are artifacts of the process by which they selected "industry" stones from the "environment" population, since the principal criterion of selection was smallness of angle.

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1) We are pleased that our article interested geologists in the problem of recognizing the traces of early man. The two geologists who visited the Leupp Site told us that we were dealing with a uniform brown chert and that there was no reason to believe that the Leupp Site differed in its geological history from other hilltops in the area. Not satisfied with this information, or with what we could find in the geological literature, we investigated further. Our simultaneous measurement of *in situ* rock and ambient temperatures was meant to be suggestive. That the investigation was meant in this way can be seen in the brief and cautious statement about it. We also did a hydration study, not reported in the article. Ideally, all causes of natural fracture relevant to a suspected site should be considered. The problem is to identify the relevant factors and to determine specifically the type and amount of resulting fracture. The intense cooperation of geologists would be most welcome.

2) We direct South's attention to our summary statement on page 247: "The procedure is intended to be used where isolation of an 'industry' has already been made, or can be made, on the basis of criteria other than the small angles of the stones in question." In our application of the procedure, a museum collection of a proposed "industry" already existed. The several collectors of the museum specimens had gathered widely scattered individual stones each of which met some typological notion of utility. These stones were classified by them into such categories as "scrapers," "hand axes," and "choppers" (see our reference *13*). We sampled the entire population of a gravel pavement on a hilltop where the proposed "industry" was said to exist. Then, using the museum-type specimens, we designated any stone in our field collection as belonging to the "industry" if it fitted into one of the typological categories (see p. 247). The original collectors of the "industry" did not collect angles of an "industry" (a population, not a typological concept), nor did we.

We stress our acceptance of Barnes's work as a point of departure. Barnes interpreted his findings as globally significant; that is, his work led to the conclusion that on a statistical basis nature does not simulate human workmanship. In some particular instance, however, the context in which an "industry" is said to exist may be biased. For this reason, we introduced the idea of examining the immediate context in which the industry is said to be found. Figure 6 shows the "industry" and its "environment" at Leupp.

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Academic Degrees and Vested Interests

Thanks to John Walsh for his excellent treatment (News and Comment, 19 Feb., p. 844) of the potential intrusion of quasi-educational federal agencies into the academic preserve of degree-granting. Since he has done this spadework, I wish he would now enlarge the radius of his investigations to determine how many of the rules surrounding earned degrees are truly safeguards against diploma mills and substandard education, and how many are protection of academic vested interests which date back to the medieval universities.

We have all heard of absurd cases —perhaps apochryphal in detail but true in fundamentals—where the validity of graduate credits has been questioned because the student's high school or undergraduate records were faulty in some minor particular. Does it really matter by what path—conventional or unconventional—an educated man or woman attains educational status? Is there not a need for some sort of examining university, performing a function like that of the original University of London? Is there any reason why a candidate should not appear before a panel of competent examiners, demonstrate his grasp of the fundamentals in his field, present already published and paid-for scholarly work in lieu of a problematically valuable thesis, and get his degree without anybody's knowing or caring whether he ever warmed a seat in the eighth grade?

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