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 X THE CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA X
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CIRCULAR NO. 107. MAY, 1969. PAGE 1.

Edited by Richard Carlsson.

MEETING:

The next meeting of the Society will be held in the Lecture Hall of the S.A. Museum on Tuesday, 27th May, at 8.15 p.m. The shells on display will be the following 25 species pictured in Rare Shells by S. Peter Dance. Entemnotrochus adansoniana, Perotrochus quoyana, Astraea heliotropium, Angaria sphaerula, Tibia martinii, Strombus listeri, Strombus taurus, Lambis violacea, Cypraea aurantium, Cypraea broderipii, Cypraea valentia, Cypraea leucodon, Cypraea nivosa, Cypraea guttata, Cypraea fultoni, Murex alabaster, Murex barclayi, Murex loebbeckei, Murex elongatus, Murex beaui, Cymatium ranzani, Busycon coarctatum, Morum dennisoni, Ancilla vernelei, and Vexillum dennisoni. It is only to be hoped that some of our members may have some of these shells. If you have not got any of these rare shells then please bring along any you may have that are rare.

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THE COUNCIL:

Nominations for the council, in writing, are hereby called for, to reach the Secretary not later than 24th June, 1969.

The present council is as follows:

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| <u>President</u> | - Mr. D.H. Kennelly | | |
| <u>Vice-President</u> | - Mr. D. Freeman | | |
| <u>Secretary</u> | - Mrs. E. Giles | | |
| <u>Treasurer</u> | - Mr. M.C. Giles | | |
| <u>Members-</u> | - Mrs. T. Carlsson | <u>Country Members:</u> | |
| | Mrs. C. Connolly | Border | - Mrs. M. Rix |
| | Mrs. L. Kerr | Transvaal | - Mr. A. Jenner |
| | Mr. R. Carlsson | Natal | - Mr. E. Dee. |
| | Mr. L. Kapp. | | |

With the exception of the Vice-President and the Treasurer, the term of office of all other Council members has expired. Will members please send in their nominations to the Secretary as soon as possible, making sure that your nominee agrees.

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Minutes of the Meeting held in the S.A. Museum, 29.4.1969:

Mr. J. Freeman in the chair welcomed members and friends. Apologies were received from Miss Bustin, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Prior, Mrs. Kinloch, Mr. Ivy, and Mr. Campbell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and adopted.

Election of Members:

- Mrs. C. Byrte, "Dos Mundos", Marbella 61, Malagas, Spain.
- Mrs. D.E. Bodley, 201 Inverae, Keam Road, Baysville Ext., East London.
- Mrs. J.L. Taylor, 2 Ridgewood, 328 Ridge Road, Durban.
- Miss J. Hoff, B 10 Linden Park Flats, Liesbeek Road, Rosebank, Cape.

Proposal/...

Proposal of New Members:

Johannesburg Public Library proposed by E.K. Giles, seconded by M.C. Giles.
 Mrs. Shuttleworth, proposed by E.K. Giles, seconded by M.C. Giles.
 Miss L. Shuttleworth, " " E.K. Giles, " " M.C. Giles.
 Mrs. L.M. Lentz, " " P. Faulkner, " " D.H. Kennelly.
 Mrs. P.B. Cleveland, " " T.J. Carlsson " " E.K. Giles.
 Mrs. J.A. Hart, " " L. Kerr, " " T. Carlsson.
 Mr. T.D. Hart, " " L. Kerr, " " T. Carlsson.

Mr. Freeman welcomed Mrs. and Miss Shuttleworth and Mr. and Mrs. Hart who were present.

An invitation inviting members to an exhibition of oil and water colour paintings by Mr. G. Ivy was read out. We wish him every success for this exhibition.

It was good to have Mrs. Kerr back in her usual seat and we are happy to report that she continues to make good progress. She brought us news of an old friend, Raymond Pollard, who is now a doctor living with his wife in America.

Mr. Freeman once again had a new book to show the meeting. It was "Rare Shells" by S. Peter Dance, and contains fifty rare shells which are illustrated in colour. The accompanying text is well written and informative. Members are warned to check the colour plates before they purchase a copy as one seen in the shops had been badly marked during production.

