

THE FIRST MILLION YEARS ARE THE HARDEST

Editor The Chronicle—Sir: Referring to Cosgrave's Safety Valve comment on the articles by Colin G. Welles:

There are a lot of us that like them, but there is one thing wrong with his articles. His geologic time estimates are awry all the way through the scale. For example, in today's Chronicle he says that sea serpents existed six million years ago. Of course, there have been sea snakes of various kinds ever since the snake family came to be, but I take it that Mr. Welles refers to the time when sea serpents were in the heyday of their glory, namely the Cretaceous period, and, if so, his time estimate is off by something like one hundred million years, as the mighty sea serpents of the Cretaceous ages flourished one hundred and fifty million to seventy-five million years ago.

A great percentage of the time guesses that appear in the press as to the age of ancient finds are ten to twenty times shorter than the time actually was.

OLE J. SNEIDE.

Robbins, May 30, 1929.