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RECORD 1949/105

MICROPALAEONTOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES FROM A BORE AT EVA DOWNS
STATION, NORTHERN TERRITORY

by

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Micropalaeontological Examination of Samples from
a Bore at Eva Downs Station, Northern Territory.

Report No. 1949/105
Pal.Ser. No. 18.

Detailed Description of Samples.

- 134 - 135 feet. Dark grey silty claystone
- 145 - 150 feet. Dark grey, silty claystone with occasional poorly preserved radiolaria
- 170 - 180 feet. Dark grey, silty claystone with a little glauconite and numerous rather poorly preserved radiolaria.

Radiolaria: Cenosphaera sp.
Lithocyclia cf. exilis

- 205 - 220 feet. Dark grey, glauconitic silty claystone with abundant radiolaria, many of the tests being replaced with glauconite.

Radiolaria:
Cenosphaera sp.
Dictyomitra cf. australis
Stichocapsa cf. pinguis

- 220 - 230 feet. Dark grey, sandy siltstone with radiolaria and foraminifera, and numerous fine angular quartz grains.

Radiolaria:
Cenosphaera sp.
Foraminifera:
Haplophragmoides sp. nov.

Notes on the Samples.

Eva Downs Station, Northern Territory, which is on latitude 18° longitude $130^{\circ}50'$, is about 40 miles due west of Anthony's Lagoon and 60 miles north-northwest of Malapunyah. The samples consist of dark grey silty claystones and sandy siltstones which are in places glauconitic. Radiolaria are present in most of the samples and foraminifera are present in the lowest sample at 220-230 feet. Glauconite is very abundant at 205-220 feet many of the tests of radiolaria being replaced with glauconite.

It was suggested that the dark colour of the samples was due to the presence of carbonaceous matter. However, tests by J. Glover showed that carbon was not present in any of them.

The age of the beds penetrated by this bore is regarded as Lower Cretaceous. The radiolaria-bearing siltstone suggests a horizon at the top of the Lower Cretaceous which has been found to have a wide distribution in the Northern Territory. Similar radiolarian beds were found in Bondsprings Bore, north of Alice Springs, and surface outcrops of hardened siltstone containing radiolaria are fairly common in the Barkly Tablelands and elsewhere in the Northern Territory. A siltstone containing Lower Cretaceous foraminifera has been found near Malapunyah, about 60 miles north-northwest of Eva Downs Station.

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30.11.49.

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