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X THE CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA X  
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MEETING:

The next meeting will be held in the Lecture Room of the S.A.Museum on Tuesday, 18th July, at 8.15 p.m. Bring along your "Tiny Shells" for display, about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and less. There will be a talk by one of our scientists and a film.

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ABOUT MEMBERS:-

MEETING AT THE S.A.MUSEUM - 19.6.1961.

Apologies were received from Mrs.Kerr and Mrs.Connolly. The following members were elected:-

Mrs.J.A.Sterling, 300 Flower Street, Capital Park, Pretoria.  
Miss E.Ackermann, The Round House, Camps Bay.  
Miss P.Ward, Tettenhall Green, Indian Road, Konilworth.

Mary Kuttel gave an extremely interesting talk on Port Nolloth and its shelling possibilities. She displayed shells from the area and very kindly allowed members to help themselves to duplicates.

Dr.Frank Talbot rendered a short recording of strange marine animal noises with an interesting talk. The questions asked afterwards seemed to indicate an interest in this fishy business!

The Walt Disney film "Seal Island" was shown and we have to thank Mr.C.Thorne for arranging this.

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Another respectful reminder from our Treasurer that subscriptions up to June, 1962, are now due.

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We have ordered 50 copies of a publication "The Sea Shells of Dar es Salaam" by J.F.Spry, issued by the Tanganyika Society. This is beautifully illustrated with eight colour pages of shells. The price is 75c (7/6d) post free. Reserve your copy now by sending cash with order, which will be sent strictly in order of receipt.

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Mr.J.Archer, c/o P.O. Machan's Beach, Cairns, North Queensland, Australia, would like to obtain some South African Volutes in exchange for good Australian shells. He is an advanced collector and exchanges very good material.

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GENERAL NOTES:

CALLIOSTOMA by K.H. Barnard.

Mr. Kennelly invites comment on his notes on this genus (Conch. Soc. S. Afr. Circ. 22 p. 2. 1961). As my results differ in some respects from the suggestions made by Mr. Kennelly and others, the following abstract is given, with the permission of the Director, S. African Museum. The full discussion will appear in Part 4 of my Revision, to be published later in Annals S. Afr. Museum.

The deeper water species, not likely to be washed ashore, are here omitted.

C. ornatum (Lam.) -- eucosmia Bartsch. Lamarck's description was totally inadequate, and no locality was given. Krauss, Sowerby (3rd), Smith, von Martens, and Thiele seem to have been satisfied as to the identity of Cape shells; but Bartsch considered there were differences, without however stating them categorically. A direct comparison of Cape shells with Lamarck's type (if it exists) might settle the matter. In the meantime it is preferable to accept eucosmia, as Tomlin did, with a modern description accompanied by three clear figures.

The synonymy of eucosmia thus includes: ornatum of Krauss, Sowerby and others (not of Lamarck); bicingulatum of Sowerby (not of Lamarck); euglyptum of Sowerby (not of A. Adams); albolineatum Turton; and probably also convexa Turton.

There are "high" and "low" forms, and there is considerable variation in the spiral lirae and the granulation. Radula with 9 lateral plates.

Turton's figure of a juvenile bicingulata (Marine Shells Port Alfred. plat 49, No. 1339) seems to be that of a Cynisca.

False Bay to East London.

C. africanum Bartsch. A "high" species, the altitude exceeding the diameter more distinctly than in high examples of eucosmia. Isolated brown squarish blotches on lower half or two-thirds of whorl; these blotches are not conspicuous in living shells, but become accentuated in beach examples.

Extends farther north-eastwards (Zululand) and less far westwards (living off Great Fish Point) than eucosmia.

The radula has only 5 lateral plates.

C. layardi Sow. 1897. Distinguished by the channelled sutures, and the intermittently nodulose supra-sutural lira (the lira is granulose, but with larger nodules at intervals). Radula with 5 lateral plates.

Described (dead) from Pondoland; has been found living off the Natal coast.



C. multiliratum Sow. 1875 ("liratum" sow. 1900), and crossleyae Smith 1910, require further investigation. Possibly layardi and crossleyae are both synonyms of multiliratum.

C. burnipi Smith 1899. A small but solid, thick-walled, Natal species which also requires further investigation.

Cantharidus fultoni (Sow.) is not a Calliostoma, as is shown by the radula. Tomlin (1931) showed that farquhari is only the juvenile of fultoni. Smith's bisculptum (1906) is another synonym; and so is the fossil mosselense Tomlin 1926. Of the latter Tomlin had only one specimen, and thus was not aware of the variability of the lirae: 6-18 on the whorls, 8-13 on the base. Variation on the whorl does not always coincide with that on the base; shells with multilirate whorls usually have a multilirate base, but not always.

Altitude greater than diameter, proportionately greater in adults (up to 16mm. alt.) than in juveniles. Axial streaks or zigzags, sometimes in duplicate, on a paler ground colour; sometimes 2-3 thin red spiral lines. Juveniles often iridescent.

