

a dubious date indeed, for much (if not most) limestone is sedimentary, and fossiliferous in origin and is capable of easily dissolving and precipitating whenever moisture is present.

Harris points out that atmospheric levels of carbon-14 are not constant. The reliability of the dating techniques depends on the constancy of carbon-14 formation and its atmosphere-plant-animal equilibrium. The earth itself is witness to this inconstancy. The worldwide evidence of great volcanic activity in the past is mute testimony to the fact that the atmosphere has received great quantities of nonradioactive CO₂ from volcanic ages.

Harris states: "H. E. Suess (*Nuclear Geology*, p. 354) has shown that there has been a significant decrease in atmospheric radio-carbons in the past fifty years as a result of the industrial revolution and the burning of great quantities of coal and oil. On the other hand, it can be shown that the radio-carbon level in the atmosphere has increased by as much as 12 percent as the result of atomic explosion tests. Perhaps no future carbon dating of present materials will be valid."

Constant Bombardment Assumed

The third point Harris makes is that there is no proof that cosmic-ray bombardment of the

earth's atmosphere has been constant. The radio-carbon dating technique must assume this constancy, however, in order to be valid.

Harris continues: "The tremendous quantity of fossil carbon now existing in the forms of coal, lignite, petroleum, oil shale, fossiliferous limestone, etc., indicates a prior condition when most of that carbon was a part of the atmosphere as carbon dioxide. It is also known that the higher concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide than our present .03 plus percent will greatly accelerate most plant growths. Carbon dioxide concentrations up to a hundred fold would have no harmful affects on higher animals.

"If an antediluvian atmosphere contained, say, only ten times as much carbon dioxide as now, the ratio of carbon-14 concentration to non-radioactive carbon concentration would be only one tenth as great, and the apparent radiocarbon age of the organic materials produced under such conditions would be of the order of less than one third that presently assigned to them (2 to the third power equals 8). Such a figure would bring most of the published radiocarbon dates into harmony with the historical record of the Bible. The obviously inconsistent dates of samples from the same geological formations may well be explained by sample contamination."

ADAPTATION AT BIRTH VS. EVOLUTION

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One of the tremendous challenges faced by a new-born baby is his sudden and complete dependence on his heretofore unused and untested lungs. Until birth, the blood is diverted around the perfectly developed but nonfunctional lungs by a system of bypasses which normally become closed off at birth, thus forcing the blood to flow through the lungs.

One of these short-circuits, a unique blood vessel called the *ductus arteriosus*, is clamped shut at birth by a ring of strongly-contracting muscle. This muscle remains firmly contracted until the by-pass blood vessel has withered away and then it, too, degenerates and disappears, after contracting only one time.

What a simple, yet significant task for this tiny ring of muscle! If it fails in its destined function, the resulting "blue baby" may be severely impaired and require surgical attention.

The vital role of this tiny muscle could *not* have been fulfilled by a mere rudimentary muscle which gradually developed to its present functional capacity by a process of evolution, because the muscle must have been fully developed and have operated perfectly for the infant to survive to maturity without modern medical aid.

Thus this tiny, shortlived muscle, destined to contract but a single time and then to perish, testifies vigorously against the theory of evolution, which denies God and the Bible