



VIGNETTES OF COASTAL PLAIN GEOLOGY

AXEL ADOLF OLSSON

(1889-1977)

As a graduate student of G. D. Harris, at Cornell University, Axel Olsson made the first of many Latin American expeditions in 1916, when he assisted Carlotta Maury in her exploration of the Mio-Pliocene strata of the Dominican Republic. Before finishing his dissertation he took a job with the Sinclair Oil Company and began work in the Gulf Coastal Plain, pioneering the use of Foraminiferida in oil geology in Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. In 1922 he was sent to Peru and for the next thirty years he looked for oil and fossils with equal success. Upon retirement in 1952, he settled in Coral Gables, Florida, and for the rest of his life pursued the stratigraphy and paleontology of southern Florida. His major works include monographs on the Tertiary and Recent faunas of Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama, and Florida. (From D. R. Moore, 1978, *Nautilus*)