

interesting, therefore, to note that although these New Guinea localities are so widely separated, being probably some 600 miles apart, there is distinct palæontological proof that the limestones of both regions belong to the later Aquitanian stage of the Miocene epoch. It becomes increasingly difficult for the palæontologist to keep pace with the vast amount of literature which is issued on almost every branch of his subject, a condition of things which at the present time is more than ever accentuated on account of the Geological Society having discontinued the publication of their annual list of "Geological Literature", which has been of such inestimable service to all research workers in geological science.

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FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

SIR,—Owing to the fact that copies of the Geological Society's Proceedings have not been sent to me while residing abroad I have only just been made aware, by the appearance of No. 284 of the Quarterly Journal, that my name was unnecessarily introduced into the Discussion on a paper read on June 23, 1915, p. 622 (but only now printed and issued to Fellows, in February, 1917). The speaker, Mr. W. R. Jones, said that:—

"The danger of examining 'mountains under microscopes' was illustrated in a striking manner, in the case of a rock which occurs at the summit of Gunong Bakau, in the Federated Malay States. This rock was described as occurring extensively, and as being of no value. [A reference introducing my name is given here.—J. B. S.] It was further stated that the rock was evidence of the existence in this part of the granitic magma of a great quantity of free hydrofluoric acid capable of attacking felspar without the precipitations of a previously combined base, such as tin. Subsequently, however, the rock was found to contain tin-ore, and it has now been worked on a considerable scale."

As the Society's officers have published the above I will ask you to print the following brief reply.

The rock in question was *not described* as occurring extensively. It was described as being of no value because neither the quartz nor topaz was saleable. The passage concerning free HF omits any reference to the following condition in my publication: "if indeed it be correct to assume that the Chinchong rock is an alteration product." Tin-ore has not been found in the rock. The rock has not been worked.

The speaker's imperfect knowledge of the locality and failure to digest the page of my publication that he quotes have made him oblivious of dangers greater than that which he describes.

J. B. SCRIVENOR.

"A" COMPANY, INNS OF COURT O.T.C.,  
BERKHAMSTED.  
February 2, 1917.