pounds. Authors Kenyon and Steinman, however, have argued that the origin of life by natural abiogenesis has been "a very likely occurrance" in ages past. Dr. Gish skillfully points out that many of the proposed steps of life synthesis are actually very *unlikely* and even violate expectations of what conditions on a real "primitive earth" would allow. This review is an important paper and should be widely recommended to our colleagues.

Finally, a series of interesting letters, replies, and a booklet review round out another March issue of the C. R. S. *Quarterly.* As December has come to be "book review month," the March issue, it seems, for two years, has afforded an emphasis on geology. We hope that such papers as those by Mr. Nevins and Dr. Lammerts will be "prods and goads" forcing uniformitarians to either abandon their cause of "long ages!" for earth history or else begin a careful re-analysis of data which they have assumed to support their views and their interpretations alone.

We remind readers that the June issue will center on the amazing topics of evidences for Design in nature. That theme should be of value from the standpoint of origins and also from the vantage of providing incontrovertible defense of the existence and craftsmanship of Almighty God. Contents of the September issue (1972) is still being outlined and readers are encouraged to consider writing a research report, review article, short note, book review, or even a letter.

Sustained contribution from interested creationist authors is a primary human factor which maintains publication of the *Creation Research Society Quarterly.* When God's people in the scientific fields contribute fresh publishable material, the witness of C. R. S. flourishes. Our prayer in the editorial staff is that this flow of good manuscripts will not diminish in days ahead, but will increase instead as more and more workers feel constrained to communicate the results of their disciplined and Christ-centered scholarship in the natural sciences.

THE YUCCA AND ITS YUCCA MOTH

WILLIS E. KEITHLEY*

Probably the most intimate of all symbiotic relationships exists in the desert lily, *Yucca baccata.* The stigma-anther configuration is such that the flower cannot be pollinated, either by self-pollination or by insect pollination, unless done deliberately. And this is precisely what occurs as shown in the accompanying illustrations.

The tiny moth, *Pronuba yuccasella,* after carefully, drilling a hole in the ovary, deposits her eggs where the larvae can then feed on the Yucca seed. Next she flies to another flower, and in her specially constructed mouth parts, gathers a quantity of pollen, then flies back to the first flower, and with apparent deliberate action thrusts it down the stigma. Hence the plant is fertilized, and the Yucca is perpetuated! (See cover illustration and Figure 1.)

Figure 1. *Pronuba* on Yucca flower.

Consequently, the plant is wholly dependent upon the moth for its existence, and likewise the moth's survival is contingent upon the plant's perpetuation. Without the other, neither could survive. If this reciprocal relationship arose through adaptive mutations and progressive differentiation over even a short period of time, how did either survive until this association was perfected?

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