



Tracy I. Storer and Charles L. Camp

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

Tracy I. Storer and Charles L. Camp DURING the early years of this century major contributions to herpetology generally, but especially that of California, were made by two proteges of Joseph Grinnell of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley. Although both Tracy Storer and Charles Camp abandoned strictly herpetological pursuits many years ago, their contributions were of such significance as to assure them of permanent esteem in the herpetological community.

Tracy Irvin Storer was born in San Francisco, California, 17 Aug. 1889. After receiving BA and MS degrees in Zoology at Berkeley he became associated with Joseph Grinnell in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. His curatorial duties and collaborative work with Grinnell and others kept him fully occupied for several years, and he served in the army for over a year. Different attitudes toward graduate study prevailed in those days and Grinnell insisted that Storer accumulate vacation time for over six years to permit the field work necessary for his doctoral work. His 1925 dissertation (*A Synopsis of the Amphibia of California*. Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool. 27) is a classic that remains an important source of information.

Storer became the first faculty member in Zoology at the Davis campus of the University of California and spent the remainder of his career there. He was Chairman of Zoology for many years. During this period he completed his general zoology textbook (1943), which became an outstanding success.

As a general vertebrate zoologist Storer published broadly on a wide array of topics. After the 1930's he wrote little on amphibians and reptiles, with mammals dominating his interests.

Tracy I. Storer died 25 June 1973. A full obituary and publication list is found in the *J. Mammal.* 56:538-551.

Charles Lewis Camp was born in Jamestown, North Dakota, 12 March 1893. His family moved to Sierra Madre, California, and there he met Joseph Grinnell. When only 15 years old he spent a summer as a member of a biological survey team on the first study trip of the newly founded Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. While an undergraduate at Berkeley

he collaborated with Grinnell on the first distributional study of California amphibians and reptiles. He was never much of a mammalogist, and one night in the High Sierra his mouse trapping venture produced salamanders rather than mice—one trap caught the first two *Hydromantes* collected in the New World. He published several important papers on amphibians and reptiles, and described such species as *Bufo canorus*, *Batrachoseps major*, *Spelerpes* (now *Hydromantes*) *platycephalus* and *Rana muscosa* during this period.

Camp conducted his graduate studies under W. K. Gregory at Columbia starting in 1915. He also worked with H. F. Osborn and Mary C. Dickerson at the American Museum of Natural History. Fellow graduate students and colleagues included G. K. Noble, A. S. Romer and K. P. Schmidt. Following two years of service in the army he completed his doctoral work. His outstanding dissertation (*Classification of the Lizards*. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 48: 289-481, 1923) is a herpetological classic. Although Camp maintained a general interest in living amphibians and reptiles (he published on *Hydromantes* into the 1950's), he gravitated progressively toward paleontology. He joined the Department of Zoology at Berkeley in 1922, but in 1930 he transferred to the Department of Paleontology. He was Director of the Museum of Paleontology from 1930 until 1949, and retired from teaching in 1960. Camp contributed importantly to paleontology through his teaching and research, and especially by his eight volume bibliography of fossil vertebrates.

This remarkable man also had a third major interest beyond herpetology and paleontology. He was a distinguished student of Western American history and wrote numbers of articles and books in this area. For his historical work he won the Henry R. Wagner Memorial Medal of the California Historical Society in 1970.

It was my privilege to have several long conversations with Professor Camp during the early 1970's. He maintained a keen interest in plethodontid salamanders and their history. In addition he possessed an excellent memory, and was a source of many anecdotes concerning herpetology as it was in his youth. Charles L. Camp died 14 August 1975. A full obituary

can be found in the Soc. Vert. Paleon. Newsletter 105:47-49.—DAVID B. WAKE, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.*

Bleeker's Atlas I have been greatly favored with a copy of the *deluxe* edition of the duplication of Part I of the nine comprising the foundational ichthyological masterpiece, Bleeker's *Atlas Ichthyologique des Indes Orientales Néerlandaises*. This initial unit covers xxi + 168 folio pages and 48 plates, each measuring, as in the original, 28.5 × 43.5 cm. The only addition to the original edition is printed as follows on the added flyleaf, reading:

This special reprint project has been undertaken in honor of Dr. Leonard P. Schultz, former Curator of Fishes at the Smithsonian Institution. Funds derived from the sale of this reprint accrue to the Dr. Leonard P. Schultz Fund at the Smithsonian Institution and are used to advance our knowledge of fishes.

This copy was sent to me by Herbert R. Axelrod, President of T.F.H. Publications, Inc.; long known as a patron of ichthyology. It is widely appreciated that he is financing this major nine-volume project, and that he has renamed the T.F.H. Fund (as stated above).

The circumstance that my very extensive holdings of "Bleekeriana" include a copy of this same part (I) has facilitated an appraisal of the quality of the reproduction of the colors on the 47 portraits of scarids and the 129 of labrids, all in full color (supplemented by a full plate of line sketches for each group). A comparison of every color plate in the two editions emphasizes the consistent fidelity of the new reproductions. At most, there are only very minor, seemingly inconsequential, differences in the intensity of some of the lighter pigments; and the very slight distinction may be due to changes that have occurred during the 115 years that have elapsed between the appearance of the two issues (furthermore, my original copy is rather badly stained).

Since a preponderant proportion of Indo-Pacific fishes have been described from what was long known as the "East Indies," this initiation of the reproduction of the long out-of-print *Atlas Ichthyologique des Indes Orientales Néerlandaises* promises to be a great boon to researchers on the fishes of this fantastically rich fauna; to the increasing numbers who dive for science, pleasure, and thrills in the same area; and to lovers of art. Furthermore, this publi-

cation is a fine tribute to our colleague Leonard Schultz, and a boon to the advancement of ichthyology through the Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. Axelrod has very generously donated 800 copies (out of the edition of 1,000) to the Smithsonian Institution, from which copies may be secured at the subsidized price of \$50.00 per copy.—CARL L. HUBBS, *Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California 92093.*

Herpetological News at the Smithsonian EFFECTIVE 1 Sept. 1977, George R. Zug became the Chairman of the Department of Vertebrate Zoology, National Museum of Natural History. The chairmanship is a five-year term. Dolores Icarangal, the long-time secretary of the Division of Reptiles and Amphibians, has retired. The current staff of the Division consists of Ronald I. Crombie, Ron Heyer, Frances I. McCullough and Dorsey Williams. Francis Blasdell is assigned to the Division as cataloguer.

The Herpetology Section of the National Fish and Wildlife Laboratory of the Department of Interior has been reorganized. Bruce Bury transferred to the laboratory in Fort Collins, Colorado in February 1977. The curatorial position at the Smithsonian is currently unfilled. Steve Busack is the only NFWL staff member currently assigned to divisional duties.

Our sound analysis laboratory is now completed. The basic components of the system are a Kay Sonagraph, a B and K frequency analyzer, and a Hewlett-Packard oscilloscope and strip chart recorder. The system was designed by George Drewry and Ian Straughan and assembled by Drewry. Anyone interested in using the equipment or having analyses done should contact Heyer. Current understaffing may prevent extensive service to the herpetological community, although contract employees are available for anyone having funds.

Ian Straughan has deposited all data associated with his dissertation on the systematics and species isolating mechanisms of Queensland, Australian frogs in the Division. The materials include tape recordings of Queensland frogs, records of the specimens examined in museums for the dissertation and specimens examined in North American museum after the dissertation was completed. Ian does not plan to publish the systematic portion of his dissertation, but wishes to make the material available to interested workers.