

mentioned in the sections dealing with marine sediments in the succeeding pages of this book.

So, we are by no means in a position of having to struggle to find evidence for great age in the earth. There is a veritable avalanche of such evidence, from many types of careful scientific observation. The main problem is to get the "news" out, and encourage Christian people to examine, appreciate, and use the evidence.

#### FOOTNOTES

1. See Depositional Environments in Carbonate Rocks, G. M. Friedman, ed., 1969, p. 1 and 4, for a brief summary of the great progress which has been made in the field of carbonate sedimentology.
2. See the Preface for more explanation concerning our choice of the simpler methods of recognizing time.
3. In the sciences, the word "marine" refers only to the oceans, in contrast to inland bodies of fresh water.
4. It has often been said that perhaps the reason that there are no trilobite fossils in the upper, more recent strata of the earth is that their skeletons were so dense that they sank down into the lower strata during the Flood. Actually such an explanation could not be accurate because (a) the skeletons of these animals were not very dense, and (b) many of the strata in which these animals appear were permanently hardened (lithified) long before the upper strata were produced. With regard to the composition of the trilobite skeletons, a significant proportion of the skeletal content was the very light, strong, organic material which is called chitin. Recent electron microscopic studies of fossilized trilobite skeletons have borne this out, and have shown the skeletal material to be similar to that of modern crabs, which belong to the same phylum as trilobites. In both cases the skeleton is much less dense than the shells of modern clams, so if any kind of remains of organisms had been going to sink to lower levels, the shells of marine clams would have been among the first to go down. However, the shells of modern and Flood-time clams are found only in the upper layers of sedimentary deposits.
5. As quoted in J. S. Shelton, Geology Illustrated, 1966, p. 291.
6. Ibid., p. 292-293.
7. See Chapter 9 for further information on the presence of diatom shells in marine sediments.
8. H. E. Harper, Jr., and A. H. Knoll, "Silica, Diatoms, and Cenozoic Radiolarian Evolution," Geology, v. 3 (1975) p. 175-177.
9. The Biblical account of creation states that "grass,"