in the scientific sense. These are obviously matters depending entirely on the uniformity of previous experience, and the competence of the individual investigator" (p. 185). Is one to take this as a confession that the zonal work of our palæontologists is, after all, founded purely or mainly on their personal opinions and on their judgments in the selection of facts to be considered and facts to be ignored? Surely a more precise method of working is possible. Taking the case of the Shenley Hill Limestone many of its species occur in the Tourtias. By careful study of the wonderful succession of Tourtias—for example, in the Mons district, where their ages can be relatively and in most cases exactly determined (see Professor Cornet's brief summary in *Proc. Geol. Assoc.*, vol. xxxiii, 1922)—one can naturally eliminate facies fossils and incidentally a great part of the personal factor in the selection of suitable fossils for zonal purposes. To quote but one example. One may see our Albian "zonal" form *Pecten asper* becoming the characteristic fossil of the zone of *Holaster subglobosus*, and, if my memory serves me rightly, a common fossil even in the Senonian further east.

Are we so insular in Britain that we must practically ignore the life-work of our Belgian colleagues but a few miles across the Channel? Publication cannot always keep pace with research, but must our references to the faunas of the Tourtias be restricted to work of more than half a century ago, when we have at hand such magnificent collections as that contained in the École des Mines at Mons, or such an unrivalled store of information concerning them as Professor Cornet of that institution would, I am sure, be only too willing to impart?

L. Dudley Stamp.

Burma.
1st June, 1922.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INQUIRIES.

Mr. Alfred Bell, c/o F. W. Harmer, Esq., M.A., F.G.S., Cringleford, Norwich, being at work upon the British Pliocene and Pleistocene Oysters, would be greatly obliged for any information bearing upon their distribution. It is especially wanted in regard to the forms present in the West of England, in Scotland, and West Ireland; information of localities, accompanied by specimens, if possible, from shell heaps and raised beaches being of the utmost importance in determining the earlier forms of oyster life in our islands in Pleistocene times.