Although extending as far as Mossel Bay in Quaternary times, it does not seem to be living at the present day south of Delagoa Bay. It is closely allied to the Madagascan suarezensis Fischer, and comparison of a large number of specimens from Madagascar and the east coast of Africa might prove interesting.

References (additional to those given by Kennelly).

- Smith, E.A. 1899. Journ. Conch. ix. p.250  
 - 1906. Annals Natal Museum. i. p.54  
 - 1910. " " " ii. p.205  
 Sowerby, G.B. 1875. Proceedings Zool.Soc.London. p.127.  
 - 1897. Appendix to Marine Shells S.Afr. p.18.  
 - 1900. Proc. Malac. Soc.London. iv. p.6  
 Tomlin, J.R. le B. 1926. Trans.Geological Soc.S.Afr.xxviii p.81  
 - 1931. Annals Natal Museum. vi. p.419.

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MOLLUSCAN MISCELLANY by D.H.Kennelly.

IT IS RELIABLY REPORTED

THAT On his way home recently from Durban, Dick Kilburn - aided by a package of odoriferous specimens - established a new record for speed in passing through the Customs at Port Elizabeth.

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THAT "Ginger" Wicks has heard of a new collecting spot on the shores of Algoa Bay, and hopes for good results from a visit.

THAT All members regret to learn of the unrest in Zanzibar, and hope this famous and beautiful locality will not become "out of bounds" to collectors.

A FORTHCOMING NEW BOOK ON SHELLS.

For some time rumours have been circulated regarding a projected book on "World Wide Conidae". As Australia was mentioned as the source of publication, I communicated with Dr.D.F.McMichael, Curator of Molluscs at the Australian Museum, Sydney.

This gentleman very courteously replied promptly, and an extract from his letter is appended:-

"I cannot tell you much about the projected work on Conidae. It is planned as a publication by Jacaranda Press of Queensland, though I know that it is only the vaguest of plans at this stage. The authors are Mr. Tony Marsh of Queensland, with illustrations by Mr.C.H. Rippingale of Toowoomba, Queensland, but I do not think the book has progressed very far at this date.

Meanwhile it is hoped that a book on Queensland shells by Mr.Rippingale and myself will appear shortly, probably towards the end of this year. This will be a general work covering the larger Queensland species with coloured illustrations of all the species dealt with - about 700".

I may add that I am keeping in touch with Dr.McMichael, and in due course further details will be given for the benefit of interested members.

D.H.Kennelly.

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"CANCELLARIA SEMIDISJUNCTA", SOWERBY.  
by D. H. Kennelly.

This shell needs no introduction to South African collectors, and it is well known at Jeffreys Bay by the popular name "Basket Steps", owing to the cancellate sculpture.

It may be of interest to our members to learn that Maxwell Smith figures this species under the sub-genus "Trigonostoma" Blainville, 1827, while a leading authority in the United States - R. Tucker Abbott - employs "Trigonostoma" as a full genus.

Under the circumstances it is presumed that some of our Collectors, being "lumpers" will use "Cancellaria", while the "Splitters" will use "Trigonostoma".



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The subject seems to have become a matter of personal opinion, but further comments from members would be appreciated as being of interest to all.

- References:-
- "The Marine Shells of South Africa", G.E.Sowerby, 1892.
  - "A Beginner's Guide", Dr. K.H. Barnard.
  - "American Seashells", R.Tucker Abbott, 1956.
  - "Universal Shells", Maxwell Smith, 1961.

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"CARDIUM PSEUDOLIMA", LAMARCK, and "CARDIUM LIMA", GMELIN. by D.H.Kennelly.

A short time ago I received a request from my good friend - Mrs. Helen Boswell - for information on "Cardium lima", Linn.

I was not in possession of the necessary literature to reply in full so I wrote to Mr.T.E.Crowley in England, and as the information received appears to be of interest to all collectors, I decided to make Mrs.Boswell's enquiry the subject of these notes.

I would like to mention my appreciation and thanks to Mr.T.E.Crowley, and Mr.C.P.Castell, for their courteous assistance, and for the information they communicated, which is detailed below:-

"Regarding Cardium lima, Linn., what is apparently meant is Cardium lima, J.F.Gmelin, in Linn. Syst. Ed. 13, 1790.

According to H. C. Kuster in Martini & Chemnitz's System Conchil. Cab. 1869, this is synonymous with Cardium asiaticum, J.G.Bruguiere, 1789, and the range is given as Indian Ocean, Nicobar, Natal, and Chinese seas. It is obviously quite different from Cardium pseudolima, Lamarck".

Some ten years ago, in the course of exchanging with a shell friend in the U.S.A., I received a grand specimen of "Cardium pseudolima" Lam., measuring 3 1/4 inches by 3 1/2 inches, taken at Mikindani Island, P.E.Africa, and I have seen this shell listed as occurring at Zanzibar.

An outstanding feature of C.pseudolima is the beautiful "dove-tailed" edging of the valves, ensuring a perfect closure of the shell, which is very ventricose.

Some of our members who have been collecting on the East Coast, may possess specimens of one - or both - of these species, and be able to communicate a description. Unfortunately I am not able to give the difference between "C.lima" and "C.pseudolima".

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