

istrative grades, or else have become independent petroleum geologists or consultants. The same pattern of advancement with age appears in the case of the 23 geophysicists. Of the six who have been graduated more than ten years, all are administrators and two are presidents of their companies. Of the eighteen that have been out of school for less than ten years, none has advanced beyond the rank of party chief and only four have attained that rank.

For anyone concerned with geological education, this case history will hold a certain amount of interest. Comparisons of many such analyses for departments ranging from the most liberal to the most technical and scattered over the different provinces of the country might settle some issues that are now being argued largely on the basis of sentiment and prejudice.

Note

A FOSSIL PLEISTOCENE SNAKE FROM DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS.—In May, 1952, on an elementary geology field trip, an anonymous student discovered an articulated skeleton of what appeared to be a small fossil snake. The discovery site was a borrow pit just north of Garza-Little Elm Dam now under construction across the Elm Fork of the Trinity River, in Denton County. Associated fossils which purportedly had been collected previously by Dr. T. E. White, paleontologist with the River Basin Surveys, were a fairly complete *Equus*, and fragments of a glyptodont, bison and one of the mastodons.

The snake was sent to the Smithsonian Institution. In the letter of acknowledgment, Dr. W. F. Foshag tentatively classified it in the family Colubridae and recognized a marked similarity to the genus *Drymarchon*. The most outstanding factor in this addition is the articulated condition of the skull, jaws and vertebrae. The preservation seems to be associated with the caliche deposits which have acted as cementing agents. The present climate in this region is too moist for the formation of caliche by the precipitation of dissolved salts consequent to the surface evaporation of ground water. The implication is that in this region during a portion of Pleistocene time, the climate was such that conditions for preservation of delicate fossils may have been optimum. Therefore, the importance of the find is that truly outstanding data of the evolution of modern living forms may be available in this area.—*John W. Harrington.*