

*Characters*—The Shoal River formation consists predominantly of fine micaceous sand and sandy clay. The unweathered Oak Grove sand member of the Shoal River is composed of compact bluish-gray to black sandy shell marl. Where weathered its color is probably much lighter. The typical exposure of the *Glycymeris waltonensis* zone shows fine blue, yellow, or gray clayey sand filled with shells. The sediments composing the *Yoldia waltonensis* zone are described as "dark-gray to bluish micaceous, clayey sand with inclusions of carbonaceous particles" (Mansfield and Ponton, 1932, p. 86). The *Arca rubisiniana* zone also consists of blue-gray clayey sand.

The color of all parts of the Shoal River formation appears to be dark blue or gray on fresh exposures, but it becomes much lighter, generally yellowish or light brown, when weathered. Unweathered parts of the formation contain enough clay to make it fairly firm, and some beds are decidedly clayey. Weathered exposures commonly glisten with flakes of mica.

*Thickness*—Cuttings from a well at Port St. Joe (Cole, 1938, pp. 11, 12) indicate rather vaguely that the drill entered the *Arca* zone at a depth of 235 feet and passed through the Shoal River formation into limestone of Chipola age at 406 feet, a thickness of about 170 feet near the coast in Gulf County.

*Distribution*—Outcrops of the Shoal River formation lie in a belt about 15 miles wide extending from Yellow River in Okaloosa County north of Milligan to Econfina Creek in Washington and northern Bay Counties. The formation doubtless underlies all the region between that belt and the Gulf and extends southeastward under cover at least as far as Gulf County. The formation is probably wanting in the region east of Apalachicola River, though it may occur below the surface in the western part of Franklin County. The principal exposures are in the much-dissected valleys of Bruce and Alaqua Creeks and their tributaries and along Shoal and Yellow Rivers. Most of the intervening areas are covered by an overlap of the Citronelle formation.

*Stratigraphic relations*—The Shoal River formation is prob-