Mr. P. Elston had some interesting comments to make on a new species of *Conus* he has. See article.

Mr. L. Kapp gave a most interesting talk on Strombidae. He had on display some 44 specimens of the Genus *Strombus*, and a total of about 6 specimens representing the Genus *Lambis*, *Terebellum*, and *Tibia*. He unfortunately did not have anything representing the Genus *Rimella*. In fact no one appears to have heard of this genus and we would be very grateful to any one who can give us information. Linn drew attention to Tucker Abbot - Indo-Pacific Mollusca and pointed out that the section on Strombidae was by far the best bit of literature at present on that family.

Whilst waiting for tea there was a short discussion on the possibility of shells being distributed by being carried on the bottom of ships' hulls and being found in the engraving docks of our various sea ports.

Mr. Freeman once again drew attention to the reference collection. Mrs. Connolly has asked for help in the naming of the *Trivia* she has in the collection.

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BORDER NOTES:

by Maimie Rix.

On Sunday 30th March we had the best meeting we have had for a long time. 18 members and visitors were there and warmly welcomed by "Ken". All Leila's friends were happy to hear that she was home and recuperating. A very special message of cheer was voted by all, and so we send this on to her with our love.

Wiley old "Ken" had his application forms with him and got Mrs. Lentz of Gonubie and Mrs. Colquhoun of Shabani Rhodesia to sign a form each. He is delighted to have a "Kalkoen" in our midst.

Adeline Gilmer, again displayed some fascinating selections of foreign shells. Peggy Faulkner brought back from the Transkei lovely examples of *Cypraea*, *Conus*, and other species. She also had a wonderful 100 mm. specimen of *Tonna dunkeri* from Xora - animal and all. Dick of course immediately performed an operation, so that he could pickle the animal for his Museum collection. Mrs. Colquhoun brought an excellent

specimen/...

specimen of Argonauta hians from Hickmans River. This is a perfect shell, light brown colour. Real beginners luck! Mrs. Armstrong had another perfect specimen of A. hians, larger than the one from Hickmans River and a very dark brown. We were delighted to have Mrs. Grace Hulley from Bathurst as a visitor. She seldom gets a chance to come to our meetings, and we love to see her.

After our usual happy tea and chat and oohs and aahs of admiration (and envy) the meeting ended, with everyone eager for more outings. We hope to go out more in the future as the real "shelling weather" is approaching.

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CORRECTION:

In Circular No. 105, page 2 Exchange Wanted. Mr. Frank Nolf Offers... should read Mediterranean Sea Shells and NOT Red Sea as Stated. Our apologies to those who may have been inconvenienced by this error.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- Mrs. J. Lockyer, 1 Edge Road, Beacon Bay, East London.
- Dr. R. Pollard, 341 Woods Hole Road, Salmouth, Mass. 02540 U.S.A.
- Mr. P.W. Clover, Apartado de Correos 22, Rota, Cadiz, Spain.
- Mrs. C. Hulley, 10 Tindale Road, Vincent, East London.
- Mrs. J. Dichmont, Vergelegen, St. Pauls Crescent, Rondebosch, Cape.
- Mr. J. Dichmont, Vergelegen, St. Pauls Crescent, Rondebosch, Cape.

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EXCHANGE WANTED:

- Mr. W.J. Eyerdam, 7531 19th Avenue N.E., Seattle, W.A. 98115 U.S.A. will exchange Marginella, Volutidae, Mitridae, Naticidae and minute shells mostly from Alaska for especially minute marine shells Marginella, Naticidae, and Dentalia from S.A. Has also deep water shells from Japan, Alaska and west coast of the Americas.
- Mr. J.W.J. Walscheid van Dyke, F.C. Dondersstraat 6, Utrecht, Holland. would like to contact other shell collectors with a view to exchanging.

