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Contributed by Walter E. Lammerts

Prey-Predator Relationship

In 1976 E. Norbert Smith authored one of the most significant papers published in the Quarterly. The title of the article was "Which Animals Do Predators Really Eat?" (1976, pp. 79-81). The gist of this excellent dissertation was that contrary to the evolutionary mythology, predators do not necessarily weed out the weaker members of a population. Often predators preferably run down the healthy members of a selected prey. Readers are urged to study Smiths discussion.

Wauer (1980, pp. 79, 80) employs the same thesis as referenced by Smith to illustrate the preference of selecting strong, healthy prey by mountain lions.

How many mountain lions occur within the park? Roy McBride (1977) has provided some information about lion populations along the Texas-Mexican border that is more than speculation. He spent sixteen years studying lions before writing a thesis on the subject for a master's degree at Sul Ross State University in Alpine. He estimated that the Big Bend National Park population was twentyone animals in 1976, with an additional sixty-four animals in the rest of Brewster County. His thesis has provided a great deal of valuable and surprising information about the habits of desert lions. Some of his information contradicts long-standing beliefs; for example, he describes a herd of Mule Deer on a ranch in southeast Brewster County:

A limestone hill between the ranch headquarters and a windmill served as a browsing area for four doe mule deer. They frequently could be seen in the same area and were very gentle. One of the does had been shot through the front leg but had somehow managed to live. She was unable to run and just hobbled around with the other does as best she could. A female lion moved into the area and in a 60-day period killed the three healthy does but not the crippled one. This doe remained in the same region until she disappeared, many months later. I assumed that she died and I later found her carcass (uneaten) not far from the site where she always

stayed. She would have been easy prey for the lion, but I can only assume that because of her poor condition, the lion did not want her. In view of these facts, it seems that a lion's function in a deer herd is not simply to weed out the sick or crippled, but to suppress the overall deer herd. [pp. 101-102]

One can watch various "nature" programs on tele-vision and often hear the moderator drone on about how predators clean out the weak and helpless members of a prey population. In spite of the evidence to the contrary, the myth continues.

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Contributed by Emmett L. Williams and John R. Meyer

Minutes of the 1988 Creation Research Society **Board of Directors Meeting**

On Thursday, 21 April, a meeting of the Executive Committee was held at the Varsity House Motel, Ann Arbor, Michigan, from 1930 to 2200 hours to plan the agendas for the committee meetings on Friday. On Friday, 22 April, between the hours of 0800 and 1600, the Constitution and Bylaws, Financial, Publication, Quarterly Editorial and Research Committees held meetings each of approximately two hours. An appointed secretary recorded the discussions in preparation for the Saturday business meeting.

The official annual meeting of the Board was opened at 1900 by President Frair in Room 102 of the Science Building at Concordia College, Ann Arbor. Present: D. Boylan, E. Chaffin, D. DeYoung, W. Frair, D. Gish, G. Howe, D. Kaufmann, J. Meyer, D. Rodabaugh, W. Rusch, E. Williams, G. Wolfrom, P. Zimmerman, Absent by prior arrangement: J. Klotz. Also present were 47 visitors. The President welcomed everybody to this meeting initiating the 25th year of the Society. This was followed with a silent prayer.

Meyer gave a report on the CRS Research Station in northern Arizona which includes a 2.5 acre plot with available electricity, telephone service and sewage. This was followed by a report on rapid canyon formation and a future study in north central Pennsylvania. Howe gave a report on the ongoing "human footprint" research in Tuba City, Arizona.

Then Dr. Ted Aufdemberge of Concordia College introduced Dr. David Schmiel, President of Concordia College, who welcomed CRS members to the College. Frair gave a report on the anti-creationistic activities of the National Center for Science Education at Boston where he attended their convention and business meeting. The President expressed the gratitude of the CRS to Mr. David Golisch and others who were visiting from the Southeastern Michigan Creation Science Association (SECSA). Mr. Golisch spoke briefly expressing his appreciation for the work of the CRŠ. The meeting was recessed at 2010 for refreshments provided by SECSA.

The meeting was reconvened at 2035 with the following presentations. Frair gave a report on blood protein studies with turtles. Wolfrom introduced the mini-symposium on design. Gish gave a mini-lecture on the biochemistry and mechanisms of the bombardier beetle and how it is designed to defend itself against predators. DeYoung gave a mini-lecture on design in atoms, protons, gravity, light and solar energy. Kaufmann gave a mini-lecture on design in the human body showing an analogy between organs and organelles and pulley wheels in the knee and ankle joints. The meeting was adjourned at 2215.

