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NOTE ON THE AGE OF THE OHESAARE STAGE OF ESTONIA

A reply to L. E. Fåhraeus

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Д. КАЛЬО, В. ВИИРА. О ВОЗРАСТЕ ОХЕСААРЕСКОГО ГОРИЗОНТА.

Ответ Л. Э. Фораузу

L. E. Fåhraeus, in Ludlow Research Group Bulletin No. 15, Feb. 1968, considers at least a part of the Ohesaare Stage as Gedinnian, defining in this stage the following conodonts: *Spathognathodus* cf. *frankenwaldensis*, *S. steinhornensis remscheidensis*, and *S. steinhornensis* ssp. indet.

We cannot agree with Fåhraeus's conclusion and, on the contrary, we must point out that the Ohesaare Stage seems to be not younger than the *eosteinhornensis* zone. As a proof to this assertion we consider the fact that the Ohesaare Stage on Ohesaare Cliff and the underlying beds of Kaugatuma Stage (at a depth of up to 45 m in the Ohesaare borehole) contain an abundant association of such conodonts as *Lonchodina* aff. *detorta* Walliser, *Spathognathodus steinhornensis eosteinhornensis* Walliser, *S. primus* (Branson & Mehl), *Ligonodina elegans* Walliser, *Neoprioniodina* cf. *bicurvata* Branson & Mehl, *Plectospathodus flexuosus* Branson & Mehl, *Ozarkodina ortuformis* Walliser, *O. typica* Branson & Mehl, *Trichonodella* cf. *inconstans* Walliser.

Though we know that the subspecies of *S. steinhornensis* are difficult to define exactly, in the present case we are aided by the circumstance that the form occurring in the Ohesaare and Kaugatuma Stages is the earliest subspecies, since no representatives of *S. steinhornensis* could be found in the older beds of the Estonian sequence. Some morphological characters also speak in favour of *S. s. eosteinhornensis*.

Furthermore, the above-mentioned association also contains some species (*Ligonodina elegans*, *Ozarkodina ortuformis*) which do not occur higher than the *eosteinhornensis* zone, whereas the typical representatives of the *woschmidti* association are entirely lacking.

Further proof against Fåhraeus's conclusion concerning the age of the Ohesaare Stage is the composition of the shelly fauna of Ohesaare and Kaugatuma Stages, and that of the ostracods in particular.

These data have already been commented upon with sufficient thoroughness (Кальо, Сарв, 1966; Martinsson, 1967), and we have only to add that new data obtained by J. Paškevičius from Lithuania and E. Witwicka (1967) from Poland show that the typical ostracods present in the Kaugatuma and Ohesaare Stages occur at the level of the *Pristiograptus ultimus* zone and immediately above the latter, in other words, lower than the *Monograptus uniformis* zone, which is considered as the beginning of the Gedinnian.

