.

Summary of the answers from the proposed members and correspondents:

G.F.W. HERNGREEN (Netherlands) and T. SATO (Japan) were proposed as new members, and S. EMAMI (Iran), D.L. JONES (USA),

J. KUTEK (Poland), R. MOUTERDE (France), R. RADOICIC (Yugoslavia) as corresponding members. Until now we have only got four answers: JONES, MOUTERDE, and SATO accepted, whereas HERNGREEN due to pressure of work prefers to act as corresponding member.

Summary of the answers from the proposed convenors:

- 1) The Lower Jurassic working group: In fact we do not yet have any convenor for this working group. DONOVAN (UK) and NORLING (Sweden) were proposed. DONOVAN has not yet answered, and NORLING answered that he had too much organisatory work. Instead of NORLING we asked M. URLICHS (BRD) to act as convenor, but also he decided to be an ordinary member due to too much work at the museum. Since it, particularly in the Lower Jurassic, is important to recognize the microfossils, especially the ostracods, we will propose A. LORD (UK) as convenor, and then hope to have an answer from him and DONOVAN in short time.
- 2) The Middle Jurassic working group: C.-A. MANGOLD (France) and R.H. BATE (UK) have accepted to act as convenors.
- 3) The Upper Jurassic working group: W. BIELECKA (Poland) and R. ENAY (France) were proposed as convenors. ENAY has accepted, whereas we have not yet got an answer from BIELECKA.

The list of proposed members of the three working groups as it arises from our propositions in Newsletter No. 1 and the additional propositions from the members is to be found in the attached Enclosure No. 1.

To organize the work of the three working groups the convenors will be invited to a meeting in March in Erlangen (BRD). The members of the Subcommittee are invited to participate. Further details will be issued in February.

The working group on the Jurassic-Cretaceous boundary has now been formally recognized by the Commission. Dr. R. CASEY has been elected as chairman and Dr. J. REMANE as secretary.

Information about Westermann group

G. WESTERMANN kindly informed us, that he has established a Circum-Pacific-Jurassic Research Group. As enclosure 2 you will find a note with Information on this group. WESTERMANN expressed his hope, that the subcommittee and his group will

work together and that there will be no overlapping of work. This is also our hope.

Please inform us if you have further topics for the work of the Subcommittee. It is important that the members of the Subcommittee actively take part in the work to initiate projects or studies of specific character. A. RICCARDI proposed each member of the Subcommittee should actively collaborate in one working group. Those members who are not mentioned in any of the working groups are asked to write us their preference.

If we do not receive any objections by you, we consider that you agree with the proposals of this newsletter. Deadline: 28th February 1979.

Arnold Zeiss

Olaf Michelsen

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ENCLOSURE 1

The following list of proposals of working group members arised from Newsletter No. 1 and the responses from the Subcommission members.

The working group of the Lower Jurassic.

Members: Delance (France), du Dresney (Marocco), Gabilly (France), Geczy (Hungary), Herrig (DDR), Howarth (UK), Jung (BRD), Kopik (Poland), Lord (UK), Michelsen (Denmark), Mouterde (France), Norling (Sweden), Rakus (Czechoslovakia), Urlichs (BRD), Wiedenmayer (Switzerland).

Correspondents: Ager (UK), Bertelsen (Denmark), Bloss (BRD), Lund (BRD), Schlatter (Switzerland), Zeiss (BRD).

The working group of the *Middle Juvassio*

Members: Almenas (France), Bertelsen (Denmark), Calloman (UK), Cariou (France), Contini (France), Dietel (BRD), Elmi (France), Guy-Ohlson (Sweden), Krymgoltz (USSR), Morton (UK), Munk (BRD), Pavia (Italia), Plumhoff (BRD), Riccardi (Argentina), Rieber (Switzerland), Ruget (France), Tintant (France), Vakhrameev (USSR), Westermann (Canada).

Correspondent: Zeiss (BRD).

The working group of the *Upper Juvassio*

Members: Ager (UK), Boullier (France), Doludenko (USSR), Donze (France), Dorhöfer (BRD), Geyssant (France), Gygi (Switzerland), Gradstein (Canada), Groiss (BRD), le Hégérat (France), Kutek (Poland), Kuznecova (USSR), Malz (BRD), Mezeshnikov (USSR), Prozorovskaja (USSR), Sapunov (Bulgaria), Sato (Japan), Stevens (New Zealand), Wierzbowski (Poland), Zeiss (BRD).

Correspondents: Calloman (UK), Kilenyi (UK), Michelsen (Denmark).

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ENCLOSURE 2

G.E.G. Westermann (Organizer)

Department of Geology
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Canada

New Circum-Pacific Jurassic Research Group

The new informal research group has been founded with the objectives to unite specialists in different geological and related fields with active interests in the Jurassic of the Pacific area, in order to promote interdisciplinary and intercontinental research and communication in the area. Research would include: circum-Pacific biochronology / stratigraphy and correlation, particularly between the Indo-West Pacific and East Pacific realms / provinces, based on diverse organisms; palaeobiogeography, plate tectonics, etc.; and other areas as will be defined by the group.

The group consists at present of 85 interested persons from Canada, USA, Mexico, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Argentina, New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Peoples Republic of China, Japan, Soviet Union and those from other countries specializing in Alaska, Central America, Caribbean, Columbia, Peru, Bolivia, Antarctica, Papua New Guinea and IndoChina.