On Saturday, 23 April, the closed business meeting of the Board was called to order at 0835. Present: D. Boylan, E. Chaffin, D. DeYoung, W. Frair, D. Gish, G. Howe, D. Kaufmann, J. Meyer, D. Rodabaugh, W. Rusch, E. Williams, G. Wolfrom, P. Zimmerman. Absent according to prior arrangement: J. Klotz. The minutes of the 1987 meeting were read and adopted. The following were elected to the Board for a threeyear term: E. Chaffin, J. Klotz, D. Rodabaugh, W. Rusch and G. Wolfrom.

The membership report by Wolfrom was given as follows: total membership has dropped from 1981 thru 1985 but has slightly increased through 1987. The membership breakdown is: Voting 36%, Sustaining 43%, Subscriber 19% and Student 2%. Total membership is 1782 with the greatest increase occurring in voting members. The report of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee was given by Boylan as follows. Written position descriptions for each officer have been developed and will be on file with the Secretary and President. It was moved and passed that we inform the membership of the following proposed constitutional change in Article IV Organization, Section 2 which will be replaced by the following: "The President, Vice President and Secretary shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors from their own membership. The Membership Secretary, Financial Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for a three year term and confirmed annually by the Board of Directors from their own membership.

It was moved and passed that we notify the membership of the addition of Financial Secretary and Editor as officers by changing Bylaw Article I, Section 1 to read: The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Editor." It was moved and passed that we notify the membership of the proposed addition of a Section 4 Bylaw Article II. It would read as follows: "The President shall appoint and supervise the following Standing Committees: Constitution and Bylaws, Financial, Publication, Quarterly Editorial and Research."

The Treasurer's and Financial Committee's report by Meyer was given as follows. The total income for '87/'88 was \$99,759. General expenses for '87/'88 were \$44,035. Other expenses for '87/'88 were \$48,805. The total net assets (membership, general, book sales, textbook, research, lab fund and quarterly endowment) of the Society were \$245,987. It was moved and passed that Meyer find a new Accountant in the Clarks Summit (Pa.) region.

The Research Committee report by Meyer stated the approval of one research project for \$1200 and the refusal of another. It was moved and passed that the Treasurer have the option of borrowing up to \$10,000 from other funds to meet any immediate financial needs. It was moved and passed that Life Membership dues be raised from \$250 to \$300. It was moved and passed that all membership dues and subscriptions be raised \$1. It was moved and passed that the dollar differential for foreign memberships be \$4.

The report of the Publication Committee by Rusch was given as follows. A total of 911 books were sold in '87/'88. The only book that needed to be reprinted was *The Argument*. Kaufmann was to approach Concordia Publishing House about acquiring the plates and copyright to: *Creation, Evolution and God's Word, Darwin, Evolution and Creation* and *Rock Strata and the Bible Record.*

The report of the Quarterly Editorial Committee by Williams was accepted by the Board. It was recommended that DeYoung be elected Editor starting with Volume 26 of the Quarterly. The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1130 and reconvened at 1300 hours. It was moved and passed that the size of the Board for 88/89 be 14. It was moved and passed that Boylan, DeYoung, Gish, Kaufmann, Williams and Zimmerman be renominated for the '89/'90-'91/'92 board term. Meyer nominated Michael J. Oard of Great Falls, Montana, to run on the same ballot. It was moved and passed that the following officers be re-elected for '88/'89: President, W. Frair; Vice President, G. Howe; Secretary, D. Kaufmann; Membership Secretary, G. Wolfrom; Treasurer, J. Meyer. President Frair re-appointed J. Klotz as Financial Secretary and E. Williams as Quarterly Editor. Frair, Klotz and Mulfinger (posthumously) were elected as Fellows of the Society by unanimous vote. It was moved and passed that our next board meeting be 4, 5, 6, May 1989 at Ann Arbor.

Rodabaugh was appointed Chairman of the Friday evening educational program for our '89 Board meeting. It was moved and passed that the President print stationery and officers and board members use their own envelopes with the details of the stationery left up to the President. It was moved and passed that we not open a Canadian CRS branch. It was announced that board members are covered by liability insurance.

It was moved and passed that the Secretary write a letter to the family of the late G. Mulfinger expressing our sympathy as well as our thankfulness for his service to our cause and the victory of Christ in the resurrection. The meeting was adjourned at 1515 hours.

David A. Kaufmann, Secretary

QUOTE

The Continental Congress's declaration of July 6, 1775, was likewise filled with references to "the divine Author of our existence," "reverence for our great Creator," "the Divine favour towards us," and "those powers, which our beneficent Creator hath graciously bestowed upon us," before closing with an expression of "humble confidence in the mercies of the supreme and impartial Judge and Ruler of the Universe."

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