

REVISED NOMENCLATURE FOR YORKSHIRE ESTUARINE
SERIES

SIR,—With the publication of Dr. Hemingway's welcome revision of the nomenclature of the Yorkshire Estuarine Series (*Geol. Mag.*, lxxxvi, 67–71), attention is focused on the inadequacy of a three-fold terminology to describe a four-fold natural division. There is, however, a danger of confusion in that Dr. Hemingway's proposal introduces different stratigraphical limits to his "Middle Deltaic Series" to those previously universally applied to the "Middle Estuarine Series". The only way of avoiding ambiguity is to apply place-names to all four of the deltaic divisions of the series and accordingly such names are proposed below. At the same time the writer suggests certain other minor modifications, such as the substitution of the word "Beds" for Hemingway's "Sub-Series".

Fox-Strangways	Hemingway	Sylvester-Bradley (here proposed)
Upper Estuarine Series	Upper Deltaic Series	Scalby Beds
Scarborough or Grey Limestone Series	Grey Limestone Series	Scarborough Beds
Middle Estuarine Series	Gristhorpe Sub-Series (= upper part of Middle Deltaic Series)	Gristhorpe Beds
Millepore Series	Millepore Series	Millepore Series
Upper part of Lower Estuarine Series	Sycarham Sub-Series (= lower part of Middle Deltaic Series)	Sycarham Beds
Eller Beck Bed	Eller Beck Bed	Eller Beck Bed
Lower part of Lower Estuarine Series	Lower Deltaic Series	Hayburn Beds

The two new terms proposed (Scalby Beds and Hayburn Beds) are named after two famous localities for plants in the respective strata.

P. C. SYLVESTER-BRADLEY.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY,
ST. GEORGE'S SQUARE,
SHEFFIELD, 1.
25th May, 1949.

AN INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR SEDIMENTARY
PETROLOGY

SIR,—Sedimentary petrologists from twelve different countries held an informal meeting in London last year after the XVIIIth International Geological Congress. As a first step towards the formation of some kind of international organization, it was resolved to set up immediately an International Secretariat for Sedimentary Petrology. Dr. D. J. Doeglas was unanimously elected international secretary.

The Secretariat intends first of all (1) to compile and maintain an up-to-date list of active workers in the subject (addresses, fields, publications, etc.);

(2) to compile and maintain a comprehensive bibliography of the subject ; and (3) to act as a general bureau for the supply of information, facilitation of contacts between workers, etc.

Sedimentary petrologists are invited to send personal details to :—

Dr. D. J. DOEGLAS,
Landbouwhogeschool,
Laboratorium voor Mineralogie en Geologie,
WAGENINGEN,
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and to make use of the services offered.

A full report of the meeting referred to may be found in *Journ. Sed. Pet.*, 1949, xix, 43-7.

P. ALLEN.

SEDGWICK MUSEUM,
CAMBRIDGE.

REVIEWS

A TEXTBOOK OF GEOMORPHOLOGY. By P. G. WORCESTER. vii + 584, with 385 text-figures. Van Nostrand Co., Inc. Second Edition, 1948. Price 30s.

Few important changes distinguish this volume from the 1939 edition, which has been found one of the more useful elementary geomorphological texts. While primarily designed for the "arts" student as a cultural introduction to the surface of the earth, it serves the geologist with a growing arsenal of geomorphological jargon. Forgetting his own transgressions, he may marvel at the tendency for everyday terms to achieve a technical status, and so graduate from a purely descriptive use to head a paragraph of frequently superfluous definition. However, the author claims to give precise definitions, and succeeds in incorporating these in an attractive book.

W. B. H.

INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL GEOLOGY. By RAYMOND C. MOORE. McGraw-Hill : London, New York, Toronto, 1949. 8vo, vii + 582, illustrated. Price 30s.

Professor Moore aims here at the presentation of earth-history to those having no previous acquaintance with the subject. To achieve his object, he has brought together both an admirable collection of maps, diagrams, photographs, and correlation tables, and a clear, straightforward command of the English language.

In a work intended primarily for the American student, it is not surprising to find much of the stratigraphy falling outside the scope of British elementary courses while hardly reaching the detail needed by the more advanced. Nevertheless, the generous use of photographs, and particularly air-photographs, should appeal to the beginner as showing geology in the grand manner, and advanced students will find here a valuable means of setting detailed successions in a general survey.

From the palaeontologist's viewpoint the main interest lies in the excellent restorations of life-assemblages at various periods, but the short morphological section at the end of the book seems of less value. One would prefer to see, in a mainly stratigraphic work, some indication of outstanding problems and controversies, both to avoid in the reader the impression of a finished work, and to stimulate the application of fresh minds to old discussions.

T. G. M.