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## CORRESPONDENCE

### CORRELATION OF LAKI BEDS

SIR,—In a recent paper<sup>1</sup> discussing the distribution of early Eocene beds in North-West India, Mr. E. S. Pinfold has maintained (pp. 196-198) that the so-called "Dunghan Limestone" has no equivalent on the Punjab Salt Range; and since I was chiefly responsible for the stratigraphic conclusions expressed in our joint memoir<sup>2</sup> on the Eocene beds of that range, it may be supposed that I share this opinion. I therefore wish to say that I do not. I showed (*ibid.*, pp. 15, 32-33, etc.) that the entire Laki sequence on the Salt Range is older than the Shekhan Limestone of Kohat. Since, as I previously showed,<sup>3</sup> the Shekhan Limestone corresponds with the Upper Laki Limestone of Sind, it seems probable that the distinctly older Sakesar Limestone of the Salt Range correlates with the Meting Limestone of Sind, which Nuttall<sup>4</sup> regarded as equivalent to the "Dunghan Limestone" of Baluchistan. The still earlier Nammal Shales of the Salt Range display older characters than any other known Laki formation, and probably represent part of the elements whose absence further south is indicated by the Basal Laki Laterite of Sind.

With regard to the term "Dunghan Limestone", I think (as stated in a paper lately read before the Geological Society) that it would be less anomalous to call the formation in question the "Bolan Limestone". Nobody has ever figured Laki fossils

<sup>1</sup> Pinfold, E. S., 1939. The Dunghan Limestone and the Cretaceous-Eocene unconformity in North-West India. *Rec. Geol. Surv. Ind.*, lxxiv, 189-198; pl. 12.

<sup>2</sup> Davies, L. M., and Pinfold, E. S., 1937. The Eocene Beds of the Punjab Salt Range. *Pal. Indica* (N.S.), xxiv.

<sup>3</sup> Davies, L. M., 1927. Supplement to "Notes on the Correlation of Pinfold's Chharat Series". *Trans. Min. Geol. Inst. Ind.*, xxi, 316-318, etc.

<sup>4</sup> Nuttall, W. L. F., 1925. The Stratigraphy of the Laki Series. *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. Lond.*, lxxxii, 417-453, pls. xxiii-xxvii.

from Dunghan Hill, or even shown that Laki beds exist there. The "Dunghan Limestone" fauna quoted by Pinfold in his present paper (p. 192) was described by Nuttall<sup>1</sup> from a limestone of Lower Laki age in the Bolan Pass; several of the species, and one genus, having never been seen elsewhere in India. Since Bolan fossils afford the actual basis for comparison when discussing this formation, I prefer to treat the Bolan as its type area in name, as it is in fact.

I am glad to see that Mr. Pinfold endorses (p. 195) my statement<sup>2</sup> that the Laki is altogether missing in northern Waziristan. He thinks, however, that a small thickness of shales with an estuarine fauna of uppermost Laki age appears in southern Waziristan. I will not personally be sure of this until I have seen the fossils concerned, which have not yet even been specified. Reasons for caution in claiming Laki beds in Waziristan have been detailed elsewhere.<sup>3</sup>

Incidentally, I cannot agree with Mr. Pinfold's statement (p. 192) that "the whole of the Ranikot is missing" in Baluchistan. I long ago showed<sup>4</sup> that typical Upper Ranikot fossils had been collected at Zrind, in northern Baluchistan; and I recently found Ranikot foraminifera<sup>5</sup> in Carter's collections from the Valley of Kelat farther south. That Ranikot deposits are relatively rare in Baluchistan may be admitted; and this was probably due to local emergence and denudation during basal Laki times.

L. M. DAVIES.

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*PLATYCRINUS TUBERCULATUS* OYENS, A  
CORRECTION

SIR,—On p. 300, vol. i, *Geological Expedition to the Lesser Sunda Islands under leadership of H. A. Brouwer*, Amsterdam, 1940, I described in my article "Neue permische Krinoiden, mit Angaben über deren Fundstellen im Basleo Gebiet (Niederländisch Timor)" a new species of *Platycrinus* under the name *Platycrinus tuberculatus*.

<sup>1</sup> *Op. cit.*, pp. 420, 440, 448, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Davies, L. M., 1938. Eocene Beds in Waziristan. *Nature*, cxlii, 296.

<sup>3</sup> Davies, L. M., 1938. Quelques résultats de travaux récents sur l'Éocène du Nord-Ouest de l'Inde. *C.R. Soc. Géol. France*, Fasc. 2, 22-23. Quelques observations sur les derniers dépôts marins dans le Nord-Ouest de l'Inde. *Ibid.*, Fasc. 15, 294-295.

<sup>4</sup> Davies, L. M., 1927. The Ranikot Beds at Thal. *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. Lond.*, lxxxiii, 265.

<sup>5</sup> On British Museum (Nat. Hist.) slide No. P. 30214.