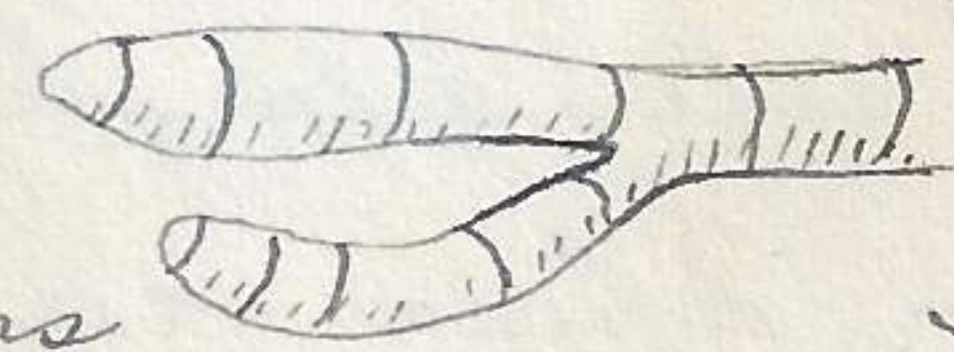


fields of the recently constructed Municipal airport runways. The field is regulation size and at the peripheral edge are deep drainage canals which has sapped every ounce of moisture from the once damp meadows. These ditches are about six or seven feet deep and expose an interesting stratigraphic section. The first layer is superficial with a thin layer of sod. Immediately below the sod is an undifferentiated section of clay which extends down to the gravel base at the bottom of the canal. The waters of the field probably percolate down to the gravel base and are then escorted underground to the deep drainage canals. The area previous to draining was damp and supported meadow plants and grasses but now it remains one of burnt grasses and the soil perfectly dry. This new condition exposes the now conspicuous storage chambers and runways of last winters microtis activity. The groups of congregations conform to the low depressions of the field. The runways, which are now indicated by rows of litter which were in reality tunnels in the snow or under the snow, give one an idea of their home construction. Several storage rooms had been filled with tender root tips of one of the meadow plants (about this size and shape ) other rooms were filled with finer grasses and stems. These areas of debris were represented only as small piles upon the ground but no doubt were held within the confines of a snow chamber during the winter months. This would indicate then that they were active after snow fall and that the storage problem was introduced after snow fall. The rooms and runways were placed upon the ground proper and having, in reconstruction, walls of ice and snow. Many of these group habitations were found during the dog hike across the meadows. It would be interesting to learn the fate of these inhabitants of the airport field; whether they were forced to the peripheral field or whether they fell prey to the hawks and other predators. Numerous insects were collected (1) beneath the rocks and logs. I had expected to find a great congestion of insects because of the change of environment but did not find any unusual occurrence. Numerous *Thamnophis o. vagrans* were sunning on the banks of the canal. Being about the first ones observed this season, captured 5 and placed them in the University Reptile House.

3-16-37

Our three days of threatening looking weather, culminated in a rain last night. It continued throughout nite and now & then throughout the day. At 6 o'clock today the western skies showed signs of a let-up with a promise of a beautiful sun set. At 4 o'clock heard for the first time the thunder and electrical flash. Almost instantaneously came a heavy downpour of rain followed by a vigorous hail storm. New snow down to a point about $\frac{2}{3}$ way up face of Squaw Peak. Slight wind accompanied the days showers.

3-17-37

Continued to rain last nite (Brovo) with a drenching downpour about 10 o'clock. Rain clouds left early this morning being replaced by