

ACCURACY IN GEOLOGICAL LOCALITIES : FURTHER
COMMENTS

SIRS.—In his letter on the above topic published in your March/April issue (p. 152) Dr. Morley Davies writes of “two striking examples of inaccurate locality” one of which refers to the Geological Survey and Museum.

Concerning the first, we know of no instance of “Diss, Norfolk” appearing in the literature as a locality for Red Crag echinoids. In the “Catalogue of the Tertiary and Post-Tertiary Fossils in the Museum of Practical Geology” (1878), p. 49, *Echinus woodwardi* Desor is recorded from Coralline Crag at Diss. The specimen in question was presented to the Museum in 1851 by Capt. (later Lieut.-Col.) Henry Alexander, who resided at Diss at about this time (see *Quart. J. Geol. Soc.*, x, 1854, p. 334); and is referred to by Forbes, “Monograph of the Echinodermata of the British Tertiaries” (*Palaeont. Soc.*), 1852, p. 4, as *E. lamarckii* Forbes. J. W. Gregory (*Proc. Geol. Assoc.*, xii, 1891, p. 33), who regarded *E. lamarckii* as a synonym of *E. woodwardi*, also records the latter from Coralline Crag at Diss, though without explicit reference to any specimen. A. Bell (*Annual Rep. Yorks. Phil. Soc.* for 1920, 1921, p. 16) records *E. woodwardi* from “Mid.-glac. Diss . . . probably derived”. Alexander’s specimen may, however, have come from Sudbourne (see *Proc. Geol. Soc.*, iii, 1838, no. 59, p. 10), a well-known Coralline Crag locality, but while it is true that neither Coralline Crag nor Red Crag occurs *in situ* at Diss, who, at this distance of time, can aver that Alexander’s specimen was not collected from the local Boulder Clay; or that it was not acquired by him from a collector who told him that it came from Diss? —

Concerning the *Rhaxella* chert, we are indebted to Dr. Davies for two specimens registered in our collections in 1913 and 1931 respectively. Despite the error of acknowledgment of the second presentation we can assure Dr. Davies that he was not the agent of any serious mistake in documentation since the locality of each was correctly entered in our registers.

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND MUSEUM,
LONDON, S.W. 7.
6th May, 1952.

Dr. Davies regrets that he wrote “Red Crag” instead of “Coralline”, through trusting to memory when unable to check his references.—*Ed.*

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

- Symphony of the Earth.* By J. H. F. Umbgrove. Martinus Nijhoff, 1950. pp. xii + 220, with 123 figures and 10 plates. Price 11 guilders (cloth, 13.75).
- A Geological Reconnaissance Survey . . . of the Area . . . including parts of the Yalgoo, Murchison, Peak Hill and Gascoyne Goldfields.* By W. Johnson. Geological Survey of Western Australia, Bulletin 106, 1950. pp. 103, with frontispiece, 14 figures, and 6 maps in colour.
- Geology of the District North and East of Leeds.* By Wilfred Edwards, G. H. Mitchell, and T. H. Whitehead. Mem. Geological Survey of Gt. Britain (H.M. Stationery Office), 1950. pp. vi + 93, with 15 figures and 3 plates. Price 7s. 6d.
- The Concealed Coalfield of Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire.* By Wilfred Edwards. Mem. Geological Survey of Gt. Britain (H.M. Stationery Office), 1951. pp. x + 285, with 39 figures and 5 plates. Price 22s. 6d.
- Recherches géologiques dans le Taurus occidental dans l'arrière-pays d'Alanya.* By M. M. Blumenthal. Publ. de l'Inst. d'Études et de Recherches Minières en Turquie, Ser. D, No. 5. Ankara, 1951. pp. 134, with 22 figures, 14 plates, and 15 maps in folder.