

the Gulf Coastal Plain throughout most of temperate North America; in South America it spread southward throughout Argentina.

The genus *Dasyopus* seems to have been even more closely restricted to tropical regions than either *Glossotherium* or *Kraglievitchia*. It also was able to move out of the Gulf Coastal Plain later in the Pleistocene (as *Dasyopus bellus*), reaching as far west as Texas and as far north as West Virginia (Guilday and McCrady 1966), Tennessee (Guilday *et al.* 1969), and Missouri (Simpson 1949). The probable mechanism permitting its tolerance to colder climate may have been an increase in size, as was true of *Pampatherium*. Its drastic size decrease in latest Pleistocene time (assuming *D. bellus* is closely related to *D. novemcinctus*) could account for its present limited southern distribution (Humphrey 1974). *Dasyopus bellus* is not known from South American fossil deposits, although there is little doubt that the genus originated on that continent. This suggests that its range was similarly restricted to tropical areas on that continent, where fossil sites are rare and little known.

The unusual distributional pattern of *Cryptopterus* (Latest Pliocene of Florida and trans-Beringean of West Germany) indicates a wide distribution of large Group I flying squirrels. Presumably this group was restricted in the New World to the eastern deciduous forests of North America. James (1963) reported a smaller simple-toothed group of sciuropterines in Miocene deposits of California, but no other large complex-toothed specimens are known from the New World. Presumably *Cryptopterus* ranged from the eastern deciduous forests of North America through similar forests in Alaska and Siberia into Central Europe. The presence of *Pteromys* at Choukoutien (Young 1934) adds another very late Cenozoic record of a large flying squirrel from a temperate region, but it is not closely related to *Cryptopterus* (Mein 1970). The close resemblance between the Florida and West German specimens suggests rapid dispersal to the New World during late Hemphillian or Blancan time. Obviously this fortuitous record from the Blancan of Florida is peripheral to the main theatre of sciuropterine evolution in the Old World tropics.

SUMMARY

The Haile XV A mammals are from one of the few Blancan faunas on the Gulf Coastal Plain. It is the only such fauna that has been extensively studied to date and also the only one from a subtropical forest situation.

Included among the mammals from this site is *Glossotherium chapadmalensis*, previously known only from Argentina. It is possible that this form gave rise to *G. robustus* in South America and *G. harlani* in