

*Dippy*

February 7, 1958.

Dr. Theodore Downs  
Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology  
Los Angeles County Museum  
Exposition Park  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Ted:

We highly approve of your efforts to get something done with these Diploedus molds.

When Mr. Ogawa informed us that he would not be able to carry the casting project alone, since the Los Angeles Museum found it necessary to withdraw, we informed McNeese State College, Lake Charles, La., that they were next in line for the molds. However, even tho I have written three times to them I have never been able to get a word in reply. Finally I wrote that if we did not hear from them by February 1st, we would assume that they were no longer interested and the the molds would be given to another institution. We have had no word to date so they have forfeited any claim to them and they are again your babies if you can make arrangements to have them cast.

A "three-way" project should take the strain off any one of the participants and I hope you can work out something with Bill Otto—or someone else. Stafoam sounds like the answer where shipping is involved. You are right, it would be impossible for us to do the casting here in Vernal. We hauled the molds to Salt Lake City, and the casts back to Vernal, and had the casting done in a Concrete Products Company in Salt Lake. They charged us a \$1000 just for the use of some of their facilities and then gave us the "bum's rush" to get rid of us because we were tying up their plant. Actual casting was done by museum personnel.

We are anxious to get rid of the molds as soon as something is worked out somewhere. We are a small museum and our space is very limited and they are definitely cramping our style and holding up our development. We will be mighty happy to help anyone who comes for them, load their truck and "kiss them goodbye."

As things now stand you folks again have the right-of-way on the molds and we will eagerly await developments. GOOD LUCK to all of you—Mr. Ogawa, Milan and yourself! You have our blessings.

Cordially,  
*Ernest*  
G. E. Untermann

cc: Mr. Ogawa