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TULSA 2, OKLA.

December 6, 1949

Dr. H. B. Stenzel
University Station, Box B
Austin, Texas

Dear Dr. Stenzel:

I am becoming somewhat concerned by the action of some of our paleontological friends in what I feel is cutting our collective throats.

I refer to the great over emphasis in a number of papers to the effect of ecology on micro-fossils. I am sure that most of us old timers have realized for many years that ecological conditions, particularly temperature, has a great effect on the type fauna that will develop and on the abundance and size of individuals within a fauna.

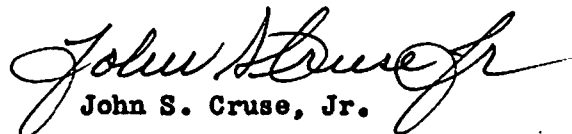
I feel that, at least among commercial paleontologists I have known, "ecology" is often substituted for poor work or careless work in picking the formation "tops". Also the poor type of sampling that seems to be done is affecting the work of good men.

The electrical log is largely to blame for part of this attitude as geologists who do not know paleontology will invariably use a log correlation, wrong though it may be, in preference to micro-fossil correlations. They are quick to point out the ecological "errors".

Our society should take some sort of stand to point out the large gains micro-paleontology has given the oil industry or else we are going to find ourselves a dying profession.

What are your ideas on this subject?

Sincerely,


John S. Cruse, Jr.

JSC:mer