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RareBooksClub. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 56 pages. This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1964 Excerpt: . . . it is clear not only that fossils trapped in rocks of different ages are different from each other but that their variety and complexity increases toward the present. The younger a fossil fauna or flora is, the more it is like living communities. The early geologists who made the geologic time scale had this in mind when they named the major divisions or eras--each name ended in -zoic, from the Greek word for life. Three of the four eras now used retain these names: Paleozoic (ancient life), Mesozoic (middle life), and Cenozoic (recent life). **DOMINANT ANIMALS** Few fossil species in the Paleozoic rocks closely resemble any living plant or animal. In early Paleozoic time there were no land plants or animals--at least their remains have never been found in flood-plain and near-shore rocks of that time. The fossils in the lower Paleozoic salt-water rocks are remains of extinct species of such plants and animals as primitive shellfish that lacked backbones, structures like coral reefs built by algaelike plants, and markings made by worms. Landplant and animal remains as well as salt-water fish appear first in middle Paleozoic rocks. Birds do not appear in the rocks until early Mesozoic time; and mammals, not until the end of Mesozoic time. Dinosaurs first lived in early Mesozoic time and were extinct by the end of the Mesozoic, whereas the remains of manlike creatures are not found in rocks older than late Cenozoic, so that no man ever saw a live dinosaur, contrary to the...



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