

A NOTE ON PALAEOONTOLOGICAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE USSR

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THE vast territory of the USSR is very rich in fossils of various ages. The main palaeontological laboratories belong to the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, to Academies of the Ukraine, Georgia, White Russia and other Republics, to the Ministry of Geology, Ministry of Oil, Ministry of Coal, etc.

The Palaeontological Society of the USSR (Sredny Prospect, 72-B, Vasilievsky Ostrov, Leningrad 26) exists from the autumn of 1917. It was founded by A. P. Karpinsky, M.D. Zalesky (palaeobotanist), A. A. Boris-siak, N. N. Yakovlev, A. N. Rjabinin and other eminent palaeontologists. The Society embraces some five hundred palaeontologists

with Prof. I. I. Gorsky, Correspondent Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Leningrad, as its President.

The Palaeontological Society of the USSR has a Library, and a Year Book of which a complete set is being sent to the Palaeontological Society of India.

Some branches of the Society exist in Saratov, in Kiev and Lvov—Ukraine, Tashkent—Uzbekistan, Alma-Ata—Kazakhstan. In Moscow there is a Palaeontologic Section of the Moscow Society of Naturalists.

The main centres of Palaeontology and Palaeobotany, their principal activities, and publications are mentioned below:

A. PALAEOONTOLOGICAL INSTITUTIONS

1. The Palaeontological Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Moscow, B-71, 33 Bolshaya Kalauzhskaya.

Research Activities:—Palaeozoology of many groups of invertebrates and of all vertebrates; A Palaeontological Museum is attached to the Institute.

Publications:—

Travaux de l'Institute de Paleontologie.

(Palaeontology of the USSR faunas and floras of various regions of the USSR.)

2. The Section of Palaeontology and Stratigraphy of the USEGEI, Ministry of Geology of the USSR, Leningrad, 26, Vasilievsky Ostrov, 72-B Sredny Prospect.

Research Activities:—Invertebrates and Palaeobotany—pollen, spores, etc.

3. Section of Palaeontology and Stratigraphy of the Central Oil Institute of the USSR, Leningrad, 29 Liteyny Prospekt. (=Neftyanoy Institute, VNYGRY.)

Research Activities:—Tabulata, Brachiopoda, etc.; Micropalaeontology: Mesozoic and Cainozoic foraminifera, ostracoda, etc.

4. The Department of Palaeontology of the Academy of Sciences, Georgian Republic, Tbilisi.

5. The Palaeontological Laboratory of the Leningrad State University, Leningrad, 26, Vasilievsky Ostrov, 16 Linia 29.

Research Activities:—Graptolites, Echinodermata and Lower Vertebrates.

Publications:

“*Voprosy Paleontologii*” (=Questions of Palaeontology, formerly, “*Problems of Palaeontology*”).

6. Department of Palaeontology of the Moscow State University, Moscow, 234, Lenin Mountains, University Room 520.

Research Activities:—Mesozoic Ammonoidea, Mesozoic foraminifera, Tertiary plants and Palaeozoic fishes (Placoderms).

7. There are Departments of Palaeontology in the Universities of Leningrad, Saratov, Tomsk and palaeontologists in the Departments of Geology of many other universities.

B. PALAEOBOTANICAL INSTITUTIONS

1. The Department of Palaeobotany in the Botanic Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR—Leningrad 22, Ulitza Popova 2.

Mesozoic, Tertiary and Quaternary floras; morphological study of seeds, cuticles etc.

2. Geological Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR—Moscow B-17, Pyjevsky Pereulok, 7.

Research Activities :—Palaeozoic floras, pollen and spores.

3. Tomsk State University, Department of Palaeontology, Tomsk, Siberia.

Research Activities :—Devonian plants.

(See also Section of Palaeontology and Stratigraphy of USEGEI and Department of Palaeontology, Moscow State University, under "Palaeontologic Institutions").