This is the reason for many of the similarities of structure and the reason why they may well be put into the same classification group. However, the same cannot be said of the larger groups such as the phyla, classes and orders. The other reason for this similarity, as we mentioned before, is that there may have been a common plan in the mind of God when He designed them."

-- Cora A. Reno, *Evolution Fact or Theory* (Chicago: Colportage Library. 1953), p. 54.

B. The Evidence from Recapitulation

1. The Argument Stated

Ontogeny is the development of the individual organism from its beginning in the egg to the attainment of the adult condition. Phylogeny is the ancestral history of the species. The recapitulation theory holds that the individual development (ontogeny) is an abbreviated repetition of the ancestral history of the species (phylogeny). Thus the argument "ONTOGENY RECAPITULATES PHYLOGENY."

"it is a very remarkable fact that all of the vertebrated animals, fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, however different their habits and modes of life, have a mode of ontogeny which is of even more characteristically and unmistakably the same plan than is the type of their adult structure, which was described in the last chapter. The egg, or the active portion of it, divides in a definite and regular manner into a very large number of cells, which arrange themselves in definite layers, an outer and an inner, and within these layers cell-aggregates form incipient organs, which, step by step take on the adult condition. Not only is the plan and type of development essentially similar throughout the whole phylum of the vertebrates, but, in accordance with the recapitulation theory, many structural features which are permanent in lower forms appear in the embryos of higher and more advanced types. In the latter, however, these features are transitory and, in the course of development, they either disappear, or are so modified as to be very different, sometimes unrecognizable, in the adults.

"It can hardly be contended that these rudimentary structures, which are confined to the embryonic stages of development and of which no trace remains in the adult, are so indispensable to the processes of ontogeny, that they were specially created to serve this temporary purpose. For such a contention there is not a particle of evidence and the theory of evolution, which regards these structures as useless remnants, due to inheritance from ancestors in which the structures are functional, offers much the most satisfactory solution of the problem that has yet been suggested.

"An analogy employed by my lamented friend, Mr. Richard Lydekker, may be advantageously repeated here. Let us suppose that a screw-steamer, with longitudinal shaft leading aft from the engine-room to the stern, where it carries the propeller, should, on close examination, reveal many signs that it has originally been a 'side-wheeler,' or paddle-boat. Recognizable remnants of paddle-boxes, of bearings for a transverse