

<<好奇的一生>>

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前言

This book was first envisioned by Professor Ge Sun when we were discussing the celebration planned for my 70 Year. I give special thanks to Professor Qifeng Zhou, Academician and President of Jilin University and to Professor Chunlin Sun, the Vice President of Jilin University for their kind support that has made possible the publication of this collection of memories and papers. As an Honorary Professor of Jilin University I feel particularly happy that they were so helpful in the publication of this book. The form the book has taken is a hybrid of what Ge Sun proposed, his guidance and help, in relation to what I could accomplish in practical terms of a short schedule and the ability to format and organize the sections of this publication during the fall of 2005. Special thanks must go to Professor Ge Sun for his continued help with many aspects of the organization and publication of this book and to Terry Lott who helped with many of the practical details of putting it all together. Thanks would be extended to Mr. Jingyi Weng, the Director of the Shanghai Scientific and Technological Education Publishing House, and Prof. Yulin Bian, the Executive Editor, and Mr. Shiliang Tang, the designer, of the book, for their kind help in editing and publishing work for this book. A personal history, even a much abbreviated one, may be too long. The compromise between a simple list of dates and facts versus all of the small events and background that goes into the real history of what happened or how something happened is impossible to accomplish. What is written here is presented as a compromise of these two methods but with so much background left out. The readers familiar with the things reported here can elaborate on any aspect of what is said from their perspective. This book includes aspects of my life, as I remember them, however imperfectly told or remembered. I have divided the book into discreet sections so any interested reader can focus upon those times or places that are of most interest to them. I have selected only a few photographs to go with this text. Several photographs are included to help illustrate the long road and various paths my life's journey has taken thus far. I used photographs in which I was included. However, when searching my photographs I found that most are photos I took and thus I am not included in the photo. I imagine many of my colleagues could compile better photographs, placing me in the times and places, than I am able to do. The other sections of the book include a list of my current publications and abstracts through October 2005. I do not view this list as complete as I expect more papers to be published as more research is done. There is a list of my graduate students and postdoctoral research assistants to whom I owe so much for their work and help with my research program. Also included is a list of my technical assistants who have worked in a variety of capacities in their help with my research program.

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内容概要

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章节摘录

插图：I grew seeds of this plant and we cleared the leaves, even the seedling leaves and also began reconstructions of the fossils and diagrams of the living Platanus so common in Indiana. Then I started to grow seeds of some of the different species of Platanus. Julie completed a master's degree and then transferred out of the lab. Chuck Daghlian was an undergraduate at Indiana University and he took my Introductory Botany class. I invited him to work as an hourly worker in my lab on fossil leaves from the middle Eocene. I had been encouraged to publish some major work on these fossils rather than just one small paper on individual taxa as I had been doing. So I began a major project on the monocots of the middle Eocene. We had a large Philodendron-like leaf and also I hired Frank Potter to work for several months on the palm fossil material. I prepared lots of living material for cuticle which involved one trip to Fairchild Tropical Gardens in Miami, to cut 25 pounds of Costa palmate leaves from the palms they had growing. Herbarium specimens of palm leaves just did not give me enough characters to work with. I knew we had Sabal palms of some sort and then there were others not yet identified. Chuck Daghlian went to graduate school in Texas to work with Ted Delevoryas and called me one day and asked to take over the palm project for his Ph.D. dissertation. I had about 1 1/2 years invested in the project, but he had found palms in Texas and needed to combine these with the ones from Tennessee and needed the modern reference work I had done. So I gave him all my palm research materials. Now I see there are still some loose ends that could be done and hope some day to get back to this as palms are great plants and their evolution and distribution are very interesting.

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