

THE III INTERNATIONAL PALYNOLOGICAL, CONFERENCE NOVOSIBIRSK, U. S. S. R.

The III International Palynological Conference was held at Novosibirsk, USSR, from 19th to 25th July, 1971. The sessions of the Conference were divided into Plenary Meetings, Sectional Meetings and Symposia. The Plenary Meetings included presentation of reports or syntheses on various newer aspects of Palynology which were of general interest for palynologists. As many as 20 lectures were held in Plenary Meetings. Nearly all the lectures were of considerable scientific significance giving a wide perspective. They included subjects on almost all important aspects of Palynology today. The Sectional Meetings included reading of papers under as many as 9 sections, e.g.

1. Morphology of pollen and spore of modern plants.
2. Morphology, nomenclature and systematics of fossil pollen and spores.
3. Methodical problems in Palynology.
4. Palynology of Palaeophyte and Proterophyte.
5. Palynology of Mesophyte.
6. Palynology of Cenophyte (before Pliocene).
7. Palynology of Pliocene, Pleistocene and Holocene.
8. Phytomicroplankton, fungi and microfossils of uncertain systematic position.
9. Palynology in medicine and in various scientific fields and practice besides geology and geography.

Over 350 papers were communicated. The great variety of aspects treated and the richness of information made available can be estimated only by going through the titles of papers, listed in the programme and their abstracts. Some of the subjects dealt with in the Plenary sessions were:

L. A. KUPRIANOVA: The importance of morphology of pollen and spores for plant phylogeny and pollen analysis.

V. V. MENNER: The importance of palynology for stratigraphy.

E. D. ZAKLINSKAYA: The importance of palynology for palaeofloristics and differentiation of Earth floras.

N. A. BOLKHOVITINA: Nomenclature and taxonomy of fossil spores and pollen.

J. MULLER: A system of coding the morphographical features in spores for computers.

D. BROOKS and D. SHAW: The role of sporopollenin in palynology.

U. HAFSTEN: Zonal system of global Holocene.

In the sectional meetings, regional palaeopalynological reports on various stratigraphic horizons or papers on methods of palynological research, or spore-pollen morphology, or marine palynology or air palynology etc., figured prominently. Among these some of the interesting communications were—

V. S. AGABABIAN: Palynology and the origin of Angiosperms.

B. GULLVAG: A study of some pteridophytic spores by means of electron microscopy combined with histochemical and autoradiographical methods.

H. TRALAU: A computerized information system in palaeo- and neopalynology.

O. CORNA-ZUKOVA: Methods of maceration of high metamorphic rocks.

I. L. FADEEVA: Palynological characteristics of stratotypic sections of Permian stages in the U.S.S.R.

YU. M. PELIPENKO: Interpreting spore-pollen spectra of continental deposits.

E. V. KORENEVA: Distribution of pollen and spores in marine and oceanic sediments.

G. I. KLEIMENOVA: A stratotypic section through Holocene deposits in the south-eastern part of the Baltic area (the Lakhta bog).

U. JUX: Fine structures of the walls in Baltisphaerids and Tasmanites.

P. A. POPOV: Fossil Fungi as indicators of stratigraphy and palaeobiogeocenoses.

N. G. PYKHOVA: Acritarchs of stratotypic pre-Cambrian sections of Eastern Siberia, Southern Urals, and Spitzbergen archipelago and their stratigraphic significance.

F. H. CRAMER: Silurian palynogeography and continental drift.

During the Conference, the International Palynology Committee met on 20th and 23rd July to decide about a constitution for the Committee, the venue for the next conference and the office-bearers for the new Committee. The Committee agreed to a constitution where-in a council and two subcommittees, one each for Palaeopalynology and Recent Palynology were created. The composition of the council along with the New office bearers unanimously approved by the Committee, is as follows:

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| <i>President</i> | .. | .. | N. F. HUGHES (U.K.) |
| <i>Vice-President (Chairman of Organizing Committee for next Conference).</i> | | | D. C. BHARADWAJ (India) |
| <i>Vice-President (Chairman Palaeopalynology Subcomm.)</i> | | | M. I. NEISTADT (USSR) |
| <i>Vice-President (Chairman Recent Palynology Subcomm.)</i> | | | J. MULLER (N.L.) |
| <i>Secretary</i> | .. | .. | Vacant (to be appointed by the President. |
| <i>Past President (Member)</i> | | .. | F. P. JONKER (N.L.) |
| <i>Six co-opted Members</i> | .. | .. | E. D. ZAKLINSKAYA (USSR) |
| | | | P. K. K. NAIR (India) |
| | | | S. ARCHANGAISKY (Argentina) |
| | | | <i>Vacant</i> |
| | | | <i>Vacant</i> |
| | | | <i>Vacant</i> |

The venue of the next Conference was unanimously approved to be Lucknow, India in 1976, on the basis of the invitation from Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow.

D. C. BHARADWAJ