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ARGONAUTA NODOSA:

Mr. J.D. Moller of Walvis Bay reports that he has obtained two specimens of Argonauta nodosa taken by -

- a) m.f.v. "Gouritz" in 60 fathoms at Cape Frio on 28/5/1968 size 120 mm.
- b) m.f.v. "Arafura" in 150 fathoms at 250 miles north of Walvis Bay on 14/3/1969, size 150 mm.

This species is more commonly found in Australian waters.

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A RARE FIND.

by R.O. Carlsson.

Whilst shelling with Hazel Jefferies at Haga Haga during August, 1966 Thelma and I were not having a very lucky day and when we returned to our car where we had left our maid with our two small boys we were told by our maid that Stephen, then aged three, was missing. After a frantic search which lasted the best part of an hour we found him over a hill about two miles away crying his heart out to the sheep. He had apparently tried to help his father by going to open the farm gate so that I could drive out without stopping. That episode will always be remembered by Hazel, Thelma and myself. But a more important occurrence by which we will remember that trip was the finding of a "Volva" by our

maid/...

maid. It was a shell that none of us recognised and Thelma promptly offered 50 cents for it. A month later whilst shelling at the same site Hazel found another specimen of "Our Volva". Although both of us showed the shell to many people no one was able to identify it.

In February of this year Hazel in sheer desperation sent her shell to Dr. Schilder. I have just had a letter from Hazel and this is what she says: "At long last we can name our Volva. This is what Dr. Schilder says 'I intend to photograph and publish the Ovula you have sent me for examination and return: it is Pellasimnia aurantia Sowerby 1889, very few specimens of which are known, and no shell has ever been figured. The description of the type does not mention the lateral spots, a unique character in Ovulidae, but the only shell of aurantia which I ever saw before (British Museum, coll. Ponsonby), shows them very clearly.

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BREEDING OF CYPRAEA.

by A.B. Jenner.

On the 18th March, 1969, I came upon a specimen of isabella isabella Linné sitting on eggs on the underside of a piece of dead coral in about 8" of water at low tide, on the western side of Inhaca Island, Mocambique.

The clutch of pale lemon-coloured eggs was approximately 25 mm. in diameter and comprised an estimated 500/600 capsules.

The posture of the shell appeared to me to be unusual in that it was completely enveloped in its black mantle and the black foot of the animal was somewhat spreadeagled such that it snugly covered the clutch. I particularly mention this since having found helvola argella brooding on eggs on two previous occasions at Inhaca, it was observed that in these instances the entire shell was visible and the mantle appeared to be draped around the clutch perimeter.

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A NEW CONUS:

by P. Elston.

I have been fortunate to receive a new cone of the Sub-genus Leptocomus Swainson 1840. (see Marsh and Rippingale, Page 44 "Cone Shells of the World.")

This shell sent to me by a good friend in San Pedro, California is similar to Conus regularis Sowerby 1833 but differs, firstly in the shape of the operculum, which is very small, ovoid and a very pale cream. The shell is high spired, protoconch two whorls, four succeeding whorls to the shoulder, which is acute and to there covered with dark brownish, wavy, zig-zag flashes over the white background. The body whorl is white and at the top, immediately below the shoulder, the wavy lines continue for some 4 mm. thereafter broken into brown dashes interspersed with minute dotted horizontal lines and, the extreme lower part of the shell, with axial striae. The length of my specimen is 45 mm.

The name is Conus poormanni Berry 1969. Lower Gulf of California, dredged 35 to 40 fathoms. I have not yet sufficient details of length of radula but it is possibly like the similar sub-genus, two barbed.

When any further information reaches me I will be only too willing to add to this article.

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CORRECTION: Circular No. 106 Page 2.

Omitted from Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The last sentence of this article should read:-

"Mr. Elston stated that the shape of the operculum is not necessarily a decisive factor in the identification of Conus in that the malacologist determines the species by the radula as well as the animal".

Our apologies to Percy for any inconvenience caused by the omission of the latter part of the sentence.

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ACTING SECRETARY:

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Phone: 53-1536.

LIBRARIAN AND ACTING TREASURER:

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Pinelands, Cape.

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